

# WRITING 101

**INSTRUCTOR: DEB SHARP  
421-2848 (H)**

## **Course Description**

This course is divided into three major categories: writing essays, editing essays, and sharing essays. Thus, all assignments will give students opportunities to apply their skills to a document written with real purpose and targeted to a real audience, putting the writing done in a real world context. Strengthening writing skills is worth the effort because all the roles students will play in their lives – college student, employee-employer, parent, consumer, community member – require that they write often and well.

## **General Focus**

The course structure and assignments are flexible, allowing students' needs to dictate the weekly agenda. Each student will practice the skills of writing, editing, and critiquing. The course does not mislead students into thinking writing is a simple process; instead, it presents the writing in meaningful and manageable chunks. All writing assignments for each session must be done prior to class.

## **Course Objectives**

The student will have the following writing opportunities:

- to become a better writer
- to develop critical thinking skills
- to focus on four key elements for each type of writing
- to write for various purposes and audiences
- to improve the four most serious grammar errors
- to practice strategies for taking tests, writing summaries and reports, proposing solutions, and writing

## **Required Texts**

- *Real Essays with Readings: Writing Projects for College, Work, and Everyday Life.*  
Anker, Susan
- *Wild Mind.* Goldberg, Natalie
- *Pocket Style Manual.* Hacker (issued in Reorientation to Education)

## **Assessment**

**Grading Scale:**

97 - 100	=	A+
93 - 96	=	A
90 - 92	=	A-
87 - 89	=	B+
83 - 86	=	B
80 - 82	=	B-
77 - 79	=	C+
73 - 76	=	C
70 - 72	=	C-
67 - 69	=	D+
63 - 66	=	D+
60 - 62	=	D-
59 and Below	=	F

Turn off your cell phone and don't bring your children to class.

Attendance and completed assigned work is expected for each class session. IF TWO OR MORE CLASSES ARE MISSED, CREDIT WILL NOT BE GIVEN. Leaving class early is regarded as not having attended class. If you are not in class, the work from that week missed is not accepted.

9 final draft essays .....	450 points
workbook exercises/quizzes.....	200 points
preparation/participation.....	50 points
35 daily 10-minute journals.....	<u>100 points</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>800 points</b>

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**CLASS AGENDA (subject to change according to students' needs)**

Additional chapters may be assigned from the text.

- Session 1:** Ch. 1 The Writing Process: An Overview  
Ch. 2 Finding and Exploring Your Topic: Choosing Something to Write About
- Session 2:** Ch. 3 Making a Point: Writing Your Thesis Statement  
Ch. 4 Supporting Your Point: Finding Details, Examples, and Facts  
Ch. 5 Making A Plan: Arranging Your Ideas
- Session 3:** Ch. 6 Writing a Draft: Putting Your Ideas Together  
Ch. 7 Revising Your Draft: Improving Your Essay  
Ch. 8 Narration: Writing That Tells Stories
- Session 4:** Ch. 9 Illustration: Writing That Shows Examples  
Ch. 10 Description: Writing That Creates Pictures in Words
- Session 5:** Ch. 11 Process Analysis: Writing That Explains How Things Happen  
Ch. 12 Classification; Writing that Puts Things into Groups
- Session 6:** Ch. 13 Definition: Writing That Tells What Something Means  
Ch. 14 Comparison and Contrast: Writing That Shows Similarities and Differences
- Session 7:** Ch. 15 Cause and Effect: Writing That Explains Reasons and Results  
Ch. 16 Argument: Writing That Persuades
- Session 8:** **Final Exam**  
Journals due.