

Pre-College English

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Course Description

The purpose of this class is to prepare students for college level English courses. Students will work on both writing and interpreting literature.

Texts

Axelrod, Rise B. and Charles R. Cooper. *The St. Martin's Guide to Writing*. 4th Ed. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1994.

Lunsford, Andrea and Robert Connors. *The St. Martin's Handbook*. 2nd Ed. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1992.

Ethan Frome by Edith Wharton

Brave New World by Aldous Huxley

A Tale of Two Cities by Charles Dickens

The Crucible by Arthur Miller

College Style Papers

All papers will be graded seventy-percent content and thirty-percent form. All due dates are expected to be met, with only illness or emergency as viable excuses for tardy assignments. All other tardy papers will have ten-percent deducted from them the first week they are tardy.

Paper One - Word Definition Paragraph - In this paper students will write a paragraph that connotatively defines a word. Papers should have a definite, identifiable topic sentence and use sentences of different structures to create variety.

Paper Two - Picture Frame Paragraph - In this paper students will write a paragraph that is an expansion of another paragraph. They will be required to expand through description the given paragraph. Papers should have a clear direction and should vividly describe through sensory explanation what is in the given paragraph.

Paper Three - Definition Paragraph - In this paper students will support a given word with a given definition. They will, through definition and example, precisely explain the given

definition of the given word. Papers should have a clear topic sentence, an appropriate definition, and an appropriate example to support that definition. This paper must be written in a third person voice.

Paper Four - Argumentative Paragraph - In this paper students will construct positions of their choosing on topics of their choosing. They will define and support those topics using classical argumentative forms. Papers should have a clear topic sentence, appropriate form which will include transitions, supports and/or attacks, and explanation. This paper must be written in a third person voice.

Paper Five - Process Analysis Essay - In this paper students will be using a classical essay form to explain a process of their choosing. The paper should include a thesis, paragraphs which all have topic sentences, an introduction and a conclusion.

Paper Six - Autobiographical Essay - In this paper students will write essays about themselves on a given topic. The paper should include a clear thesis, topic sentences, and descriptive writing that appropriately fits the given topic.

Paper Seven - Concept Explanation Essay - In this essay students will write an essay that explains a concept. This paper must be written in a third person voice. All sources used should be appropriately documented in MLA style.

Paper Eight - Evaluation Essay - In this paper students will evaluate subjects of their own choosing. This paper must be written in a third person voice. All sources used should be appropriately documented in MLA style.

Paper Ten - Short Story Interpretation Essay - In this paper students will analyze and support a particular reading of a given short story. This paper must be written in a third person voice.

Discipline Expectations

Students should come to class with the expectation that learning is an active process that requires their participation. This should not be detracted from by inappropriate behaviors that are distracting to others, include the instructor. Such behaviors will be pointed out, and if continued, students engaging in them will be removed from the class. Also, as a place of preparation students are expected to treat the instructor and each other with consideration and respect.