

From: Chris Ford cford@bsfa.org
Subject: Message about change of out-of-class work due time and on-line learning opportunity "Unapologetically Black"
Date: October 9, 2020 at 6:45 PM
To: All Students AllStudents@bsfa.org
Cc: ALL STAFF AllStaff@bsfa.org



Dear Students,

I apologize for the late sending of this e-mail. The day got away from me and I intended to send this quite a bit earlier today. That said, the last portion of today's message has an urgent timeline and I didn't want to wait till Monday.

After considering the comments around our universal due time for all out-of-class work, we will be shifting the expectation that all out-of-class work be turned in by 5:30 pm of the day of class.

Students have told us that class recordings take hours to render so they are available to you. This makes meeting a 5:30 same-day deadline difficult or impossible. Sometimes students have conflicting legitimate activities that makes meeting the "same-day 5:30" deadline difficult.

Understanding those concerns and continuing to be interested in a reasonable end to the school day have led us to make another shift.

Starting Monday, all classwork and exit tickets left undone at the completion of a class will be due at 5:30 on THE NEXT WEEK DAY.

To be clear, this would mean that class work and exit tickets left undone at the conclusion of a Thursday class would be due at 5:30 on the following Friday. Or class work and exit tickets undone at the conclusion of a Tuesday class would be due at 5:30 on the following Wednesday. Let me know how this works for you.

Please note that Friday of next week (10/16) will be a day without classes.

Below is an opportunity from the school system (with a very short timeline for application) that may be of interest to you:

Online Courses Opportunity for High School Students

Thanks to a generous funder, we are able to provide 300 high school students with the opportunity to take a course through Reconstruction, an online program offering an "[Unapologetically Black](#)" education that connects students to their history and culture in new and exciting ways. You can find more information about Reconstruction at www.reconstruction.us Twice a week, for the next few months, high school students can take advantage of one of three courses, designed by diverse educators for diverse students, which highlight Black people, Black culture, and Black contributions to our world. Given the current conversation about race in America and our students' demands for more culturally relevant curricula, we think this is a great opportunity to help us address some of these issues.

The courses are live sessions led by outstanding young professionals dedicated to empowering the community. The courses available to students are:

- Black Shakespeare - Explores and celebrates the strong - and most often unknown - connections between Black people and Shakespeare.
- Reconstruction Canon - Engages in a book-club style conversation, appreciation and analysis of both classic and emerging Black literature.
- #StayCriticallyWoke - Examines the historical, social, and political context of protests and movements throughout the world. Please review the attached flyer for more information including a short questionnaire for interested students. The 300 spots will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis, so please share this information with your teachers and students as soon as possible.

Pre-registration will close on **Friday, October 16**, or when all spots are filled.

So, time is of the essence, should you wish to enroll in this class. If you are interested in this opportunity, please write me soon & I will forward your interest to the school system.

Have a great weekend,

Chris Ford