

**Ghidotti Early College High School**  
**Academic Decathlon**  
**Mr. Levinson**

Introduction

Welcome to GECHS's Academic Decathlon class. I am very excited to offer this class for the first time in Ghidotti history! Please review this syllabus and check out the California Academic Decathlon website ([academicdecathlon.org](http://academicdecathlon.org)). Please feel free to contact me with any questions. My e-mail address is [nlevinson@njuhsd.com](mailto:nlevinson@njuhsd.com).

Sincerely,



Noah Levinson

Course Theme

The aim of this course is to master the curriculum as set forth by the Academic Decathlon. Students will read all of the curriculum materials and create documents to aid them in content mastery. The Academic Decathlon theme for the 2016-2017 school year will be World War II. Each topic listed below is geared toward that theme.

**Art:** The art curriculum will include a section on art fundamentals and will largely focus on the art of the World War II era.

**Economics:** The economic curriculum will cover fundamental economic concepts, microeconomics, and macroeconomics and will also include a thematic section on the economic origins and impact of World War II.

**Language and Literature:** The language and literature will include critical reading, one long work of literature, and selected shorter works. The long work of literature will be the novel *Transit* by Anna Seghers.

**Mathematics:** The mathematics curriculum will cover algebra and trigonometry.

**Music:** The music curriculum will include basic elements of music theory and will focus on the music of the World War II era.

**Science:** The science topic will be an introduction to atomic and nuclear physics and will include a section on the Manhattan Project and the development of the atomic bomb.

**Social Science:** The social science curriculum will cover World War II.

**Speech:** All students will prepare an original speech as well as a practice impromptu speaking skills.

**Interview:** All students will practice professional interviewing skills.

**Essay:** All students will write an essay geared toward one of the above topics for scrimmages, regionals, and state competitions.

## Tournaments and Scrimmages

All students are asked to attend a scrimmage early in November. Our final team will be attending regionals in February and the state competition in March.

## Grading

Grades will be determined by a combination of assignments, projects, and tests. Students will turn most assignment in on Schoology. Assignments are expected to be turned in on the date they are due, which will be announced when the assignment is handed out.

<b>Grading Scale</b>	
A	90%-100%
B	80%-89%
C	70%-79%
D	60%-69%
F	Below 60%

I will be posting grades through Schoology.com. You may also come to me outside of class to find out your grade.

## Remind

I will use Remind.com to communicate outside of the classroom. Please sign up by texting "@gechs-deca" to the phone number 81010.

## Expectations

### 1. **Prompt**

- Work is turned in on time. Work missed because of an excused absence may be submitted for credit after a period of time proportional to the length of absence.
- The students are in class on time.

### 2. **Prepared**

- All necessary materials (as well as an attitude to learn) are brought to class.
- Errands are taken care of before class.

### 3. **Neat**

- The classroom and desks are kept clean.

### 4. **Respectful**

- Students listen to others when they share in class.
- The property of others is respected.
- Students follow school rules and policies.

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To let me know that you've read and understand the syllabus, please complete the "Syllabus Quiz" on Schoology.