

Scholars Bowl Syllabus 2021-2022

Ms. Haithcock

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Remind 101 Instructions

Text @lmsscholar to 81010

I am excited to begin our year together. We have so much to accomplish, and I know by working as a team we can succeed. I look forward to getting to know each one of you.

Course Description

This course will actually be the Middle Schools' Scholars Bowl teams. Scholars Bowl is much like Jeopardy! It is an academic competition that is tons of fun! The course will cover all academic disciplines, from math and science to art, literature, and current news. Students will independently research topics becoming as knowledgeable as possible in every category. Also, students will identify their academic strengths and become experts in that field. The class period will be devoted to actively seeking knowledge and facts, not just knowing the "whats" but also the "whys." We will routinely practice for tournaments each day.

Student Materials and Fees

The following materials are a daily requirement for this class:

- small 3-ring binder or other pocket notebook
- a pen or pencil
- school-issued chromebook

Scholars Bowl Class Fee

There is a \$25 class fee. Please try to have your money in by Monday, August 23.

However, should tournaments occur, whether virtually or in-person, there will be registration costs for each student.

Formation of A, B, and C Teams

A competitive scholars bowl team consists of no more than six players, with two of those players being alternates. Some tournaments will allow a school to bring a "B" team. However, in many district and state competitions only the "A" team is allowed to play. Decision on which team a student places will be based upon scores acquired during class/practice.

Tournaments

Scholars bowl team members are expected to participate in both the district tournament at Liberty Middle School in January and the state tournament at Hoover High School in February. If the team does not place at the district tournament in January, that team will not move on to state tournament in February and therefore is not expected to attend. Should we place high enough at state then the national tournament will be in May.

Smaller practice/"fun" tournaments will be announced as schools announce them. I will be in contact with the parents via email. Most often these tournaments occur on Saturday mornings and require travel. Most competitions end by 1 or 2 p.m.

Grading Procedures

60%=tests, essays, projects

40%=daily grades

- Students will receive a weekly grade based on participation and behavior.
- Students will receive project grades based upon creation of questions.
- Students will receive test grades based upon materials they are required to know.

- The final exam will be a project grade based on a portfolio created for the team.

Parent Support

Parent support is critical to student success in Scholars Bowl. Not only will parents send in random donations for practice question sets, but parent volunteers will also be needed at tournaments. Please let me know if you would be interested in volunteering. I will also send home a volunteer form.

Technology Policy:

Students will follow the MCS technology guidelines at all times. Students may bring personal devices into my classroom. I consider this a privilege that can be revoked. There are clear, appropriate times for technology use, and I will regularly communicate with students in an effort to help them determine when it is appropriate to use their personal technology devices. As a class, we will often use our laptops for research, buzzers, etc. I also have a Schoology classroom set up with practice questions. A self-motivated student will go back over the questions to memorize answers.

Discipline Procedures

In the event of discipline problems, I will follow the steps listed below.

- First offense - a verbal warning
- Second offense - a documented warning
- Third offense - detention/parent contact
- Four or more offenses - detention and parent/teacher conference and/or an office referral

Parent/Teacher Communication

I believe a student's success has much to do with an open line of communication between parents/guardians and teachers. Please take a moment to stop by Ms. Haithcock's webpage (not the Scholars Bowl webpage) on the LMS site. Please make sure to fill out the information sheet. As we go to tournaments it is critical to have each person's cell phone number. Also, please make sure to check email regularly. This is usually the way I announce tournaments and check to see if we have enough to play.

Parents should also feel free to email or call anytime.

***This syllabus is subject to change.*

Final Considerations

Scholars Bowl will be a very challenging but fun class. Students will be expected to learn and memorize all world capitals, famous works of art, literature, and music, British prime ministers, major wars and battles, history, science facts and classifications, geology, math, EVERYTHING! They will also be tested on these topics. To top it off, students will be expected to conduct independent research projects and create questions in NAQT format. Please make note that scholars bowl is an elective in which the student will need to do considerable work.