

# Course Description

## High School -- Writing An Elegant Essay

### H.O.M.E. Group 2018-19

Instructor: Debbye Rheker

Start Date: Sept. 7, 2018

Email: debbyerake@gmail.com

End Date: May 17, 2019

Phone Number: 586-929-9052

Class Times: Fridays, 12:30-2:00

This is a two semester class. First Semester Tuition (\$160) is due at Meet the Teacher on August 21, 2018. Second Semester Tuition (\$160) is due by December 31, 2018. Materials are purchased on your own; see Textbook and Supplies Needed section below.

SOARCE Cost: \$250/semester

### Instructor Biography

I have been teaching professional writing classes since 2008. I am passionate about working with students to help them learn the skills they will need for college or their adult life. My goal is to work with parents on their specific goals for their student so writing becomes a positive experience for everyone.

I completed an Associate's Degree in General Studies at Macomb Community College. I also completed a Bachelor's Degree in General Studies with a minor in Journalism at Oakland University. My professional experience includes working in the Public Relations Department at Henry Ford Hospital, St. Joseph's, Bon Secours, Manufacturer's Bank and Comerica.

### Course Description

Students will learn the necessary tools to develop excellent writing and life skills. For writing, we will learn the IEW stylistic techniques (and more) that transform good writing into great writing. Students also will learn how to complete the parts of an essay and then complete various essays that do not require research (descriptive, narrative, influential person, timed, process). There will also be grammar review which will prepare students for the ACT/SAT Test. In addition, students will learn college and life skills including how to take notes, study, manage time, take tests, follow detailed instruction, evaluate writing, provide feedback, work under pressure and meet deadlines. Because this class incorporates many grade and skill levels, a parent will need to work closely with their student to make sure they are appropriately challenged. Requirements can be decreased or increased based on

parental direction. My goal is for each student to successfully complete this course according to their own ability and goals.

### **Skills & Topics**

- \* Learn how to complete the parts of an essay: introduction, body and conclusion.
- \* Learn various stylistic techniques turning good writing into great writing
- \* Learn how to edit and proofread
- \* Learn how to take notes by various methods
- \* Learn study techniques

### **Course Objectives/Goals**

Students will learn each part of an essay and stylistic techniques to make good writing great writing. Students will also learn skills needed in college: note taking techniques, study skills, self-editing and peer editing.

### **Textbook and Supplies Needed**

1. Student Writing Intensive Continuation Course Level C Student Handouts e-book (\$15), and The Elegant Essay \$29.
2. Use of a computer to research and type homework.
3. Lined paper to take notes in class.
4. A large binder for handouts.
5. Free version of Grammarly installed on computer.
6. Extra printer ink and paper on hand. All assignments must be printed. I will not print out your homework for you.
7. Laptop for in-class work.
8. A gmail account to submit some homework through google docs.

### **Classroom Policies**

Please bring an electronic device with internet capability as we will play online games. Please do not use it for any other use during class, or I will confiscate it. Students, not parents, need to contact me with questions about homework.

### **Evaluation and Grading**

<b>Percent</b>	<b>Letter Grade</b>
100-98	A +
97-93%	A

92-90%	A-
89-87%	B+
86-83%	B
82-80%	B-
79-77%	C+
76-73%	C
72-70%	C-
69-67%	D+
66-63%	D
62-60%	D-
59-0%	F

Student Learning Outcomes: Students will be able to confidently complete various essays. Students also will learn what skills they will need to be successful in the academic or business world.

Attendance Policy: If you will be absent, please send me an email to notify me before class. It is your responsibility to read the weekly email and complete your homework. Homework must be submitted on time or early unless you have received approval for an extended deadline.

Communication: Students may call, text or email me. Please use the instructions provided in my handout when emailing. Check weekly emails for homework and keep all of them until the end of the class.

Assignments: All assignments should be typed. If a parent does not notify me and approve homework for being late, it will be marked down. All work from the first semester must be turned in before the holidays. Please keep all homework for records.