

Gray Matter Fall 2018 - Course Catalog

Language Arts

Advanced Composition

Teacher: Collin Eye

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Class Schedule: Tuesdays Only

Class Time: 10:45 am – 12:15 pm

Duration: 1.5 hours per week, 32 wks

Fee(s):

Full Tuition

Supply Fee

\$756.00

\$0

Description:

This class prepares students for the essay writing they'll be expected to do in college, whether they're going into the Natural Sciences, Liberal Arts, or Fine Arts. Students will practice various forms of writing, with a focus on analysis/research papers. They'll learn various techniques for essay-planning, draft-writing, and self-revision; as well as how to use vocabulary and grammar to best express themselves.

The class will provide thought-provoking material in the form of literature, philosophy, science, and film; we will have weekly discussions of this material which helps students gain new perspectives on the material, influencing their own thoughts. Students will learn to thoroughly analyze this material and codify their thoughts in the form of essays. This combination of reading, writing, and discussion will develop time-management skills and the courage to participate, essential skills for success in college. They will also have the opportunity to write about themselves and their own interests which is how one produces exceptional college applications.

Prerequisites:

None

Homework:

Students can expect to spend 2–5 hours per week, depending on student pace.

Class Materials:

All the material we read/watch in class is freely available online. I encourage students to buy copies of the books so its easier to markup and bring to class, but they are not required.

Bound composition book or something else preferred to take notes in
Pens/pencils
Optional: Laptop or Tablet (for note taking)

Payment Options:

1. Full tuition of \$756.00 due at time of registration.
2. Semester tuition of \$378 due at time of registration and second semester payment of \$378 due by January 15th
3. Monthly payments of \$84. First month is due at time of registration. Subsequent monthly payments of \$84 on 9/1, 10/1, 11/1, 12/1, 1/1, 2/1, 3/1, 4/1. No tuition is due in May.

High School English

Teacher: Julie Poe

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Class Schedule: Tuesday/Thursday

Class Time: 9:30 - 10:45 am

Duration: 2.5 hours per week, 32 wks

Fee(s):

Full Tuition

Supply Fee

\$720.00

\$50

Description:

This class primarily focuses on literature from the 1700s to today. Students will be expected to learn vocabulary from the works we read, report on background information to enrich our learning experience, and respond to the literature through various projects. I will throw in a little grammar practice as I notice issues we need to work on. This class provides one high school English credit.

Literature: The following is a partial and TENTATIVE list of major works for 2018-2019. (You do not need to purchase these since I will have a classroom set.) *A Tale of Two Cities* by Charles Dickens, *Night* by Elie Wiesel, *The Watch That Ends the Night* by Allan Wolfe, *Animal Farm* by George Orwell.

Prerequisites: None

Homework: Students can expect to spend 2–4 hours per week, depending on student pace.

Class Materials: 3-ring binder devoted to this class only
Notebook paper
Pens/pencils
Colored pencils
Optional: laptop or other writing device
\$50 supply fee for instructor to provide materials throughout the year. I will provide a classroom set of the novels we read so that we can all use the same edition. If a student wants to keep a particular book, he can buy it from me for \$5.

Payment Options:

1. Full tuition of \$720.00 due at time of registration
2. Semester tuition of \$360 due at time of registration and second semester payment of \$360 due by January 15th
3. Monthly payments of \$80. First month is due at time of registration. Subsequent monthly payments of \$80 on 9/1, 10/1. 11/1, 12/1, 1/1, 2/1, 3/1, 4/1. No tuition is due in May.

High School Writing: The Basics

Teacher: Julie Poe

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Class Schedule: Tuesday/Thursday

Class Time: 2:30 – 3:30 pm

Duration: 2 hours per week, 32 weeks

Fee(s):

Full Tuition

Supply Fee

\$630.00

\$0

Description: My goal is to take the dread out of writing! There are just some basic techniques and skills that are necessary to complete the writing tasks of high school and beyond. We will break those skills down and master them. This class will include some gentle work on spelling, but spelling or handwriting do not determine a student's success as a writer. We will actually be writing often during the class period, so students are encouraged to bring a laptop or other device to class to do their writing.

