

Schweinfurt Middle School

School Year 2008-09

Preparing Students to be Successful in the 21st Century

**Critical Thinking and Problem Solving Skills
Information & Communications Technology (ICT) Skills
Life Skills**

Academic Focus on Reading and Math Improvement

Study Skills/Exploratory Wheel/Quarter Class

Instructor

Mr. Troy L. Purdin

Student Name: _____

Parent (Guardian Name): _____

Parent Email: _____

Assignment #: _____

To earn credit for this assignment, the student must review the following pages with a parent and return this cover sheet with both parties' signatures. Please keep the content portion of this letter.

Parent Signature: _____

Student Signature: _____

Study Skills Course Syllabus

Troy.Purdin@eu.dodea.edu

Classroom Expectations

Rule 1: Be Respectful

Guiding Principle/Question: Am I being negative?

Rule 2: Be Responsible

Guiding Principle/Question: Am I prepared to learn with the right attitude and other materials?

Rule 3: Be safe

Guiding Principle/Question: Might I hurt someone or break something?

Evaluation and Progress

Parents may sign up for Gradespeed, which will allow them to monitor student's grades via the Internet. Study Skills grades in Gradespeed will not reflect individual assignment information. Please ask your student to share his/her weekly Self-Evaluation for this information.

Student's work will be graded in a three-step process according to:

- Assignments (Any tests, projects, etc.)
- Weekly Self-Evaluations (Includes weekly grade determination and goals for improvement.)
- Classroom Participation (Positive attention to assignments and time on task.)

Important Websites

Title	Web Address	Notes
Schweinfurt Middle School	http://www.schw-ms.eu.dodea.edu/	Contains curricular information, calendar events, policy handbook, and helpful links
DoDEA	www.dodea.edu/	Browse to find standards, course descriptions, and much more
Gradespeed	https://dodea.gradespeed.net/gs/	Keep track of your child's grades

Curriculum and Activities

Activities often overlap in curricular areas.

Adopted partially the from AVID Curriculum

Writing

Writing practice utilizing the writing process

Cornell Notes

Note taking system focusing on being an active note taker, organizing thoughts creating questions, and summarizing. Theses notes can be turned into a question/answer study guide.

Inquiry

High level questioning

Socratic Seminars using research, questioning, and discussion

Test taking skills

Collaboration

Teaming with focus on individual and group success

21st Century Theme projects

Reading

Junior Great Books

Vocabulary building