

COURSE TITLE: Composition and Rhetoric
COURSE LENGTH: 1 year
COURSE CREDIT: 1 high school credit;
6 hours college credit through SLU

COURSE TYPE: elective
(fulfills English III or IV requirement)
GRADE LEVEL: 11, 12
PREREQUISITE: GPA of 3.0 or better

COURSE GOALS:

1. Students will identify and explain the content, form, structure, elements, and techniques of composition at the college level.
2. Students will construct arguments on topics of their choice, employing techniques of rhetoric and argumentation.
3. Students will gather source material, evaluate it, and organize ideas for clear presentation to others.
4. Students will evaluate the writings of others using standards of successful composition, exposition, and critique.
5. Students will complete a formal research paper involving exposition and critique and using proper MLA format for organization, quotation, and citation.
6. Students will interpret and respond to works of literature.
7. Students will synthesize knowledge gained from course content to produce essays that meet standards of college writing.
8. Students will generate grammatically correct sentences which reflect careful and appropriate word choice.

COURSE CONTENT:

1. Personal essays: Observation, Comparison and Contrast, Process Analysis, Expository, and Reading Response
2. Argumentative essays: Definition, Evaluation, Proposal, Literary Analysis, and Research (on a possible career field)
3. Elements of expository writing, critical analysis, and argument
4. Research techniques for online and print sources
5. Peer review and editing
6. Readings from essays and works of nonfiction
7. Literature, including classics of British and American literature
8. MLA format for incorporating and crediting secondary sources
9. Vocabulary enrichment
10. Grammar, including identifying and using clausal phrases, avoiding grammatical issues such as dangling modifiers, etc.

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