

Montclair High School

Course Syllabus

Department: English

Course: Essay and Skills

Level: Honors

Credits:2.5 (One Semester)

Course Description:

This course is designed for those students who want to increase their skills as they prepare for the college admission process. Emphasis is placed on college essay writing, vocabulary development, formatted literature, standardized test-taking skills, and oral presentation. Special attention is paid to SAT, ACT and PARCC preparation. Students will also be introduced to varied forms of expository writing throughout the semester.

Standards:

RL.11-12.1,2,3,4,6,9

RI.11-12.1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9

W.11-12.1,1A,1B,1C,1D,1E,1F

W.11-12.4.5,6,7,8,10

L.11-12.1,.2,,.2A,2B,.3,.3A,.4,.4A,4B,4C,4D,5A,5B,6

SL.11-12.1A,1B,1C,1D,.2,.3.4

Anchor Text(s):

Title Text	Publisher/Author	Year/Edition	ISBN	Text Distribution
Vocabulary Workshop Level F	Sadlier Oxford, Jerome Shostak	2012	9780821580110	Hard Copy Text Companion Website

Supplementary Materials:

[College Board website](#)

[EDU, Inc. website](#)

[Common App website](#)

Units of Study:

1. College prep based vocabulary
2. College applications and supplemental essay questions
3. SAT, ACT, PARCC prep
4. Expository writing styles, Compare and Contrast, Cause and Effect, Narrative, Process Analysis

Proficiencies: By the end of this course students will:

1. Learn the structure and purpose of essays through reading and analyzing a variety of well-constructed essays as well as writing and critiquing their own.
2. Improve their writing skills while learning to write essays for a specific purpose using clear, graceful, and efficient techniques.
3. Acquire test-taking strategies for standardized tests.
4. Develop a strong relationship between vocabulary and comprehension.
5. Prepare and orally present well-organized material in an interesting and professional manner.
6. Use research skills to access, interpret and apply information from a variety of print and non-print sources.

Evaluation & Assessment:

Classwork assigned in class will be due at the end of class every day, unless otherwise specified by the teacher. All class work must be turned in on time on the day it was assigned in order to receive full credit. Late classwork will receive partial credit up to two weeks. After two weeks students will not receive credit for late classwork. Essays are assigned in class and require planning and preparation. Students will receive a classwork or homework grade for each step of the writing process. (Brainstorming, Draft, Peer review, Final draft). All written student work must be individual and in the student's own voice. It is unacceptable to copy and/or plagiarize work from any source, including another student. Please refer to the student handbook for policies regarding cheating and plagiarism.

Presentations will be graded on preparation, content and delivery.

Rubrics will be provided when essays and presentations are assigned.

Grading breakdown:

Homework, Quiz, Participation, Low Impact Writing	40%
High Impact Writing, Major Essays, Tests, Projects	60%