SAT Prep Course Syllabus: Spring 2015



Feacher: Dr. Juliette Attis

Room: C228

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Tutorial: Thursday @ 3:45-4:30

Department Philosophy:

- You must build authentic relationships with students.
- Each student deserves an education tailored to his or her strengths and needs.
- Students learn best when they construct their own knowledge through exploration and discussion.
- Engaging students in developmentally appropriate and meaningful tasks is a step in effectively managing a classroom.
- Optimism and encouragement are powerful.
- A teacher is always a student.

Brief Course Description:

Our SAT course is a comprehensive course that provides thorough preparation for the verbal section of the SAT exam. It covers content reviews to promote content mastery and teaches students the most dynamic and updated strategy and methods available. This class is recommended for college-bound juniors and seniors planning to take the SAT and/or ACT. Almost all undergraduate colleges and universities require that prospective students take either the ACT or the SAT; most students take both. Taking this course will prepare students for all of the question types found on the SAT and ACT. We will analyze each of the test question areas and give special consideration to math and verbal refreshers and techniques aimed at relieving test-taking anxiety. Topics include sentence completions and reading comprehension for the reading section, grammar and essay writing for the writing section.

Expected Student Learning Outcomes: When this class concludes at the end of the year (May), all students will have demonstrated progression and eventual mastery in the following skills and concepts:

Goal: To raise student's SAT score dramatically. **Objective**: Take 2 SAT tests in class **Objective**:Learn proven verbal and math strategies.

Goal:To improve SAT Reading score. **Objective**:Learn skim reading skills and what to skip. **Objective**:Learn which questions to do first to get the most points..

Book Bags

Book Bags are not permitted in classroom environments; students who have backpacks are out of compliance. Book Bags create tripping hazards and for safety reasons should be placed in lockers.

APS Grading Scale

 $\begin{array}{l} A = 90 \text{ to } 100 \text{ Advanced mastery of state standards} \\ B = 80 \text{ to } 89 \quad \text{Proficient mastery of state standards} \\ C = 70 \text{ to } 79 \quad \text{Basic mastery of state standards} \\ F = 0 \text{ to } 69 \quad \text{Below basic mastery of state standards} \end{array}$

Grading Weights

Classwork	30%
Tests	25%
Quizzes	15%
Projects	20%
Homework	10%

<u>Tutorial</u>

Thursday @ 3:45- 4:30 Monday-Thursday during lunch

Late Pick Ups

All students are required to clear the campus by 5pm. Students who remain on campus after this time will be subjected to the following consequences:

1st Occurrence: Administrator on duty contacts parent

2nd Occurrence: Parent liaison meets with parent

3rd Occurrence: Parent liaison schedules meeting with parent and principal at which time the policy is reviewed.

Objective:Be aware of several kinds of trap questions and how to avoid falling in the trap.

Goal: To improve SAT Writing score.

Objective" Learn the most advantageous framework for producing as essay Objective:Learn what the essay graders are looking for, and what not to spend time on, how to vary sentence structure, terminology and style.

Objective: Review grammar for multiple choice questions, including the top ten most common grammar errors tested by the exam.

Required Texts

None

Required Supplies

- Student Planner
- 3 Ring Binder (2 inch)
- Loose Leaf Paper
- Pens (Blue or Black) and #2 Pencils
- Highlighters for annotating

Dates to remember

Midterm Examination Semester 1 – October 5-7, 2015 Final Examination Semester 1 – December 16-18, 2015

Midterm Examination Semester 2 – March 15-17, 2016 Final Examination Semester 2 – May 23-25, 2016

<u>Parent Conferences:</u> Tuesday is the official parent conference day. Conferences are scheduled from 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Conferences are held the third Tuesday of every month.

Website Link http://drattis.weebly.com

<u>Class Blog</u> www.edmodo.com/attis

Standards Based Grading Policy

Classrooms that employ standards-based grading to measure mastery work this way:

- Your grade becomes a true assessment of the standards that you have mastered.
- The way you are able to demonstrate mastery may be different than the way another student is able to demonstrate mastery of the same standard.
- If you at the time of the assessment you have not developed mastery you still have time to work on the standard and be reassessed at a later date.
- Every assessment will tell me what you know, and what you still need practice with.
- In the end...It's all about what you really know, and not how much work you've turned in!

