

English Writing Class

Instructor: Matthew Qiu

Course Description

This course will be conducted online and is intended to build, refine, and polish fundamental writing skills and concepts. There will be active participation by the students through numerous writing exercises and activities during class along with responses to notable texts that we will analyze. There will be an emphasis on command of language and how to write different types of essays which all utilize different skillsets. Students will learn and practice usage of literary techniques that enhance one's ability to articulate clear thoughts and ideas across words. Skills gained here will be invaluable in academic courses and beyond as writing is a critical component of many different types of careers paths.

Course Goals

Students who complete this course successfully will be able to:

- Analyze and respond to complex texts and works across different genres of literature
- Employ a host of literary techniques in their writing
- Understand and identify rhetorical devices and
- How to write sophisticated analytical essays, persuasive opinion pieces, and narratives

Curriculum

❖ **Unit 1: Introduction**

- Diagnostic
- Why Writing is Important

❖ **Unit 2: Rules of Writing**

- Grammar
- Syntax
- Sentence Structure

❖ **Unit 3: Essay Writing**

- Essay Structure
- Transitions and Key Phrases
- Demonstrating Analysis in Body Paragraphs
- How to do Introductions and Conclusions
- How to Go Beyond the Five Paragraph Template

❖ **Unit 4: Argumentative Writing**

- How to Constructively Defend a Position
- Rhetorical Devices and How to Use Them
- Persuasion in Writing

❖ **Unit 5: Narrative Writing**

- Crafting a Story Arc
- Using Dialogue Effectively
- How to Create Atmosphere, Mood, and Tone
- Developing Complex Characters