

Things to Keep in Mind to be Successful in Mr. Bertrand's Class

#1 Don't stand by the door when getting ready to go.

#2 Late work is half credit, whether ten seconds late or ten days late.

#3 I don't accept work more than two weeks late. The clock starts the day the work is assigned. Please don't assume that just because you weren't there the day the work was assigned that you have a different two-week timeframe from the rest of the class.

#4 There is a difference between extra credit and additional credit. Extra credit is something I can assign if you have within one percent of the next higher grade, and have no missing assignments. Additional credit is something students who aren't passing usually ask for, as in: "what can I do to pass the class?" If you didn't do the work I originally assigned, then don't ask me for additional work – I won't assign it.

#5 Attendance and participation are important grades in this class that are calculated every month. A lack of attendance or participation will negatively impact your grade. Before reading the following scale, please understand that high performing students can occasionally miss class and still earn an "A" grade.

Unexcused absence – 5

Unexcused tardy – 4

Excused absence – 3

Excused tardy -2

Activity – 0 (activities are all sports, all academics, all clubs, and all student government functions)

Five points per class day are assigned as attendance and participation points, constituting approximately 90 points per month, for approximately three months per grading period (trimester). In round numbers, roughly 300 points per grading period are earned by attending and participating class, out of an approximate 1,200 points per grading period, again roughly constituting a quarter of the number of points possible during a trimester. All students will be penalized for missing class, but those students for whom academic success is paramount and who only infrequently miss class will find that earning an "A" grade is still entirely possible. Examples of participation include, but are not limited to, keeping your head off the desk, remaining awake, having your phone stored in such a manner as not to cause distraction to you or your classmates, refraining from side conversations with other students, and actively listening. Participation is not defined as having the correct answer when called on or always making an attempt to answer questions.

#6 Talking during tests or quizzes results in the loss of those number of points possible on the test/quiz.

#7 Food – okay by me, but trash/recycling is on you.

#8 Cell phones – they go off in class or you are caught texting, I take them, and your grade suffers.

#9 Hats – fine by me.

#10 Be in your seats when the bell rings to start class – tardies count against your attendance and participation grade.