Prerequisites: None

Homework: Students can expect to spend 2–4 hours per week, depending on student pace.

Class Materials: Textbook: *Improving Vocabulary Skills*, 4/e by Sherrie L. Nist SKU/ISBN: 1-59194-190-3

3-ring binder devoted to this class only
Notebook paper
Pens/pencils
Colored pencils
Optional: laptop or other writing device

Payment Options:

1. Full tuition of \$630.00 due at time of registration.
2. Semester tuition of \$315 due at time of registration and second semester payment of \$315 due by January 15th
3. Monthly payments of \$70. First month is due at time of registration. Subsequent monthly payments of \$70 on 9/1, 10/1. 11/1, 12/1, 1/1, 2/1, 3/1, 4/1. No tuition is due in May.

Middle School English

Teacher: Julie Poe

Grades: 6, 7, 8

Class Schedule: Monday/Wednesday

Class Time: 3:00 – 4:15 pm

Duration: 2.5 hours per week, 32 wks

Fee(s): **Full Tuition** **Supply Fee**

\$720.00 \$50

Description: This class includes grammar, reading, and vocabulary. We read several novels during the year plus short stories and poetry. We will build skills in a variety of ways, including written exercises, games, discussions, group activities, and creative demonstrations of knowledge.

The following is a TENTATIVE and partial list of novels for 2018-2019. (You do not need to purchase these since I will have a classroom set.)

- *Bud Not Buddy* by Christopher Paul Curtis
- *A Single Shard* by Linda Sue Park
- *Gathering Blue* by Lois Lowry
- *Walk Two Moons* by Sharon Creech

NOTE: Students can take this course for up to 3 years. The textbooks, vocabulary, and literature will not be the same from one year to the next.

Prerequisites: None

Homework: Students can expect to spend 1–4 hours per week, depending on student pace.

Class Materials: Textbook: *Building Vocabulary Skills, 4th edition* Author : Sherrie L. Nist **SKU/ISBN:** 1-59194-188-1 (*Vocabulary Plus is not required, but you might find it worth the five dollars.*)

3-ring binder devoted to this class only
Standard notebook paper
Pens/pencils
Colored pencils
Optional: laptop or other writing device

\$50 supply fee for instructor to provide materials throughout the year. I will provide a classroom set of the novels we read so that we can all use the same edition. If a student wants to keep a particular book, he can buy it from me for \$5.

Payment Options:

1. Full tuition of \$720.00 due at time of registration.
2. Semester tuition of \$360 due at time of registration and second semester payment of \$360 due by January 15th
3. Monthly payments of \$80. First month is due at time of registration. Subsequent monthly payments of \$80 on 9/1, 10/1, 11/1, 12/1, 1/1, 2/1, 3/1, 4/1. No tuition is due in May.

Writer's Workshop

Teacher: Julie Poe

Grades: 6, 7, 8

Class Schedule: Monday/Wednesday

Class Time: 9:30 – 10:45 am

Duration: 2.5 hours per week, 32 wks

Fee(s): **Full Tuition** **Supply Fee**

\$720.00 \$0

Description: My goal is to take the dread out of writing! We will do all kinds of exercises and activities to explore our voices and to improve our mechanics and style. This class will include some gentle work on spelling, but spelling or handwriting do not determine a student's success as a writer. We will actually be writing often during the class period, so students are encouraged to bring a laptop or other device to class to do their writing.

NOTE: This class does NOT use the WriteShop Curriculum.

Prerequisites: None

Homework: Students can expect to spend 1–2 hours per week.

