

Santa Monica High School - Homework Policy

I. Philosophy

Homework is a critical part of the learning process. Time management, good organization, and a positive, distraction-free environment for homework are keys to success. Santa Monica High School's homework policy has been designed to help students find a balance among academics, extracurricular activities, and family life.

II. Homework Design

- a) Homework may be assigned in all classes. The homework load averages 30 minutes per night, per class, based on the typical student in that class. This number is an average only. Much will depend on how students approach and organize homework time.
- b) There are three types of homework: practice, preparation, and extension. The basic objectives of homework are to reinforce the application of previously taught concepts, principles, and skills; extend student learning; and promote creative thinking and independent research.

III. Feedback

- a) Teachers will provide students with timely feedback relative to the assignment.
- b) Types of feedback may include (but are not limited to): points/grades on Illuminate, in-class review of overall trends/patterns, self-correction, peer review, group work, class discussion, teacher written or verbal comments.

IV. Make Up Assignments

- a) The timeframe to submit a makeup assignment will be communicated by the teacher.
- b) Students with excused absences will be given an opportunity to make up homework assignments for full credit.
- c) Upon student request, students who fail to submit or pass a homework assignment may be given an opportunity to earn full or partial credit.
- d) If assistance is needed, students can request help via email, verbally during class or teacher office hours, on-line class discussion boards, from peers, on-line textbook(s) and/or resources, and school tutoring programs.

V. Parental/Guardian Involvement Activities

Listed below are parental involvement activities that contribute to student motivation and performance.

- 1) Provide a clear space and time at home for homework.
- 2) Oversee the homework process when needed, including scheduling and monitoring long-term projects.
- 3) Students should independently review class material and read, even when formal homework is not assigned for a particular class.
- 4) Encourage your student to contact the teacher first with questions or concerns about homework.
- 5) Contact the student's teacher should you have further questions or concerns.