

COURSE NUMBER:	514
COURSE TITLE:	Writer's Workshop
COURSE LENGTH:	One Semester, One Credit
PREREQUISITE:	None
GRADE LEVEL:	11 and 12

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Writer's Workshop is a one semester writing course for students who like to write and create their own writing goals and projects. In the workshop, students work as nearly like professional writers as possible. Although certain pieces are required writing, students are generally engaged in creating their own projects and discovering their own genre choices and topics.

COURSE RATIONALE:

To be able to express one's thoughts in such a way that other's thoughts are stimulated is invaluable. This workshop is for writers desiring an expansion and enhancement of their writing abilities. Students write in quantity, keeping individual portfolios of their writing and revising some writings more extensively than others. Students work in small and large groups, sharing their work and responding to the writing of their peers. Writers in this workshop write in a variety of forms, present their writing to a variety of audiences and polish their favorite pieces to submit to a class publication. Students in workshop write for their own satisfaction and the class is definitely student-process centered.

METHOD OF INSTRUCTION:

Writing exercises, mini-lessons on grammar, portfolio maintenance, daily journaling, peer editing and discussion, class discussions.

ASSESSMENT:

Grades are not given for individual papers, with the exception of required writings. Students will maintain a portfolio of their best works, which will be graded periodically. This portfolio and the scores on the required writings will comprise the grade.

CRITICAL OBJECTIVES:

1. further develop competency in correctness of expression
2. gain confidence as a writer
3. establish a portfolio of writing samples that can be used for college or job interviews
4. engage the writing process
5. learn to set goals and be effective with time management
6. participate in guided creative writing experiences designed to broaden thinking
7. participate in large and small group share sessions and learn to provide meaningful, constructive peer response
8. learn writing technique and gauge own capabilities by examining models of professionals and peers
9. learn to revise
10. learn to write precisely without grammatical errors
11. learn to write from personal experience in a variety of genres and styles
12. establish patterns of lifelong learning in reading and writing