

Woodside Learning Center

Writing Research Papers and Essays (Grades 7-12) Online

8 Weeks: August 23 – October 17, 2012

Instructor: Cyndy McKinley

College professors often complain that students do not know how to write. High school students who enter college with a firm understanding of how to organize a paper or an essay perform much better than those who struggle with the concept. Needless to say, the earlier a student learns this skill, the more smoothly his school years will flow.

This course will teach middle school and high school students how to create a research paper and a short essay. We will cover thesis formation, research skills, note taking, paper organization, and citations. *Students enrolled in our American History and American Literature courses will find this class invaluable when it comes time to prepare their writing assignments.*

This is a fully online class. There is no face-to-face component.

Online learners will engage in interactive online lessons and weekly assessments or assignments. In addition, students will interact with other students and the teacher via weekly discussion forums and activities. Students have one week to complete the weekly lesson activities. This class runs “asynchronously” (participants do not need to be online at a specific time each week). Students will email assignments to the instructor each week. She will review the assignments, provide comments, and return them to the student.

ONLINE COURSE SCHEDULE: \

Students have one week to complete the weekly lesson activities. This class runs “asynchronously” (participants do not need to be online at the same time). **Tuition: \$85**

Registration: Please visit our website to download a registration form. www.woodsidelc.com

<u>Week</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Lesson</u>
#1	Choosing a Topic, Creating a Thesis	What will your paper be about? Why are you writing it? (*Because I have to is not a valid answer)
#2	Researching	Where will you get your information? What sources are reliable? You'll explore tips on how to use the internet reliably and maybe even find out what a library is!
#3	Using Your Sources & Taking Notes	What is plagiarism? You'll differentiate between paraphrasing and direct quotations while you learn to take notes from your sources.
#4	Creating Citations	How do you write a citation? Now it's time to explore the joyful and confusing details that make paper writing so much fun.
#5	Outlining the Paper	Once you have your notes, what will you do with them? This week you'll learn how to organize the piles of note cards spilling off your desk into a cohesive outline.
#6	Writing the Paper	How will you defend your thesis? It's finally time to write the paper! And you thought you'd do it all in one day!
#7	Editing the Paper	Should you turn it in? Not so fast. First, you need to edit for clarity, organization, and wordiness. Then, double check your spelling and punctuation.
#8	Writing Short Essays	Essay tests are mini research papers without all the hassle. This week you'll learn some tips on how to create a good essay.

Schedule subject to change

Contact Information:

For more information or to register, please visit our class website or contact Cyndy McKinley

www.woodsidelc.com

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