

**South Hadley High School**  
**"A Tradition of Excellence"**

*We pledge to create a challenging and supportive academic community in which each member strives to develop his/her potential, to become a life-long learner, and to act as a responsible citizen in a diverse and global society.*

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**Writing Workshop 11/12 Syllabus**

<b>Course Description / Prerequisites</b> # xxxx <b>Writing Workshop (credits)</b>
<b>Course description:</b> Writing Workshop is a one-semester intensive writing class required of all sophomores. Emphasis will be placed on expository and argumentative writing, Standard English conventions used when composing and proofreading, and preparation for the MCAS Long Composition Test and the writing subtest of the new SAT. <b>Prerequisites:</b> This course is designed for grade 11 and 12 students.
<b>Course Objectives / Outcomes / Expectations/ Topics</b>
<b>Course objectives and outcomes:</b> Upon completion of this semester course, the student will have assembled a writing portfolio that demonstrates his or her ability to <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Brainstorm and organize information efficiently and effectively</li><li>• Create thesis statements and topic sentences</li><li>• Build a logical argument in writing</li><li>• Use sentence variety and rich word choice</li><li>• Proofread and peer-edit effectively</li><li>• Respond to MCAS and SAT prompts</li></ul>
<b>South Hadley High School's Learning Expectations</b>
<b>Academic Expectations:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Read, write and communicate effectively.</li><li>• Study and work productively both independently and in groups.</li><li>• Demonstrate personal, social, and civic responsibility.</li><li>• Acquire, apply, integrate, analyze, and synthesize knowledge.</li><li>• Understand, create, appreciate, and critique artistic and literary expression.</li><li>• Identify and apply the principles of technology.</li></ul>
<b>Text and Resources Required</b>
<b>Text and resources:</b> Texts will be determined at a later date.
<b>Grading / Assessment Policy / Homework / Make-Up / Extra Help</b>
<b>Grading:</b> This is a PASS/FAIL course. To pass, the student must satisfactorily meet the Course Objectives and Outcomes identified above. The student's writing portfolio must contain (1) completed assigned writing exercise and activities, (2) revisions of drafts demonstrating success in target areas and (3) on-demand writing assignments that meet state and national standards for proficiency in writing. <b>Final Exam:</b> In place of a final exam, each student will submit his or her portfolio for review and complete a self-assessment detailing the growth and progress made during the semester. <b>Make-up:</b> When absent, it is the student's responsibility to get all assignments and notes and complete the

work that he or she has missed. Unless granted an extension by the teacher, all missed work is due two days after the returns. Following the *Student Handbook*, if absent for more than two days, the student has ten days to make up the missed work.

If absent for a field trip, the student is responsible for turning in assignments that are due before leaving. A field trip does not excuse the student from taking a test or quiz or from submitting an assignment the day he or she returns.

**Homework:**

While most of the work will be completed during time in class, homework remains an essential part of this course. It provides the necessary practice a student needs for mastery, and it allows for more material to be explored in the course.

Homework is due at the beginning of the period.

**Attendance / Behavior / Academic Honesty**

**Attendance:**

Students are expected to present in class and participate actively and constructively on a regular basis.

Unexcused absences result in a zero for the day's work. Tardy and dismissal cuts are considered unexcused absences.

In accordance with the Attendance Policy outlined in the *Student Handbook*, students who exceed nine (9) absences in a semester course will lose credit for that course.

Students whose tardiness causes them to miss more than half of a class will be considered absent from class for the purpose of the Attendance Policy.

**Behavior:**

Appropriate classroom behavior is expected; no personal grooming, sleeping, snacking, writing on desks, etc.

Students are expected to conduct themselves in a mature and respectful manner toward others.

**Academic Honesty:**

Copying, using unauthorized notes during a test or quiz, plagiarism, etc. will result in a zero for the work.