



Syllabus for SAT Prep/College Planning

Instructor: Kelly Choplin
Time: 6th period, Tuesdays & Thursdays
Room: Computer Lab (Room 128)

Texts:

The Official SAT Study Guide, 2nd edition. ISBN-13: 978-0-87447-852-5. Published by CollegeBoard.
Grade-appropriate workbooks. Published by CollegeBoard.
ACT English & Reading Workbook
CFNC - Lessons

FYI: Software in PC lab:

For Internet access: Microsoft Internet Explorer 8.0, Mozilla FireFox 3.6
You'll need access to Internet outside class, also.
For applications: Microsoft Office 2010 (Word 2010, PowerPoint 2010, Excel 2010)
For operating system: Microsoft Windows XP Professional (operating system)

Websites related to class:

www.collegeboard.com/satstudy -- Includes free practice tests & free tools such as SAT Skills Insight & My SAT Online Score Report
www.cfnc.org – College Foundation of North Carolina's website
www.youtube.com – Various videos on tips for college-bound seniors
www.ccscolts.org/collegeplanning - Growing list of links related to college planning

Grading:

- Projects/Tests: 40%
- Quizzes: 20%
- Participation: 40% -- Participation includes listening and following directions efficiently as we move through the class. Repeated talking while the teacher is talking will result in demerits for disrespect. We have a short time together and plenty to do this year – let's use our time wisely!

Goals:

- To hone testing skills for the SAT/ACT and become more comfortable through practice for testing situations;
- to explore topics related to working through the college application process, making financial plans, understanding how to schedule college courses;
- To find ways of reducing stress with proven stress management and time management techniques; and
- To keep all the information gathered in one central notebook.



Topics Covered:

Within this SAT Prep/College Planning class, students will cover the following topics:

SAT/ACT Preparation

1. Comparing the SAT & ACT tests and how colleges use them for admission purposes.
2. Exploring the various online tools to help prepare for testing.
3. Taking practice tests and following up through online tools and sessions with CCS teachers to work through results.
4. Finding out how to send results to colleges.

College Applications

1. Deciding on community college, college transfer, university, military, or career.
2. Identifying admissions procedures and deadlines for all colleges you are applying to.
3. Outlining deadlines and requirements into organized plans and personalized college planning calendars.
4. Working on college essays.
5. Asking teachers and other authority figures for recommendations in timely fashion.
6. Practicing for college interviews & communicating with college representatives.

Financial Assistance & Planning

1. Identifying the types of financial assistance & scholarships available.
2. Organizing deadlines for financial assistance on college planning calendar.
3. Working with parents to collect financial information for financial aid applications.

College Schedules

1. Identifying possible majors & related jobs/salaries.
2. Looking ahead for the next two-four years to “see the big picture.”
3. Learning how to read college course descriptions correctly.
4. Figuring out how to schedule a balanced semester course load.

Stress Relief & Time Management

1. Identifying quick and easy stress relief techniques.
2. Learning to handle stressful situations that can arise in academic settings.
3. Practicing various time management techniques to help stay on track with a college schedule.

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Class Schedule (updated monthly)

Week of	Topic	Classwork/Homework
August 23	Introduction to class Syllabus Bookmark websites Student folders/notebooks Discussion: SAT/ACT – What they are How they affect admission Deadlines & fees	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Make sure you can sign into your collegeboard.com account. If you don't have one, create one. 2. Make sure you can sign into your CFNC account. If you don't have one, create one. 3. Using the Internet, research 3 colleges of your choosing. In a Word document (save as YourLastName-SAT Scores.docx in your folder), tell what SAT or ACT score the college is looking for in incoming freshmen. If you cannot find the information online, call the college's Admissions Office to find out. 4. Set up class notebook. 5. Create your student folder on the computer.
August 30	Discussion: Define your goals Practice SAT tests High school resumes Minimum college admission requirements	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Go to www.collegeboard.com > Student > SAT Prep Center. Explore practice test questions in CR, Math, and Writing. 2. Go to www.cfnc.org > Login > using CFNC's High School Planner > Go to Personal Information and update class list and extracurricular activities. 3. Assignment: Print the output after you have completed adding all personal info into the High School Planner.
September 6	Discussion: CFNC College Fair Practice ACT tests What the ACT measures Handout: Exploring the ACT	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Go to www.cfnc.org > Explore the College Fair area to find colleges that match your criteria. 2. Explore www.actstudent.org and the Preparing for the ACT booklet. 3. In a Microsoft Word document, answer questions on Handout: ACT that your teacher gives you. Save this file as [Your Last Name – ACT.docx] in your folder. Print a copy to turn in for a grade. Due on Sept. 17.
September 13	Continued	Continued from Sept. 6 week.
September 20	Discussion: Deciding on community college, college transfer, university, military, or career Choosing a college SAT practice	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Take a practice SAT test. 2. Go to youtube.com – find 3 videos on the subject "How to Choose a College." In a Word document, paste the URL for each video and describe the video in a short paragraph (Was it useful? A parody? What did you learn? Do you recommend it to others? Etc.). 3. Create a Word document (save as YourLastName-choices.docx in your folder) to perform the following tasks:

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September 27		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Define each: community college, college transfer, university, military choices, career. b. After defining each term, choose one as your primary choice and one as your secondary choice. For both your first and second choice, give three reasons why you made that choice and how it fits your life goals. c. For both your primary and secondary choice, explain any obstacles you have to attaining that goal and how you plan to overcome them.
October 4		
October 11		
October 20		
October 26		
November 2		
November 9		
November 16		
November 23		
November 30		
December 7		
December 14		
December 21		
December 28		
January 4		
January 11		
January 18		
January 25		
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February 22		
March 1		
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March 22		
March 29		
April 5		
April 12		
April 19		
April 26		
May 3		

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May 10		
May 17		
May 24		