



Course Description

This course is designed to give students a comprehensive introduction to English composition. While the core emphasis of the course is placed on grammar, mechanics and writing, students are taken on a literary journey in history through multiple historical novels, and in the second semester, investigate the American experience through poetry.

This is a yearlong course consisting of 11 units.

Course Overview

Semester 1

- Grammar: Building Blocks
- Literature: Early American Experiences
- Grammar: Modifiers and More Sentence Parts
- Grammar: Clauses
- Literature: This Is America Too
- Grammar: Phrases and Verbals

Semester 2

- Atomic Era
- Rights for All
- Essay Writing: Claim, Evidence, Warrant
- American Experiences
- Final: Essay, Grammar Review, and Final Exam

Course Objectives

1. Write effective sentences, paragraphs, and essays of varying lengths
2. Increase a college-bound vocabulary
3. Master the fundamentals of English grammar in order to better analyze how grammar affects meaning
4. Parse sentences to increase understanding of language, specifically syntax and diction
5. Begin to master Toulmin's Claim/Evidence/Warrant method of argumentation
6. Become writers who are clear, correct, and compelling, writing frequently for a variety of purposes: literary analysis, argument, description, reflection, reaction
7. Grow in accurate and precise comprehension and expression
8. Broaden vocabulary through study that emphasizes grammatical constructs, word conjugations, and reading comprehension

- 9. Value class discussion as a means to richer understanding of text
- 10. Use technology that builds community and generates scholarship

Required Course Materials

Please access the list of course materials from the OC Online book ordering system and order your materials as soon as possible. Oftentimes, course materials are on back order and you may experience a delay in receiving them, causing students to fall behind in their online coursework. When ordering used or rented materials, be careful that online access codes are also current.

Methods of Evaluation

Students will demonstrate mastery through the following formative and summative assessments:

- 40% Assignments
- 10% Participation (Discussion Posts, Synchronous Sessions)
- 10% Quizzes
- 25% Final Exam
- 15% Unit Tests