Students in Danger of Not Meeting Academic Expectations

- 1. As soon as there is evidence that a student is in danger of not meeting expectations, teachers shall hold individual conferences in person or by telephone with the parents/legal guardians to discuss a plan for student remediation. Except in unusual cases, teachers should request conferences no later than the interim progress report deadline.
- 2. Response to Intervention (RTI) protocols should be followed for students in danger of not meeting expectations based on the needs of the individual student.
- 3. A social work referral should be completed if the teacher cannot establish contact with the parent/legal guardian via telephone, email, or US mail within five (5) business days of a conference request.
- 4. If a student earns a "Not Yet Meeting Expectations" or a numerical grade below 70 on a final report card and the teacher has not conducted a conference with the parent/legal guardian or documented contact attempts and a social worker referral, the student shall temporarily receive an incomplete (I) and the opportunity to have mastery of the standards reassessed via a performance plan (See Section 4. Incompletes).

Incompletes

- 1. Students who have not demonstrated mastery of standards due to documented medical absences or other reasons approved by the principal may receive a temporary grade of "Incomplete" (I) with a written performance plan approved by the principal.
- 2. Student mastery must be reassessed and incompletes changed to an evaluation/grade within 4.5 weeks. The principal shall authorize all grade changes. (See Section 6. Grade Changes.)

Repeating Courses/Recovering Credit (High School Students Only)

- 1. Students may not retake courses for which they have already earned credits
- 2. Students may repeat courses for which they have earned a grade below 70. In such cases, both grades shall appear on the student transcript and shall be factored into the student's grade-point average (GPA).

Credit Recovery

- 1. Students may recover credit through the Atlanta Virtual Academy (AVA), Alonzo A. Crim Open Campus High School, West End Academy, and APS summer school programs. When a student successfully participates in a credit recovery course, both grades shall appear on the student transcript and shall be factored into the student's grade-point average (GPA).
- Seniors Testing for Credit Second semester seniors currently enrolled in a course required for graduation with a grade below 70 may request to test for credit. See <u>policy IHE Promotion and Retention</u>. Once approved, a student who scores 70 or above on a rigorous comprehensive examination covering the course content approved by the principal or his/her designee shall have the course grade replaced with the numerical examination score.

Grade Changes

- 1. Errors in grade entry or calculations affecting student grades may be corrected at any time.
- 2. Challenges to grades based on objective criteria may be considered by the principal within 15 days of the issuance of a final report card. Any grade changes approved by the principal shall be documented in writing with a detailed explanation of the rationale. Disputes shall be settled by the school's Associate Superintendent.
- 3. Incompletes must be changed to a numerical grade no later than the midpoint of the following 9-week grading period.
- 4. Notification of grade changes made for any reason shall be sent to the parent/legal guardian and the school's Associate Superintendent.

Transferring Grades

- APS accepts final grades for elementary, middle, and high school students who transfer from schools outside the Atlanta Public Schools in accordance with <u>state board rule 160-5-1-.15 Awarding Units of Credit and Acceptance of Transfer</u> Credit and/or Grades. See regulation JBC-R (4) School Admissions – Transferring Credits.
- 2. APS shall accept final grades issued by public schools and private schools accredited by agencies recognized by the Georgia Board of Education. Course grades from transcripts issued by accredited schools shall be transcribed exactly and shall not be changed.
- 3. When a transcript with letter grades is submitted for a student transferring to APS, it is the parent/guardian's responsibility to request an official school system document or a notarized statement on the transferring school/system's letterhead with the actual numerical grade the student earned for each course. If that information cannot be determined by the sending school, the following conversion scale will be used.

Bring Your Own Device (BOYD)-For High School Students, GRADES 9-12, ONLY!!

Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) is a policy that allows high school students, in grades 9-12 only, to bring and use their own personal electronic devices at school. Devices include but may not be limited to: tablets (such as iPad), laptops, smartphones and netbooks. With teacher approval, students may use their devices in the classroom to access and save information from the Internet, collaborate with other learners, and utilize productivity tools available to them.

The BYOD program is designed to help students keep up with the demands of the 21st Century. Helping students become responsible digital citizens will enhance not only what we do in the classroom, but also give students authentic experiences to build their 21st Century skills (collaboration, creativity, communication and critical thinking) to prepare them for college and career.

When using their device, students need to expand the concept of their school community to the community they will be interacting with online. Appropriate use of devices and rules concerning devices apply from the time the student leaves for school until the time they arrive home. Devices may not be used to disrupt the educational environment or violate the rights of others. Using the device to cheat, violate school conduct rules, harass/bully students or staff, or using the device for unlawful purposes will subject the student to disciplinary action. Serious offenses will be reported to the local authorities. Recording the voice or image of another in any way that disrupts the educational environment, invades the privacy of others, or is made without the consent of the individuals being recorded is prohibited. Devices recording the voice or image of another to take, transfer, or share any audio, video, or photographs that reveal parts of the body (ordinarily covered by clothing) is prohibited. The possession of pornographic images or video on any electronic device is prohibited.

