



Bloomington High School is a diverse community that supports lifelong learners who are responsible and productive citizens in our global society. Together we will provide a safe environment that guides students to reach their full potential in pursuit of academic and personal fulfillment.

Course Title: 004050 English Language and Composition (ELC) (Semester, ½ credit)

Course Description:

The goal of this senior writing class is to prepare each student to complete successfully a university level composition course (English 101) and to acquire competent writing skills for life. In order to accomplish this goal, the class is structured as a writing workshop; students have essays in progress continuously, and class time is spent in supervised peer response, teacher response, individual conferences, whole group lessons on specific writing skill elements, and instruction on critical thinking skills. A multi-stage recursive writing process driven by quarter and semester writing portfolio assessment engages each student to produce rhetorical, opinion essays through prewriting, multiple drafts and revision. The inclusion of an interdisciplinary essay in each portfolio evidences the use of writing skills across the curriculum. Regular impromptu writings develop timed thinking and writing skills. An extended essay of 7-10 pages requires students to master research skills, MLA documentation and format. Reading logs are submitted on a regular basis to develop skill in evaluation research sources and to learn other writers' styles and techniques. Self-assessment of writing and peer evaluation skills help students become independent and competent writers.

Units of Study:

- Foundations of effective writing / principles of rhetoric
- Principles of rhetoric
- The college essay / cover letter / resume
- Argumentative Writing
- Response / Critical Writing
- Narrative Writing
- Research Writing
- Grammar / Mechanics

Texts and Required Readings may include:

Various model essays
Articles

BHS Grading Scale and Policy:

The semester final grade is obtained from running semester grade (80%) and the semester final exam grade (20%). This means that you will have already earned 80% of your final grade by the time you reach semester exams. Semester exams are required. [BHS Handbook, pg. 17](#)

90-100% = A

80-89% = B

70-79% = C

60-69% = D

Below 60% = F

BHS Makeup Work Policy:

All students are expected to do makeup work in a timely fashion. It is the student's responsibility to obtain assignments prior to a pre-arranged absence, and immediately upon return for all other absences. General rule: one day absence affords one day to complete formative makeup work. For summative, students should expect to complete on the day of return. Failure to complete makeup work by the teacher deadline will result in a zero/missing in Gradebook. [BHS Handbook, pg. 37](#).

Discussing Controversial Issues in the Classroom:

The guidelines set forth by the District 87 Board Policy 6.070 will be used handling controversial issues in the classroom. Please contact your teacher if you have any questions.