

Cell Phone Procedures

2019 - 2020



Dear Bert Church Families:

I am very excited to have your students in my classroom this semester/year. There are many opportunities for students to shine and show what they know, and I am looking forward to the enthusiasm students bring to English and Humanities.

My classroom allows for creativity and students are encouraged to take risks in their learning.

It is also my goal to provide continuity and structure to your student's experience, which in turn allows students to diligently pursue their studies. In order to facilitate a supportive learning environment, it is important that students are presented with a classroom, where distractions have been minimized. **To that end, cell phones will not be permitted during English or Social classes.**

Current research, in notable journals and news media have found that performance, retention and attention are significantly impacted by the distractions caused through cell phones in classrooms. Therefore, the following procedures will be in place for the 2017-2018 school year:

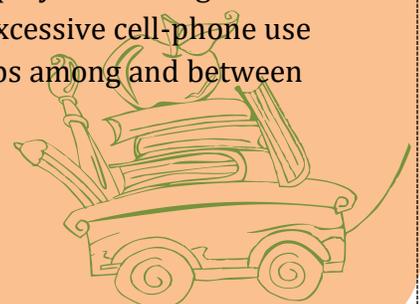
CELL PHONE PROCEDURES

1. Students will be reminded at the beginning of class to put their cell phones away although, ideally, they would be left in their lockers.
2. Individual students who have their cell phones out during class time will be asked once, to put them in their backpacks, out of sight, out of mind, and silenced.
3. After the request in step 2 above, students who again have their cell phone out during class time, will be asked to leave the room for the remainder of the class.
4. Parents will be notified via email.

Below are several articles that provide further information on the subject of cell phones in the classroom. Please take the time to review the information as they are valuable to understanding the many issues cell phones present.

CURRENT RESEARCH

"An addiction to one's cell-phone can undermine academic performance as students use their cell-phones to "remove" themselves from classroom activities, cheat, and to disrupt their studies. The negative impact of cell-phone use on performance transcends the classroom and can impact workplace performance not only for students but for employees of all ages. The conflict caused by excessive cell-phone use impacts relationships among and between students,



(con't) between students and their professors and parents, and between students and supervisors at work.”

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4291831/>

“Research on college students (average age 18) in a simulated classroom reveals how phones hurt learning, as students who *did not* use their phones ‘wrote down 62 percent more information in their notes, took more detailed notes, were able to recall more detailed information from the lecture, and scored a full letter grade and a half higher on a multiple-choice test than those students who were actively using their mobile phones.”

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/richard-freed/why-phones-dont-belong-in-school_b_9666730.html

“Researchers at Kent State University, for example, found that among college students, more daily cellphone use (including smartphones) correlated with lower overall GPAs. The research team surveyed more than 500 students, controlling for demographics and high-school GPA, among other factors.”

<https://www.theatlantic.com/education/archive/2016/04/do-smartphones-have-a-place-in-the-classroom/480231/>



If you have any questions regarding this information, please feel free to email me at bcartwright@rockyview.ab.ca or call at 403-948-3800.

Sincerely,

B. Cartwright

