Classroom Management Rules – Moodle Blended Classroom

*95% of all current WCA high school students have been completely oriented to the following!*

*Key to success* … make students understand that they do not need to remember any assignment, project, or test date … *all they have to do is check Moodle*. **Moodle is there ready to hug them!!!** You are handing them a world class organizational system; they need to depend on it – not duplicate it. Tell them to discard their old organizational system for your Moodle class!

1. Do not list any homework assignments in your classroom or verbally remind students of homework assignments.
2. Post your assignments and due times in Moodle only … at least a week in advance … the entire chapter. (You are encouraging students to work ahead on their own … this is a major benefit of Moodle in that they will come into your class better prepared and with an enriched knowledge base.)
3. Be prepared to have your curriculum move faster than without Moodle ~ about 15% faster.
4. Do not answer any questions about homework during class time unless it is part of your classroom curriculum or review process. There will be no homework to collect in class.
5. Only mention tests once verbally … a day or two before during class. Do not list test dates on the board, etc.
6. Handouts are scanned / loaded into Moodle so students have access to them at home … and therefore no excuses to hand in the assignment. (Have printed copies available in class so you do not give the impression that you are making students print everything at home.)
7. All homework is entered online – no collecting of homework. If students have handouts to do they can drop them off in a bin on your desk as they come into class, or they can scan them and upload their handout directly into Moodle.
8. There are **no (zero) excuses** for any late or missing homework assignments … “my computer died, we lost Internet, my printer did not work, we lost power”, etc. (Students can always use a school computer, go to a friend’s house, borrow an iPad at school in study hall, or even use a **cell phone** to answer Moodle questions on the bus ride to school!)
9. There are no “Snow Days” in Moodle … everything just keeps humming along! (Actually, student use snow days to get caught up on their Moodle assignments.)
10. Do not make assignments due after 9:00 pm on weeknights, WCA does not encourage students to stay up late to do work. An assignment handed in at 9:01 is late and can only receive a maximum of 50% credit. After 24 hours the maximum credit is 25%, after 48 hours they will receive zero credit but must still do the assignment as school policy. When an assignment is late – just assign the appropriate point value and respond with a comment explaining the lateness. Explain to students that the assignment would normally have been due in class, but Moodle gave them an extra 6 hours to get it done. (Do not make assignments due over the weekend, or on school holidays.)
11. All Moodle homework responses must use correct spelling, grammar, and sentence structure. No sentence fragments are permitted. Do not give full credit if students do not comply; make a note in comments for that assignment.)
12. Students check Moodle for all assignments and due dates. Students must check RenWeb for grades or missing assignments. (This will be explained to parents in your syllabus.)
13. There is no direct connection between iPads and Moodle. Moodle can be accessed from any computer device with Internet access … anywhere on the planet … even using cell phones on the bus ride to school.
14. The perceived anonymity of the Internet will allow more reserved students to express themselves when completing Moodle assignments. Acknowledge their private work publically in an anonymous manner to build up their confidence level.