

ACES Learning Center Course Syllabus

Writing 108B: The Persuasive Essay II

Course Description

ACES W108B The Persuasive Essay II is an extension of the persuasive writing class designed to prepare students in the skill set required to write effective and competitive argumentative essays. In addition to preparation for writing on state-wide and national exams, this course will introduce students to a variety of applications for persuasive writing commonly encountered in academic settings and competitive extra-curricular activities including: journalism, literary responses and reviews, expository writing and creative non-fiction. Students will be provided with models of effective writing and guided through pre-writing, drafting and revision. Instruction will also focus on proper English grammar, usage and vocabulary. The course will culminate with a student-produced publication showcasing each student's best contributions from the semester. Through the course, students will gain not only the skill set of highly effective writers, but confidence in expressing and perfecting their unique perspectives in a variety of persuasive contexts.

Course Objectives and Student Competencies

- gain confidence and skill as effective persuasive writers
- become more fluent in use of advanced grammatical constructions and vocabulary through writing applications

Class Structure

Class begins with a short writing warm-up to introduce the new topic. The writing topic of the week is developed and discussed, and students have a chance to practice with timed writing exercises. Students share their writing and gain practice proofreading. Finally, students are coached in preparing outlines for the next week's writing assignment. (1.5 - 2 hours per week).

Date	Topics	Homework
Week 1	Collecting Strong Ideas	Proofreading Exercise #1
Week 2	Finding Strong Arguments	Essay Log #1
Week 3	Choosing An Argument	Writing Assignment #1
Week 4	Building a Good Argument	Essay Log #2
Week 5	Different Leads	Writing Assignment #2
Week 6	Transitions to Signal Evidence	Writing Assignment #3
Week 7	Concluding An Argument	Writing Assignment #4
Week 8	Introduction to Mentor Texts	Proofreading Exercise #2
Week 9	Checking for Supporting Evidence	Writing Assignment #5
Week 10	Editing- Checking Punctuation	Writing Assignment #6
Week 11	Editing- Varying Types of Sentences	Course Evaluation