The electronic devices that students bring to school are their sole responsibility.

- The campus or district assumes no responsibility for personal devices if they are lost, loaned, damaged, or stolen. .
- Personal devices may be subject to investigation in accordance with District Policy.
- Students are expected to keep their devices secure at all times and not loan to others.
- Students are expected to exhibit digital responsibility and follow the Atlanta Public Schools Internet Acceptable Us

Use of technology is a privilege, not a right. This privilege can be revoked by any staff member at any time. If you violate this agreement, each teacher has the authority to:

- 1st Occurrence: Revoke technology for the remainder of the month
- 2nd Occurrence: Revoke technology for the remainder of the quarter
- 3rd Occurrence: Revoke technology for the remainder of the semester Disciplinary action will occur
- 4th Occurrence: Revoke technology for the remainder of the school year. Disciplinary action will occur.

Consequences for Classroom Disruptions:

If you fail to adhere to classroom expectations the following will occur: 1st time: Verbal Warning 2nd time: Student Conference 3rd time: Parent Contact 4th time: ISS Write Up

Cheating/ Plagiarism

Academic Honesty is the responsibility of every student and employee to exhibit honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility in academic work at all times to support a positive learning environment in the school. Instances of Academic Dishonesty/Integrity will be handled as violations of the student code of conduct and addressed via the progressive discipline guidelines in the Student Handbook. *Instances of cheating should not impact students' academic grades. Student mastery of the standards covered by the assignment on which cheating was detected should be reassessed with supervision.*

Georgia Milestones

The Georgia Milestones Assessment System (Georgia Milestones) is a comprehensive summative assessment program spanning grades 3 through high school. Georgia Milestones measures how well students have learned the knowledge and skills outlined in the state-adopted content standards in language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies. Students in grades 3 through 8 will take an end-of-grade assessment in each content area, while high school students will take an end-of-course assessment for each of the eight courses designated by the State Board of Education.

Course Outline

UNIT 1: Sentence Completions (3 weeks)

Tests your vocabulary and your understanding of sentence structure.

UNIT 2: Passage Based Reading (3 Weeks)

Tests your comprehension of what is stated in or implied by the passage.

UNIT 3: Improving Sentences (3 Weeks)

Tests your ability to correct faults in usage and sentence structure, and recognize effective sentences that follow the conventions of Standard Written English.

UNIT 4: : Identifying sentence errors (3 Weeks)

Tests your ability to recognize faults in usage, and recognize effective sentences that follow the conventions of Standard Written English.

UNIT 5: Improving Paragraphs (3 Weeks)

Tests your ability to revise sentences in the context of a paragraph or the entire essay, organize and develop paragraphs in a coherent and logical manner, and apply the conventions of Standard Written English.

UNIT 6: Essay (3 weeks)

The SAT® begins with an essay. You'll be asked to present and support a point of view on a specific issue. Because you have only 25 minutes, your essay is not expected to be polished - it is meant to be a first draft.

To view the curriculum for this course in its entirety please visit <u>www.georgiastandards.org</u>. Conduct and Work Habit expectations can be found in the Atlanta Public Schools Student Handbook

Signature(s) of Acknowledgement:

I, the undersigned, have read, reviewed, and agree to support all of the expectations required for the successful completion of this course during the 2014 – 2015 academic year. I am aware of all academic policies (for Coretta Scott King Young Women's Leadership Academy Middle School, High School, and APS) and opportunities for assistance in Dr. Attis' class. I will utilize these resources for the maximum benefit of my child. Dr. Attis has also signed this document to acknowledge his/her commitment to our child's academic and social progress at Coretta Scott King Young Women's Leadership Academy. Should I have any questions or concerns, I acknowledge that I am aware of how to contact Dr. Attis and that I must return the SIGNED acknowledge to Dr. Attis by August 10th, 2015 for a homework grade.

Phone: 404-802-4900 E-mail: <u>jxattis@atlanta.k12.ga.us</u>		
Parent:	Date:	
Parent Email Address (PLEASE PRINT):		
Student:	Date:	Block:
Teacher: <i>Dr. Juliette Attis</i>	Date: <u>August 5, 2015</u>	

Thank you for the privilege of being able to teach your child this year and I look forward to being a part of their academic success.

*Please Return This Portion To Dr. Attis By August 10, 2015 For A HW Grade.