

Writing Workshop for High School 2020/21

Instructor: Erin Fielding

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Grade level: 9-11

Class Directives:

The focus of this class is to lay a solid foundation for writing at the high school level. Each quarter I will introduce a different type of writing assignment that students are expected to become proficient in as they move towards college. My goal is to give them tools that will help them gain confidence and “demystify” the process of writing in a positive, encouraging environment. I expect the students in this class to work hard but I do not expect perfection. I am far more interested in improvement than perfect scores. I have listed below the types of writing that I plan to cover this year as well as a few of the specific skills we will cover (all writing will be non-fiction).

****Note:** This class does not include an extensive study of grammar.

1. Expository- Cause/Effect

Exploring the relationship between events in history and their consequences

2. Expository- Literary Analysis

Learning how to analyze a piece of literature for structure and content

3. Argumentative- Problem/Solution

Choosing and articulating the best solution to an existing problem

4. Argumentative- Take a Stand

Learning how to articulate an opinion on a current issue

Embedded skills (not a complete list):

- *MLA formatting
- *Thesis writing
- *Choosing appropriate sources
- *Crafting an outline
- *Citing sources in text
- *works cited page
- *Using sound logic
- *Revising and editing

Grades:

Students will produce one essay per quarter, which accounts for much of their overall grade. The quarterly grades will be calculated as such:

50% an average of all smaller assignments (worksheets, completed outlines, peer reviews, etc.)

20% rough draft

20% final draft

10% class participation

Rubrics, to clarify and track expectations, will be given at the beginning of each major assignment.

All students will need:

*Binder with dividers(preferably with pockets) to store paper materials

*Notebook paper

*Pencils and highlighters

*Access to a computer outside of class

*Reliable internet access (All major assignments will need to be completed and submitted through Google Docs- essays will not be handwritten.)

Attendance/Late Assignments:

Please let me know of any planned absences ahead of time so that I can adjust accordingly. Assignments that are turned in late will not receive full credit.

****Class Fees:**

A \$25 copy fee will be due at the beginning of the year for each student.