

Senior Composition

Ms. Aubrey Wiseman

Fall 2023

awiseman@west-fargo.k12.nd.us 701-356-2050 ext: 1950

Course Description:

This course will focus on the basic elements of technical and research writing:

1. **College and Career Writing**
2. **Informative Writing**
3. **Argumentative Writing**
4. **Profile of a Graduate**

In this class, you can expect to be writing every day. There will be opportunities to choose your own texts and I will expect you to be reading outside of class.

Writing is just as important as any other homework. Without reading, thou shalt not pass.

Course Objectives:

- Understand how language is used in different contexts to create a specific meaning
- Demonstrates self-monitoring of writing
- Analyze text structure in diverse formats to evaluate the development of theme, central idea, or purpose
- Utilize strong and thorough textual evidence
- Use appropriate development, organization, and style for a given task, purpose, and audience to convey ideas and information

Course Logistics:

- Lesson plans will be in the Schoology folder descriptions and most (if not all) assignments will be found and submitted on Schoology
- Use Schoology messages or email to communicate directly with your teacher

Communication:

- Email or Schoology message:
 - Your teacher will try to answer all messages received between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm on weekdays. If messaging outside of contract time, your teacher will respond as soon as possible the next school day

Participation and Expectations:

- Students are expected to complete ALL assignments
 - Late work will be entered as a 0 until handed in. All late work is due by the end of the unit, after which the 0 will remain and credit will not be given.
- To be eligible, to participate in high school extracurricular activities, learners cannot be failing more than one course and must have zero detention hours. My goal is to always to keep grades updated on a weekly basis. Larger projects may take longer to grade – please keep due dates and grading time in mind when eligibility is of concern to you.
- Students are expected to work while in class
- You are responsible for keeping track of your progress in PowerSchool

Course/Instructor Expectations

This is your education, your class. I have the privilege and responsibility of guiding you through this curriculum, however, you must take ownership of your learning. Here are a few ways to start you on that path:

- Show up. Show up for yourself by doing all the reading, coming prepared to class, and doing all the work. Show up others by offering support and encouragement to your classmates.
- Take risks. Be willing to go for it even if you might fall flat on your face. That's courage. And that's how you learn.
- Listen to others carefully. Share your ideas. Rumble. Learning takes a community; it isn't always a solo endeavor.
- Be your own advocate. Ask questions. Communicate absences and needs in advance. Take ownership of your learning.

Materials:

- Daily: WFPS issued iPad (and charging accessories), iPad Crayon, books, worksheets, writing utensils

WFHS Food and Drink Policy:

No food in hallways

- Food in classrooms must be provided by teacher(s)
- All drinks must be in a container with non-spill lid
- Food or drinks NOT in a non-spill lid will be directed to be thrown away

WFHS Cellphone Policy:

- Students shall not use any electronic device that in any way disrupts or detracts from the educational environment. Electronic devices are inclusive of cell phones, smart watches, earbuds, and school-issued devices.
- Cell phones must be out-of-sight and out-of-use from the first bell to the last bell of all classes, including during study halls and within flexed learning spaces that are an extension of a classroom.
- Photographing or recording of another person should be used for educational purposes as defined by the teacher. Any use of an electronic device for other than educational purposes will result in a consequence.
- Failure to comply with the cellphone policy will result in your phone being confiscated and turned into the office
- For additional info, see the full policy in the student handbook, or listed at the end of the syllabus.

WFHS Attendance Policy:

- It is expected that you are in class and on time each day. If you arrive to class after the designated start time for class, you will be marked tardy. Excessive tardiness to a class period (20 minutes or more) will result in aUV for the class period.
- Every fifth unexcused tardy will convert to an unexcused absence and the student will be assigned one hour of detention. This is per class period and will adhere to the attendance policy.
- For additional info, see the full policy in the student handbook

English Department Cheating Policy:

The cheating policy follows the WFHS student handbook. This includes a zero for the assignment, a PACK referral, and notification of the parent/guardian and administrator/counselor.

If caught cheating on a critical and/or common assessment, the critical and/or common assessment still must be successfully completed in order to have the opportunity to pass the class for the semester. In this instance, a zero will be given for the work; however, the work must be successfully completed in order for the teacher to evaluate the student's skills and readiness to move onto the next course. The timeline for successful completion will be arranged between the student and teacher and will be communicated with the parent/guardian and administrator/counselor.

If caught accidentally plagiarizing an assignment (i.e. an essay or research paper), the student will have the opportunity to learn from the mistakes and receive credit for the assessment. Should accidental plagiarism occur, the critical and/or common assessment will be returned to the student for resubmission. The critical and/or common assessment will not be graded until the student has made the appropriate revisions. The timeline for successfully resubmitting the assessment and

demonstrating mastery of the skills will be arranged between the student and teacher and will be communicated with the parent/guardian and administrator/counselor. Failure to successfully resubmit the assignment and demonstrate skill mastery will result in a percentage deduction.

The English department recognizes a difference between intentional cheating and accidental plagiarism. Our common definition includes:

- Cheating is the intentional use of someone else's work being presented as one's own work (i.e. submitting another student's essay).
- Accidental plagiarism is the misrepresentation of another's work as one's own (i.e. forgetting a works cited page; not attributing a quotation to the author; not understanding the correct method of paraphrasing a quotation).

With regard to cheating, school policy will be enforced. Remember that cheating is as much a character issue as it is a policy issue.

AI/ChatGPT Policy:

The use of artificial intelligence content creation tools/systems (e.g. ChatGPT, Jasper) is permitted in this class on certain conditions. (1) You consult me first on your plan for using AI with the assignment. I may offer you an alternative approach. (2) You state explicitly at the beginning of the assignment when, why, and how you have used AI. This includes the prompts you used to generate the results. You also need to specify what elements of the AI-generated text you have used. (3) If your AI output includes data/information, you are responsible for verifying accuracy and providing sources. (4) If I detect AI plagiarism in your assignment, you will be found to be in violation of the **Student Code of Conduct** and charges of academic misconduct will be brought.