



# The Master's Study

## Parent & Student Class Expectations High School

The following is a summary of general expectations of the student, the parent/teacher at home, and The Master's Study (TMS) teacher/tutor within the TMS environment. Class specific expectations will be shared with students at the beginning of the academic year. Careful understanding of what TMS as an organization does and does not provide is essential.

### School Day Expectations

Students will come prepared for class, ready to learn. The intent of TMS classes is to (1) review key elements of the content studied for the week (2) reinforce key concepts (3) help students draw connections between ideas and (4) train students to engage in thoughtful, productive discussion regarding ideas or concepts and (5) drive the learning process.

Students are expected to arrive at class well-read and versed in the subject matter at hand. Failure to read and complete assigned work at home prior to the class will result in a less-than-beneficial class period for both the student and the class as a whole.

Students are expected to arrive on time; tardiness affects not only the student, but is disrespectful toward the teacher/tutor and unfair to classmates.

### Regarding the Students

- Students will come to class on time with all supplies needed, including, but not limited to: completed study materials, materials for note taking, and relevant texts if the use of those texts within the classroom would be helpful.
  - Students are responsible for acquiring and utilizing the required texts as outlined by the teacher/tutor
  - Students should keep all study material in a well-organized fashion.
- Students are expected to complete all assigned work, including assignments to be graded and reviewed by the TMS teacher/tutor and course "prep work" not to be graded.
  - Failure to complete all work assigned will only penalize the student in the end and may result in a "zero" in the grade book.
  - Assignments which should be turned in for review are noted on the weekly assignment plans. Students will also be given access to on-line tools in order to review those assignments needed
- Students will readily engage in classroom activities, participate in topical conversation and make contributions during both the instructional and teacher-guided periods of inquiry.
  - Students will be respectful of the classroom discussion process at all times, including respect of peers and their comments.
- All classes as part of the TMS Humane Letters Core will be taught with excellence; students are expected to complete assignments with the intent of seeking high school credit to the best of their ability.
- Students will participate as a member of the TMS community by modeling strong character traits for the younger students, assisting the TMS staff and parents with their younger students from time to time, demonstrate solid stewardship in the maintenance, setup and cleanup of the facility used by TMS if asked, and engage as a servant and young man or woman of character.



## Regarding the Parent/Teacher

- TMS takes the position that the lead teacher of a student is, indeed, the parent/teacher in the home.
  - The parent/teacher is expected to encourage and spur on their students in the pursuit of solid study habits and diligence.
  - The parent/teacher is asked to motivate their students in order that a student will arrive in class well prepared for discussion and participation at the high school level.
  - The parent/teacher may choose to work collaboratively with their students in their home school in a fashion that fits well with their own home school philosophy, understanding that the student should be recognized as a high school student.
    - The parent/teacher should make certain any and all work remains solely that of the student
  - The parent/teacher is expected to honor the role of the TMS teacher /tutor. It must be well understood that the parent/teacher is *electing to place their student under the tutelage of TMS*. Therefore, assignments, deadlines, and the expectations set forth by the TMS teacher/tutor should be honored as well as reinforced by the parent/teacher in the home.
  - The parent/teacher may choose to have a student opt out of a particular assignment in keeping with their own home school philosophy.
    - TMS encourages the teacher/parent to reserve the opt-out option for unexpected life events (such as illness, travel, death in the family, needs within the home) and unexpected disruptions within the homeschool environment.
      - The opt out option does not impact the final grade issued for the class. However, students seeking a grade in a class are required to complete enough work to demonstrate the student's understanding of the material and justify the grade awarded. The repetition of the opt out option may put the validity of a credit at risk.
    - *The teaching/tutorial staff of TMS encourages the parent/teacher to recognize the consequences of their student's non-participation in a particular subject matter or assignment.* This includes the impact upon the student, his or her academic achievement, class peers, and the impact upon class instructional time and discussion. Hence *such a parent/teacher decision should be reserved and exercised with extreme discretion.*
    - Repeated and continued "opt out" decisions may serve as an indication that the student and parent/teacher needs to evaluate their commitment to the TMS program and it's role in their own home school experience or the fit of the class and subject matter for a given student. In these cases, TMS encourages the parent to reach out to the TMS staff to discuss options, including an individualized study plan and/or other class modifications that will benefit the student while not impacting the classroom environment in a negative way.
    - It is the *responsibility of the parent/teacher* to inform the teacher/tutor of an opted out assignment OR course of study adjustments being made in the home....



- The parent/teacher is expected to provide, in some fashion, the tools necessary for the student to complete their assignments to the best of their ability. Tools include the books identified on the class booklist, internet access, and assorted craft tools or items to be used in some supplementary projects
- The TMS teacher/tutor will provide the parent/teacher with a copy of his or her gradebook.
  - The teacher/tutor will provide a grading framework for use in the home
  - The teacher/tutor may provide grading rubrics for keystone projects
  - The teacher/tutor may grade & comment upon written work from time to time depending upon the structure and intent of the class
  - The teacher/tutor may issue a subject “review” and/or provide participation or Socratic discussion grades
- The parent/teacher is responsible for the maintenance of all academic records, including a high school transcript
  - TMS will provide a high school course catalog as a helpful guide when determining credits
  - TMS may provide documents to help in this planning process. However, TMS is NOT an accredited school and does NOT issue transcripts. TMS is a community of teacher/tutors who facilitate the home school learning experience.
- Parents are welcome and encouraged to be part of the classroom process at any given time.

I have read through all of the student expectations with my student, as well as the Parent Expectations for this class. These expectations have been clearly understood and embraced.

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Parent / Teacher printed name email address

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Parent / Teacher Signature Date