

Fall 2015

Elementary English Writing

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Class Time: 1:00-2:30 PM

Course Description

Elementary English Writing is an introductory course designed for students looking for directions on how to improve their English writing skills as well as students looking for supplementary materials on becoming better writers. Students will learn the fundamental pieces of an essay, how to write an outline, and how to properly express their ideas while also creating an essay that catches the reader's attention. Every student will receive direct feedback on their essays, with suggestions to better their grammar and develop their writing skills.

Course Objectives

By the end of this course in Elementary Writing the student will become familiar with:

1. Writing an outline.
2. Clearly expressing the main ideas of a paragraph.
3. Using transition sentences.
4. Writing both persuasively and factually.
5. Responding to questions presented in essays prompts.
6. Reading and summarizing ideas.
7. Drafting and revising essays.

Prerequisites: N/A

Age Recommendations: Grades 3-6

Textbooks: N/A, Supplementary works will be handed out as needed

Student's Responsibilities: Bring your completed writing assignments to class every week.

Parent's Responsibilities: Ensure your child has writing supplies, paper, and arrives on time.

Supplies: Pencils and Lined Paper. Dictionary and Thesaurus are recommended but not necessary.

Grading

Weekly written homework assignments:	40%
Class Participation:	10%
Midterm Essay	20%
Final Essay	20%
Final Written Exam	10%

Calendar

August 23rd: Registration/Syllabus Review/Introductions **Homework:** Write one page about yourself

August 30th: Fundamentals of Writing **Homework:** Respond to short essay prompt

September 6th: **Labor Day**

September 13th: Narrative Hooks **Homework:** Write a short essay with narrative hooks.

September 20th: Transition Sentences/Adjectives **Homework:** Respond to essay prompt.

September 27th: Persuasive Writing **Homework:** Write a short convincing essay.

October 4th: Midterm Essay Preparation/Review **Homework:** Complete midterm essay.

October 11th: Midterm Essay Due/Introduction to Factual Writing **Homework:** Review Handout.

October 18th : Using Factual Writing to Convey Information **Homework:** Write short factual essay.

October 25th: Drafting Essays **Homework:** Write rough draft of final essay and bring to class.

November 1st: Peer Review/Editing Essays/Final Essay Preparation **Homework:** Complete final essay.

November 8th: Final Essay Due/Perfecting Essay Prompt Responses **Homework:** None

November 15th: Class Review/ Preparing for Final Written Exam **Homework:** None

November 22nd Final Written Exam **Homework:** None

November 29th **Thanksgiving**

December 6th USF Final Exam

December 13th Story Telling Festival/Report Cards

Exercises

Just like any other skill, writing requires practice. Students will periodically be given short essay prompts to respond to using skills taught in class. These prompts will be straightforward and will present an opportunity for students to practice and hone their writing abilities. The students will also receive direct feedback on these essays that they can use to create better and better essays.