**Writers’ Workshop**

*Course Description 2017-2018*

**General Introduction:**

* Since this is a *workshop* course, you will be expected to come prepared and ready to write every day.
* You will also be expected to share BOTH you *work-in-progress* and your *polished pieces* with small/large groups.
  + *Work-in-Progress*:

Any work you would not yet classify as a “Polished Piece”

* + *Polished Piece*:

A final, complete copy of work; the best effort; follows correct format/style; proofread and well edited; typed

* Grammar/Mechanics/Usage Skills will be addressed as they present themselves; some students may be expected to work on certain issues on their own time.

**Daily Routine:**

1. Writer’s Journal: Warm-up writing exercise (These can be done using Google Docs or in a standard notebook.)
2. Lesson, style practice, small/large group work/editing, and independent work/editing

**The 5 Main Tasks/Types of Tasks for Writer’s Workshop:**

1. Maintain a writer’s journal (If an entry is missed, it must be made up; past topics will be on Google Classroom on a weekly basis.)
2. Participate in the editing process of both your own work as well as the work of classmates.
3. Create polished pieces of creative work by revising drafts of creative works-in-progress.
4. Reflect on articles pertaining to the art of writing.
5. Create a thematically organized online portfolio which will be a collection of polished pieces that you’ve created both in and outside of this class during the whole of the semester. (This will serve as your final exam.)

**Assignments/Writings\***

* Why I Write
* Journals—on-going
* Mindbenders
  + Try 15 and create one polished mindbender.
* Story Inside the Painting
* Articles about writing—4
* Animal Story
* Poetry
* Narrative/Explode the Moment
* Character Sketch
* Character Sketch group story
* Choice Project
* Portfolio and share portfolio (Semester Final)

\*Subject to change.

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***Honors Option***

In order to earn Honors Option Credit, the student must complete the following:

1. Maintain at least a B average.
2. Each quarter, complete one additional “Articles about Writing, Reflection Paper” (3 per quarter/6 total).
3. The end of the year compilation of works/portfolio must contain **more pages/pieces (double)** of creative works than what is specified for non-honors students.
4. Students must submit at least 4 pieces for publication.

* Student must work for a publication of some kind (Rocket Newspaper, Yearbook [outside of the Yearbook course], JM Literary Magazine, Post-Bulletin [as an intern or paid employee], an online publication [as a regular contributor or paid employee]…)