Class Materials: 3-ring binder devoted to this class only
Standard notebook paper
Pens/pencils

Colored pencils
Optional: laptop or other writing device

Payment Options:

1. Full tuition of \$720.00 due at time of registration.
 2. Semester tuition of \$360 due at time of registration and second semester payment of \$360 due by January 15th
 3. Monthly payments of \$80. First month is due at time of registration. Subsequent monthly payments of \$80 on 9/1, 10/1, 11/1, 12/1, 1/1, 2/1, 3/1, 4/1. No tuition is due in May.
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Yoga & Creative Writing (High School)

Teacher: Karen Minzer

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Class Schedule: Tuesday Only

Class Time: 2:45 – 4:15 pm

Duration: 1.5 hours per week, 32 wks

Fee(s):

Full Tuition

Supply Fee

\$630.00

\$20

Description:

This course offers basic instruction in the systemized study of yoga asana and breathing practice. A brief survey in history of world literary traditions for contemplative writing will enhance students' observation skills and self-confidence. Writing exercises and literary readings will focus on details of images as metaphor for thought.

Format: 30 minutes guided yoga practice, 15 minutes writing, 30 minutes student reading and discussion. A final group writing exercise completes the class, recorded by Instructor. Assignments for reading and writing exercises precede each class.

Dress: Loose clothing suitable for flexible movement. No skirts or dresses.

Prerequisites:

None

Homework:

A monthly portfolio is delivered in packets of 7 pages of creative work generated in and out of class. Final Portfolio consists of 20 pages of revised and polished work, generated from class and out of class assignments. Additionally, each student will take turns facilitating an individualized yoga class as a final exam in yoga. One critical response paper.

Class Materials:

Yoga mat *and* blanket. Additional props will be provided by instructor.
In class writing journal exclusive to this class. Device use acceptable for writing and reading.

Payment Options:

1. Full tuition of \$630.00 due at time of registration.
 2. Semester tuition of \$315 due at time of registration and second semester payment of \$315 due by January 15th
 3. Monthly payments of \$70. First month is due at time of registration. Subsequent monthly payments of \$70 on 9/1, 10/1, 11/1, 12/1, 1/1, 2/1, 3/1, 4/1. No tuition is due in May.
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Yoga & Creative Writing (Middle School)

Teacher: Karen Minzer

Grades: 6, 7, 8

Class Schedule: Monday Only

Class Time: 9:30 - 10:45 am

Duration: 1.25 hours per week, 32 wks

Fee(s):

Full Tuition

Supply Fee

\$630.00

\$20

Description:

This course offers basic instruction in the systemized study of yoga asana and breathing practice. A brief survey in history of world literary traditions for contemplative writing will enhance students' observation skills and self-

confidence. Writing exercises and literary readings will focus on details of images as metaphor for thought.

Format: 30 minutes guided yoga practice, 15 minutes writing, 30 minutes student reading and discussion. A final group writing exercise completes the class, recorded by Instructor. Assignments for reading and writing exercises precede each class.

Dress: Loose clothing suitable for flexible movement. No skirts or dresses.

Prerequisites: None

Homework: A monthly portfolio is delivered in packets of 7 pages of creative work generated in and out of class. Final Portfolio consists of 20 pages of revised and polished work, generated from class and out of class assignments. Additionally, each student will take turns facilitating an individualized yoga class as a final exam in yoga. One critical response paper.

Class Materials: Yoga mat *and* blanket. Additional props will be provided by instructor.
In class writing journal exclusive to this class. Device use acceptable for writing and reading.

Payment Options:

4. Full tuition of \$630.00 due at time of registration.
 5. Semester tuition of \$315 due at time of registration and second semester payment of \$315 due by January 15th
 6. Monthly payments of \$70. First month is due at time of registration. Subsequent monthly payments of \$70 on 9/1, 10/1, 11/1, 12/1, 1/1, 2/1, 3/1, 4/1. No tuition is due in May.
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