**7th Grade Writing Lab**“I love deadlines. I love the whooshing noise they make as they go by.”

Ms. Ruberto – Room 112

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<http://demarestsd.schoolwires.net/Domain/422>

**Introduction**

In Writing Lab, you will devote time to analyzing and studying different genres of fiction short stories, which will lead into the development of your own, original fiction short story. This will be accomplished through a variety of writing-centered activities, looking at examples of well-written short stories, and learning new writing tools to sharpen your skills as creative writers.

**Expectations and Classroom Rules**

 You are expected to come to class prepared with the correct materials, and be prepared to work hard. Class time is to be used appropriately to develop and strengthen your writing skills and creativity.

You are expected to follow the class procedures, as established by Ms. Ruberto. The appropriate classroom behavior and conduct is also expected every day. Room 112’s rules and procedures are consistent with language arts; no matter which class, the rules and procedures of room 112 remain the same. Please refer to the seventh grade classroom management contract for the appropriate rules and consequences for misbehavior.

Computer usage is also allowed when determined by Ms. Ruberto. If the computer is being used inappropriately, privileges will be taken away.

**Materials**

You are expected to come to class everyday with your computer (with a writing lab section for note taking and story writing), pens/pencils, and a folder for handouts.

**Grading**

The assignments in Writing Lab will add up to a total of **400 points**, divided amongst a variety of projects throughout the marking period. Your final assessment of the marking period will be the completion of your choice of a fiction short story. At the end of the marking period, your ultimate grade for the class will be the total number of points you earned divided by the total amount of points possible for all of the assignments.

You are expected to participate in class activities and discussions with your full effort. We will not have any formal homework assignments, but it may be necessary for you to finish class projects at home to meet due dates from time to time. Class participation is also factored into the amount of points for the marking period, which will reflect your individual performance and behavior during class time.

**Absence Policy**

 ***If you are absent,*** it is your responsibility to make up any missing classwork and possible homework, which is due the following day upon return. You can do this in one of the following ways:

1. Check Ms. Ruberto’s website- the homework calendar and the current unit’s section for class notes and assignments.
2. Contact Ms. Ruberto via email (rubertod@nvnet.org)
3. Visit Ms. Ruberto in the morning or after school to discuss what was missed.

**Extra Help**

 Ms. Ruberto is always willing to give extra help when it is needed. Ms. Ruberto is available in the mornings, and after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays. However, you must contact Ms. Ruberto and make an appointment beforehand.