

## ICOLPH Mock Trial - Course Syllabus, 2017– 2018

*Course:* Mock Trial

Teacher: Mrs. Gadek

Classroom: Library

Class Time: Wednesday, 1:00 – 2:00 PM

Website: [mrsgadek.weebly.com](http://mrsgadek.weebly.com)

Additional Help: Wednesdays During

Lunch Recess by Appointment

E-mail: [dgadek@ic-olph.org](mailto:dgadek@ic-olph.org)

### Course Description

Mock Trial is a class focused on team building, critical thinking, legal processes, and cooperative leadership.

### Course Goals

**Students will be able to:**

- Work collaboratively with a team
- Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including vocabulary specific to domains related to social studies
- Identify aspects of a text that reveal an author's point of view or purpose (e.g. loaded language, inclusion or avoidance of particular facts)
- Distinguish among fact, opinion, and reasoned judgment in a text
- Use critical reasoning skills to analyze and evaluate the logic of positions to interpret an issue or event
- Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary of the source distinct from prior knowledge or opinions
- Identify key steps in a text's description of a process related to history/social studies
- Integrate visual information (e.g. in charts, graphs, photographs, videos or maps) with other information in print and digital texts
- Communicate through enhanced speaking, listening, and writing skills
- Convey self-confidence
- Create a product that uses social studies content to support a thesis and present the product in an appropriate manner to a meaningful audience

### Absences and Tardiness

I will follow the school's attendance and tardiness policy. Class promptly starts at 1:00 PM. The students are expected to please use the restroom and get a drink of water **before class begins**. Our class meets only once per week; if possible, please refrain from scheduling appointments during class time. If a student is tardy to class they will be sent to the office to receive a tardy slip. Extra time will not be allotted for warm-ups/quizzes and it will then be the student's responsibility to make up the work outside of class. **A reminder:** The ICOLPH School Family Handbook clearly states that make-up work, for whatever reason, is the responsibility of the student and family. *It is a student's responsibility to email me for work they missed. If they do not contact me, students will receive a zero for assignments/quizzes assigned during their absence that are due upon their return.*

## Late Work

*Every assignment needs to be fully completed on the due date.*

If a student is absent on the day an assignment is due, they must submit the work that was due **before** the next class day to receive 100% credit.

Assignments turned in a week after the due date **will not** be awarded credit.

**Students may submit assignments through:**

- 1) Google Docs
- 2) Email [dgadek@ic-olph.org](mailto:dgadek@ic-olph.org) (.pdf, .doc, .docx)
- 3) My box in the school office

Students **should not** give work to homeroom teachers to send down to the office. **This is not a secure method of turning in work.** It is the student's responsibility to ensure their assignment is received by me.

If a student is present on the day an assignment is due, but fails to turn in the work, they will earn a zero on the assignment and will be assigned Study Hall until the work is satisfactorily completed. Late work that is satisfactorily completed within one-week and before the next class can earn a maximum of 70%.

The late work policy for this class is very strict due to the team aspect of this class, for example: A witness cannot answer questions that their attorney has not yet written. Each student has the responsibility to support the successful learning of their peers. Therefore, it is expected that each student will be prompt and thorough in completing their work for this class.

## Participation and Classroom Expectations

Students will be graded on their participation in this class.

*This will include:*

- Attendance
- Abiding by all classroom rules
- Being prepared to learn, by having all materials needed for class
- Being on task
- Adding in a positive and appropriate manner to the discussion at hand
- Using appropriate school language, gestures, and drawings
- Respecting each other as people and learners: Everyone has a RIGHT to learn, you have the RESPONSIBILITY to allow them to do so.
- Respecting the teacher: The teacher has a RIGHT to teach, you have the RESPONSIBILITY to allow her to do so.

## Discipline

I follow the school's discipline policy. If a student does not adhere to the classroom expectations, the following actions may be taken:

- Verbal warning
- Verbal plan by student
- Time-out/ solution desk in class with "Time-Out Think Sheet"
- Written plan by student, that may go home
- Problem solving
- Contact or conference with parent/guardian
- Conduct Referral notice sent home and put in file
- Contract (daily, weekly, etc...)
- Denied privilege from specific area of concern
- Administrative involvement
- Detention
- Probation
- Suspension
- Expulsion

## Grading

**Participation: 10%**

**Formative Assessments: 20%**

**Assignments: 30%**

**Summative Assessments: 40%**

**4 – Above grade level**

**3 – At grade level**

**2 – Approaching grade level**

**1 – Below grade level**

## Please Bring to Class:

All students need to have the following materials at the beginning of every class in order to be successful–

- Lined paper (college or wide ruled)
- Pencil, with eraser
- Pen (blue or black ink)
- All homework that is due
- Materials related to Mock Government
- A notebook or specific section in their binder for this class to help them stay organized with their notes and assignments
- Three different-colored, thin highlighters (yellow, blue, green)
- Earbuds/headphones

**We are guests in the classrooms we use. Any materials found in the rooms we are in are not for our use. We will have access to computers in the lab. If students are given time to work, it is the expectation that they abide by the school use policy and remain on task at all times. Students not on task may lose their computer privileges. Mock Trial students are expected to be mature and responsible enough to bring their own materials to class.**

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

After reading the syllabus *with* your student, please sign this page, and have them return it by **Wednesday, September 20<sup>th</sup>** for assignment points.

If you have any comments, concerns, or questions, please feel free to contact me. I look forward to staying in good communication with you this coming trimester. I know we can make this a great experience for your student!

*Thank you,*

*Mrs. Danielle Gadek*  
*Mock Trial Teacher*  
*Immaculate Conception and Our Lady of Perpetual Help School*  
[dgadek@ic-olph.org](mailto:dgadek@ic-olph.org)

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We have read, understand, and agree to abide by the syllabus for  
Mock Trial.

X \_\_\_\_\_ student

(Printed name \_\_\_\_\_)

X \_\_\_\_\_ parent(s) / guardian(s)

X \_\_\_\_\_