

ROSLYN HIGH SCHOOL
DEPARTMENT: ENGLISH
NAME OF COURSE: TED TALKS

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

The overall goal of this elective course is to instill in students the core twenty-first century skill of *presentation literacy*. The course will expose students to an array of TED Talk presentations. Discussion and analysis of these will guide students in ultimately constructing and presenting their own TED Talks. The course fosters public speaking skills as well as written and oral presentation strategies.

MAJOR TOPICS COVERED

- The basic structure and purpose of TED Talks
- What makes an effective TED Talk
- Rhetorical analysis of how the creators of TED Talks use language to persuade their audience and make their arguments
- Choosing a topic
- Creating and revising a TED Talk-style piece
- Public speaking and presentation skills required to effectively present your talk to an audience
- Students will be watching and analyzing TED Talks from such diverse presenters as Elon Musk, Salman Khan, Sir Ken Robinson, Al Gore, Malcolm Gladwell, Rebecca Goldstein, Mark Ronson, J.J. Abrams and Angela Duckworth, among many others.

REQUIREMENTS

- Analysis of TED Talks focusing on the following elements:
 - Idea Building
 - Common Traps
 - The Throughline
 - Connection
 - Narration
 - Explanation
 - Persuasion
 - Revelation
 - Visuals
 - Scripting
 - Run-Throughs
 - Open and Close
 - Mental Prep
 - Wardrobe
 - Setup
 - Voice and Presence

GRADING PROCEDURES

Grades will be based on the notes and ongoing journals that students keep where they analyze the talks that they watch, participation in class discussion and the final TED Talk that they create and present.