

Michael DiMaio

MAUHS Social Studies Department Homework Policy For College Preparation Classes

Definition & Purpose: The goal of this policy is to prepare students for the independent work required in college. Homework includes any assignment to be accomplished outside of class time, whether voluntary or teacher assigned. Teachers will use homework as an extension of classroom instruction to expand or enrich the regular class work or to ensure mastery of a particular skill or concept. It may take the form of additional practice on exercises, reading of material on a specified subject, in-depth follow-up of classroom activities, or independent project work related to the subject. Typically, the initial phase of homework will begin in the classroom and be completed out-of-class, either after school or at home.

In order to ensure student success, it is important that the teacher, the parent, and the student are actively involved in the learning process. **Ultimately, the completion of assignments is the responsibility of the student.**

Responsibilities

TEACHER RESPONSIBILITIES—The teacher's responsibilities in implementing homework policies are to:

1. Be sure students understand and know how to complete assignments successfully. Opportunity will be provided during regular class time to monitor the students' understanding of the assignment.
2. Provide specific written explanation of long-range assignments so that the requirements and expectations are clearly understood by the students and their parents.
3. As a general guideline, an average of 3-5 weekly assignments will be given. The amount of time it takes for students to complete homework will vary according to the assignment, as well as individual student needs and strengths.
4. Homework will be considered as a part of the total learning process and will be monitored (specific feedback, check in, graded, etc.) in light of lesson objective to be accomplished.
5. Inform parents about class and homework policies and procedures at the beginning of the course.
6. Contact parents if a student fails to complete several homework assignments.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES—The student's responsibilities are to:

1. Be sure to understand the assignment before leaving class.
2. Bring home all necessary materials to complete the assignment.
3. Thoroughly complete the assignment.
4. Turn in assignment by the specific due date.
5. Contact the teacher for missed work after an absence.
6. Arrange with the teacher for extra help if having difficulty completing assignments (this will not be during class time).

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PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES—The parent's responsibilities are to:

1. Assist students to develop good study habits by providing a specific time and place for study which is free of television, music, computer and other distractions.
 - Provide time and encouragement for their child to do quality schoolwork, including homework.
 - Guide or assist their child when unusual difficulties arise (but never do the homework for them).
 - Discuss homework assignments with their child. This can broaden their child's understanding of material.
 - Ask to see completed homework assignments.
2. Observe closely how well your child does the homework and contact the teacher whenever the pupil has difficulty completing assignments.
3. Assist students in developing time management/planning skills to allow students to enjoy a variety of extracurricular activities, as well as success in academics.
4. If necessary, contact the teacher and counselor to arrange specialized help, such as tutoring, when progress falters.