

Natomas Middle School
2020-2021
Directed Studies Course Syllabus

Ms. Elliott - RM 230
melliott@natomasunified.org
916-567-5540 ext. 70230

Course Objective:

Directed Studies provides students with additional instruction in reading and math to help them be more successful and bridge knowledge gaps. This is done through MobyMax, which provides a unique instructional approach to building knowledge, developing critical thinking skills, and deepening understanding. Using state & exam-specific content, adaptive remediation, and an innovative structure to engage active learning, MobyMax offers a flexible, engaging curriculum for exam preparation, intervention, remediation, and initial instruction.

MobyMax website

MobyMax is accessed via the internet. Our school-specific website is: www.mobymax.com/ca6288

Log-in information is the same as your student log-in for chromebooks and e-mail (include @nusdk12.org).

Google Classroom codes (classroom.google.com)

Period 3: j42edwk

Period 4: karsjtz

Period 6: tmabjzv

Class Organization

The students will use their Chromebooks during class to access MobyMax through the link above. Students will also need a pair of headphones in order to listen to the lessons. It is recommended that students have their own headphones.

Expectations

All Natomas Middle School rules, as noted in the Student Handbook, will apply in our classroom. Students are always expected to:

Show respect (to other people, the environment and themselves)

Be responsible (for their work, words and actions)

Do their best (which requires being prepared and always trying)

It is important that students take responsibility for using class time wisely and focusing on their education while we are together. We will work hard to have a positive classroom culture in many ways. Disruption of that culture will result in teacher assigned consequences. Initial disruption will result in warnings, redirections and/or seat changes. Continued problems will result in time - out within the classroom, reflection essays, conferences, family contact, teacher suspensions and/or administrative referrals.

Classroom Procedures

There are classroom procedures in place to help us make the most of the fifty minutes we have each day for directed studies. It is important students follow those procedures as outlined and practiced to support our learning environment so that everyone gets the attention and education they deserve. Students show responsibility for their learning by asking questions when they don't understand the expectations, directions or lessons.

Supplies

Students will need these basic school supplies brought to class every day

- Chromebook
- Charger for chromebook

Tardies

Students should be in their seat by the bell. When they are not, the school tardy policy will apply. After the bell, they have two minutes to get their materials out.

Food and Water

No food is allowed in the classroom. You can have water in the classroom in a container with a lid. If you need to drink your water raise your hand and ask the teacher, then step out into the hallway. If you need to step outside and eat a snack real quick as the teacher - do not abuse this privilege.

No Scent Policy

Students should not wear scented lotion, perfume, or cologne to class. Students who wear these items will be sent to the office for the period to complete their work. Students must not put on scented lotion, perfume, cologne or hand sanitizer in class. If students carry these items they should be placed in a sealed bag in case they spill. This is a health hazard to the teacher.

Assignments/Grades

Assignments are based on the following:

- Students will be assigned lessons based on their skill level assessed from the placement tests.
- Students need to work on the lessons daily to bridge gaps in their learning.
- Assignments will be graded and returned in Google Classroom.

Grades are based on the following:

- **MobyMax Weekly Tracker (40%)**: turned in every Friday in Google Classroom. Each completed day is worth 10 points, for a total of 50 points per week
- **MobyMax Minutes Completed (60%)**: MobyMax minutes completed in assigned subjects (modules). If you are behind in your minutes you can work on MobyMax outside of class time. The teacher will run the weeks report of the minutes on the following Monday.

Formal record keeping of grades and attendance will be in **Infinite Campus**

(<https://natomasunified.infinitecampus.org/campus/portal/natomas.jsp>).

Progress reports will be sent out according to the school calendar. **Regularly checking Infinite Campus and MobyMax to verify assignments, credit, and grades is highly encouraged.**

Any student caught cheating or allowing someone to cheat off them will receive a zero for that assignment/test.

Absences

Students will need to make-up absences by working on MobyMax at home and logging the lesson topics on their MobyMax Weekly Tracker. Absences not made up at home will lose the day's points (10 points possible per day).

I have read the Course Expectations and will do all I can to **follow the rules and come prepared to learn.**

Student Name: (Print): _____

Period: _____

Student Signature: _____

I have read and discussed the Course Expectations with my child and will do all I can to support my child in **meeting expectations** and **coming prepared to learn.**

Parent Name: (Print): _____

Phone Number: _____

Email address: _____

Parent Signature: _____

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