



Maria Montessori Academy Junior High

Peer Mentor Syllabus

F. Fallon Farokhi

Course Description:

Peer Mentor is designed to be a leadership course aimed at cross-age peer mentoring. It aims to guide students in the service process by providing a framework for applying leadership techniques. Students will develop their leadership skills, set goals, establish and maintain boundaries, listening and communication skills, and problem solving skills. These skills will be practiced in both face-to-face situations and through technology. The goal of this course is to help recognize others' strengths and abilities, as well as nurturing their compassion.

Course Expectations:

In addition to providing service to others in our school, students will be expected to connect to a senior citizen in their life and spend at least 3 hours with them throughout the semester. At the end of the semester the seniors will be invited to our school for a celebration as the junior high students share what they have learned about their older mentor's life. This way the junior high students experience what it's like as a mentor to a younger student and as a mentee to a senior citizen. We will visit Emeritus Estates and establish a connection with seniors there during school hours, but if a student has *another* senior they would like to focus their biography project on, that can be arranged with the course instructor.

Textbooks and Materials:

Students will need a composition notebook to be kept in class and a writing utensil. For the senior interviews, students may choose to record them on any device they have.

Grading Plan:

Quality of MMA Mentorship = 50%

In Class Assignments = 25%

Senior's Life Presentation = 25%

- Grading Scale

A	93-100	C	73-79
A-	90-92	C-	70-72
B+	87-89	D+	67-69
B	83-86	D	64-66
B-	80-82	F	Below 64
C+	77-79		



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Course Policies:

Student Work: Students must generate their own thoughts and contribute to assignments thoughtfully and carefully.

Portfolio: Their composition book's classwork and senior life report may be used as examples of their work from this course.

Group Activities: Students are expected to participate in group work and try to resolve conflicts in a peaceful manner.

Homework Expectations: The only homework for this course is to write up in any format what the student learns about their senior mentor's life. This can be a slideshow, a Prezi, a typed up report, or on notecards. The 3 hour requirement can count towards the student's service hour requirement for the school.

Extra Credit: Going beyond the 3 hour service requirement spent with a senior. These must be documented, signed by a parent and given to the teacher prior to the end of the term.

Absences: If you know you will be absent, you need to discuss it with the classroom teacher with whom you are working.

Citizenship Grade: The grace and courtesy you use towards your environment, classmates, and teachers will be factored into your citizenship grade.

Class Rules:

Raise Your Hand to Speak

Walk to the Person to Speak to Them

Slow Deliberate Movements

Use quiet non-disruptive speech

Be Aware of What You Are Doing

Class Materials:

All students will need the following: one composition notebook, a writing utensil

I have read and understand the rules for _____ class.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian's Email Address: _____ and/or _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

