

Theory of Knowledge Syllabus 2017

Course Guidelines

Instructor:	Mark Rogers	Tutorial Times:	7:30am – 8:25am M-Th
Meridian Phone:	(512) 660-5230		
E-mail:	m.rogers@mwschool.org	Conference Periods:	6th (10:05-11:45) B-Days

Course Description:

Cognitive dissonance pervades our life. Ethical dilemmas materialize and require our analysis and introspection in order to choose a path. Seemingly faultless logic may erode with further attention, and the Theory of Knowledge class helps us grapple with these daily quandaries.

In class we will tackle questions like “To what extent does technology slow the progress of humanity?” and “How do stereotypes improve and destroy societal functionality?” There are no correct answers. There are no incorrect answers. Through class discussion, analysis of relevant literature, and discourse about personal experience, students will be able to untangle this pervasive cognitive dissonance and live life on a solid foundation.

Class Resources:

- Mr. Rogers creates a majority of the class content.
- Computers and tablets (BYOD or Meridian provides)

Required Supplies:

- Dry erase markers and dry erasers
- Pencil for paper-based assignments

Late Work and Work Missed for Excused and Unexcused Absences:

We will follow the Meridian Secondary School policy on late work and absences. This means that late work incurs a penalty of 10% per school day.

Academic Dishonesty:

Plagiarism or any other form of cheating is a violation of the Meridian Honor Code and is not tolerated. Those who cheat will be referred to the Assistant Principal for further consequences.

Grading:

50% Minor grades: weekly reflections

50% Major grades: essay critiques, presentations, and writing on a prescribed title

Retests on major assessments are available. If a student earns below a 70% on a major assessment, the student must inform the teacher within 48 hours that he/she wants to retest. Students will be required to complete test corrections in tutorials or Saturday Opportunity School. Per Meridian Secondary School policy, the maximum grade awarded for a retest is a 70%.

Weekly reflections are e-mailed to Mr. Rogers (m.rogers@mwschool.org) to collate and analyze thoughts on our weekly discussions.

Tutorials:

I'm in my room each morning at 7:30am. Please say hello and ask questions!

Electronic Assignments:

Students will complete writing assignments via emails to Mr. Rogers or shared Google Docs.

Scope and Sequence:

Topical conversations, debates, presentations, and special guest speakers will compromise the majority of class content. Sample content includes analysis of indigenous Moken civilizations, vaccinations, growth of knowledge acquisition strategies through adolescence, and hands-on dissection of sommelier abilities using non-alcoholic drinks.

Theory of Knowledge

Syllabus 2017

Verification of Receipt

After you have read these guidelines on markrogers.weebly.com (TOK page), please sign below and return this page to me. Alternatively, you and your parent can send me an e-mail for electronic verification.

Sincerely,

Mark Rogers

I have read and understand the policies covered in Mr. Rogers's syllabus.

Print Student's Name

Print Parent/Guardian's Name

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature