The Research Paper Contract 2013-2014 (12 H)

To: Student/Parent/Guardian

From: Ms. Colando

Date: February 24, 2014

Re: Research Paper Guidelines and Contract

Because the research paper project can sometimes become overwhelming, I have compiled this packet of materials to ensure that expectations/due dates are communicated clearly. Please be aware of the assigned deadline dates and contact me (before the due date) if you feel extra help is needed. Acting as a team, we will be more effective in helping you succeed throughout this important project, which ultimately will aid you in future academic and professional endeavors.

In order for me to know that you have read and received this contract and the attached syllabus, please sign and return the bottom of the contract by Friday, February 28. Please keep the contract’s terms and conditions for future reference. This simple task acts as one homework assignment. If you have any questions or concerns, please address them in the space provided. Thank you so much for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Ms. Melissa Colando
Type of Assessment: Response to Literature (Research-Based)
Assessment Title: The British Literature Honors English Research Paper
Course Title: English 12 H
Teacher: Ms. M. Colando

Academic Expectation (PBGR Goal):
1. J& K  Reading and Responding to Informational & Literary Texts
1. C  Report Writing

This activity addresses the following GSE’s:
R4: Reading Comprehension
R5: Reading analysis and interpretation
R6: Analysis, Interpretation and Citation
R13: Comprehension Strategies before, during, and after reading
R14: Reads widely and extensively
W2: Utilizes strategies to identify the meaning of vocabulary
W3: Making and supporting analytical judgments about informational/literary texts
W5: Maintains focus
W6: Organize ideas/concepts
W7: Convey purpose
W8: demonstrates a range of elaboration strategies
W9: Command of language and conventions
W10: pre-write, draft, revise, edit, critique
W11: Write extensively

This activity addresses the following NCTE Content Standards:
1-1-8; 11; 12

Depth of Knowledge Level: 4

Assessment Rubrics Include (copies of these rubrics are attached):
ELA Response to Literature
Research Paper Rubric

Specific Task Directions:
After reading, analyzing, and taking extensive notes on *Frankenstein* and at least three secondary works of criticism, you must write a 5-7-page persuasive research paper that effectively, thoroughly, and analytically asserts an interpretative claim (thesis statement) that is well-defended using primary and secondary source material, effective elaboration strategies, and make use of the latest MLA formatting rules. Within this research paper contract you will find a detailed listing of the rules, due dates, and grade weights for each step of this in-depth culminating assessment.

**Prompts have already been assigned and handed out. You may also electronically access prompts on the CHSW library page (under English/Colando) and I have attached them to Aspen under the Preliminary Frankenstein Essay Assignment.**
The following are the terms and conditions you will find helpful in guiding you through this project:

1. **The student must complete each step chronologically.** I will not accept the next step until the previous step has been turned in and approved. I will not accept a rough draft or final paper unless all of these steps have been met. This will eliminate last minute, poorly written research papers.

2. I will adhere to the department policy for lateness as stated in the Cranston West Disciplinary Handbook. **Each step is due in class on the date assigned at the beginning of the English instructional period.** Because each step is considered a long-term assignment, it will lose an additional 10 points for each additional day late. Any serious personal or family problems will be taken into consideration if disclosed and documented following the appropriate protocol.

   **Lateness grading:**
   - same day any time after class meets = -10
   - 1 day after due date = -20
   - 2 days after due date = -30
   - 3 days after due date = -40
   - 4 days after due date = -50
   - 5 days after due date = -60

3. Each step of the research paper is worth a particular grade weight. Please see the dates on the attached deadline sheet for this information.

4. **Plagiarism will not be tolerated and will, in fact, result in a “0” grade.** Please remember that plagiarizing may place you in jeopardy of suspension and/or failure for the quarter. See me with any questions on plagiarism.

5. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call me at 270-8049. If I am not available, please leave a message and I will return your call as soon as possible. Please feel free to email me at mcolando@cpsed.net.

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Student Name (please print)_____________________________________________
Student Signature_____________________________________________________
Parent Name (please print)______________________________________________
Parent Signature_____________________________________________________
Teacher Signature_____________________________________________________

Comments/Concerns:
The following are the deadlines for each step of the research paper. I have also included the grade weights for each step. Be sure to turn in each step ON TIME to avoid downgrading!

**February-March (3rd Quarter)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>DUE:</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>2/13/14</td>
<td>1. Topic Brainstorm (Big Paper)</td>
<td>Homework Grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>2/26/14</td>
<td>2. Preliminary Essay</td>
<td>Test Grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>2/28/14</td>
<td>3. Research Paper Contract (signed portion only)</td>
<td>Homework Grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>3/10/14</td>
<td>4. Preliminary Thesis Statement</td>
<td>Homework Grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>3/18/14</td>
<td>5. Revised Thesis and Outline</td>
<td>Quiz Grade</td>
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</tbody>
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**April (4th Quarter)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>DUE:</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>4/1/14</td>
<td>6. Annotated Bibliography</td>
<td>Quiz Grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>4/10/14</td>
<td>7. Rough Draft</td>
<td>Homework Grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>4/10/14</td>
<td>8. Peer Edit (done in class)</td>
<td>Homework Grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>4/16/14</td>
<td>11. Final Paper and packet**</td>
<td>2 Test Grades</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Packet includes:**
- Annotated Bibliography
- Outline
- Rough Draft