# **EXPECTATIONS FOR MR. ADAMS’S**

# **Advanced Inquiry and Research Class (AIR)**

**Inquiry and Research**

**Designed to prepare ninth grade students for honors and college courses, this course will teach students the basic skills required for success in higher level classes. This course will focus on introducing reading and writing strategies to improve the level and endurance of students' reading and writing proficiency. Instructional strategies such as, Socratic seminars, literary groups, coordinated group activities and projects, research techniques and presentations, inquiry-based activities, project-based learning, and a study of vocabulary, grammar, and language usage will also be used to promote an advanced level of thinking, speaking, reading, and writing.**

## Preparations

1. Have needed materials for class. These are the materials you need for class: **three ring binder, four tabbed dividers, loose-leaf paper, blue/black pen, highlighter, pencil, flashdrive.**
2. Be in your seat prepared to begin class when the bell rings.
3. Do not get up in the middle of class unless you have asked for permission to do so.
4. Do not bring outside food or drinks into the room, except water.
5. Don’t do anything that would hinder teaching or learning in the classroom.

## Class Routine

### When you are absent, **you are responsible for getting the assignments you missed** **while absent**. You and I will work out the amount of time you have to complete make up assignments.

1. Unannounced quizzes can be expected at any time. You are expected to make up pop quizzes the day you return to school after a **one-day** absence.
2. **No work will be accepted late**, unless you are told otherwise.
3. Everyone is required to take notes when assigned in class.
4. Due to the prevalence of cheating in high school, I want to clearly state my position. Cheating in any form will not be tolerated. This includes tests, homework, quizzes, etc. A zero will be recorded for the assignment and a call will be made to your parents.
5. I am available for tutoring each morning by appointment because some mornings I must attend required meetings before school.

## Assessment

Each student’s six weeks grade will be based on a point system where for each test or assignment, the number of points earned by the student will be divided by the total number of points that could be earned on that particular test or assignment. For example, a student earns **8** points on a vocabulary test that is worth a total of **10** points. The procedure for computing the student’s grade would be as follows. **8** divided by **10** equals a grade of **80**. Each student’s six weeks grade will also be done in the same fashion. For example, a student earns **820** points out of a possible **850** points for that six weeks; then **820** would be divided by **850** which equals a grade of **96** for the six weeks.

**\*\*\*UCPS Exam Exemption Policy: For teacher-made exams, like for this course, students may exempt the final exam if they meet the following criteria:**

**A-average (90-100) and no more than TWO UNEXCUSED absences**

**B-average (80-89) and no more than ONE UNEXCUSED absence.**

**\*\*\*This policy does not apply to courses that have state exams (NCFE’s or EOC’s).**

##### Writing/Project

Unless you are told otherwise, you will be assigned at least one writing assignment/project each six weeks. The type of assignments and due dates will be discussed in class. A rubric will be given for each writing/project assignment**. Each writing/project assignment will be worth 50-150 points.**

Tests/Quizzes

# You will also have major and minor tests and quizzes throughout the semester during a unit of study

# and after we have completed a unit of study. These quizzes/tests will be worth **10-100** points

# depending upon the length and scope of the unit.

Daily Grammar Practice

Students will be issued a grammar workbook that they will use to complete daily grammar assignments.

These assignments will be part of their homework given each day. STUDENTS ARE NOT TO WRITE

IN THESE WORKBOOKS. There will be quizzes and tests on grammatical concepts covered in the workbook. These quizzes and test will be worth **20-50** points.

Binder

You will be required to keep a notebook that will be graded at the end of each six weeks. You will need

a **1-1 1/2” sized binder** to keep your class notes, class work, homework, quizzes, tests, rubrics,

handouts, etc. **Your notebook must be organized into four sections: grammar, informational texts, vocabulary, and writing using clearly labeled dividers.** Each binder check will be worth **30**-**50 points** of each six week’s grade.

Progress Reports—PowerSchool

Each six weeks students will be given a **mid-six weeks** progress report. Students must get these signed

by their parent(s) and return it for a **10 point** homework grade. \*\*\*\*\*\*If a student does not return the

progress report signed on the due date, the student will be making a call during class to report the grade

to his/her parent. Since all students and parents can now access PowerSchool to check grades, my expectation is that both students and parents will monitor grades each week**. Please call me**

**(704-290-1565) or email me (james.adams@ucps.k12.nc.us) at school if you have any questions concerning grades.**

Assignaday Calendar—**assignaday.4teachers.org**/**Calendar #283135**

I keep an assignaday calendar that contains each day’s agenda for class. The agenda provides an

overview of each day’s class content and activities, homework assigned, as well as due dates for long-

term assignments and projects. I created this calendar so that students and parents can check it when a student is absent and for a student and/or parent to use in planning each week’s homework schedule.

Student Laptops and Google Drive

All students have been given a laptop for use during school and at home for school related assignments. I will be sharing a number of folders, assignments, etc. with students via Google Drive for students to use when completing assignments for my class. Students will also be turning in specific assignments and working on collaborative assignments using Google Drive. I will walk through the process of using Google Drive with students for each assignment and/or activity that will be completed using Google Drive. **\*\*\*The Laptops are to be used for classroom activities only. Misuse of the computers will result in a consequence given by me or the administration—see student handbook.**

**Student Signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Parent Signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**