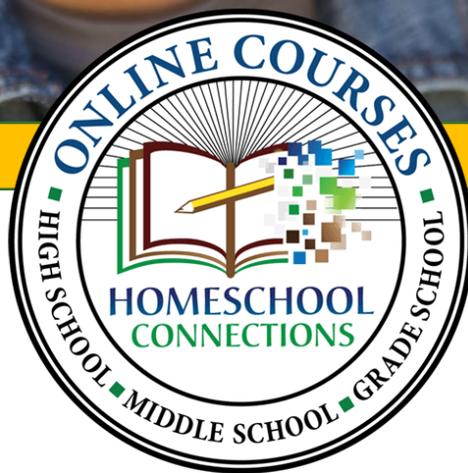


Summer 2023

Aquinas Writing Advantage Summer LIVE Course Guide

*Your complete, clearly laid out,
easy-to-follow learn-to-write program online.*



 **AQUINAS**
WRITING ADVANTAGE
A HomeschoolConnections.com Program

Yes, we're Catholic!

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Fiction Writing Bootcamp

For 5th – 8th Grade Students

Summer 2023



Fiction Writing Bootcamp: Creating Stories with Pets and Animals as the Heroes

Learn how to write fiction with animal characters with this one-week, four-lesson boot camp. You'll come away with a new knowledge of storytelling, the elements of fiction, how to increase your creativity, and great writing skills—and it's a lot of fun!

Course Details

Suggested Credit

One-third (1/3) of a semester's credit for writing.

Prerequisites

None; however, this course can be taken alongside of the 11 Series Fiction Writing courses

Course Materials are provided; requires access to Word 2007 or newer version.

LIVE Course Time Offered

Click on the days and time below to register for the course.

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, June 12, 13, 14, and 15 at 11:30 AM ET

This four-session writing bootcamp is offered within one (1) week.

This course beings on June 12, 2023.

Meet Your Instructor



Cherise Papa, BS

Cherise Papa holds a Bachelor of Science in English with a Creative Writing Emphasis and a Certificate of Proficiency in Technical Communications from Utah Valley University. She's spent 10 years helping authors write the books of their dreams in multiple genres, including fantasy, science fiction, memoirs/creative non-fiction, middle grade, children's literature, and short stories.

Fiction Writing Bootcamp

For 8th – 12th Grade Students

Summer 2023



Fiction Writing Bootcamp: Creatures, Monsters, and Aliens— Oh My!

Learn how to write creatures, monsters, and aliens with this two-week, four-lesson boot camp. You'll come away with a new knowledge of storytelling, the elements of fiction, how to increase your creativity, and great writing skills—and it's a lot of fun!

Course Details

Suggested Credit

One-third (1/3) of a semester's credit for writing.

Prerequisites

None; however, this course can be taken alongside of the 11 Series Fiction Writing courses.

Course Materials are provided; requires access to Word 2007 or newer version.

LIVE Course Time Offered

Click on the days and time below to register for the course.

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 1:00 PM ET

For exact course dates of this two-week, four-session course, click on the day and time, above.

This course begins on July 11, 2023.

Meet Your Instructor



Cherise Papa, BS

Cherise Papa holds a Bachelor of Science in English with a Creative Writing Emphasis and a Certificate of Proficiency in Technical Communications from Utah Valley University. She's spent 10 years helping authors write the books of their dreams in multiple genres, including fantasy, science fiction, memoirs/creative non-fiction, middle grade, children's literature, and short stories.

Fiction Writing Workshop

For 10 – 12th Grade Students

Summer 2023



Fiction Writing Story Workshop: Revising Your Story

Get expert feedback on your short story or the first three chapters of your book and learn how to make your story better in this four-session course with like-minded fiction writers and a professional editor.

Course Details

Suggested Credit

One-third (1/3) of a semester's credit for writing.

Prerequisite is the completion of three recorded 11 Series Fiction Writing Courses (minimum)

OR completed live 11 Series 123 or 457 courses (minimum)

Course Materials are provided; requires access to Word 2007 or newer version.

LIVE Course Time Offered

Click on the day and time below to register for the course.

Thursdays, 11: 30 AM ET

For exact course dates of this four-week course, click on the day and time, above.

This course begins on April 27, 2023.

Meet Your Instructor



Cherise Papa, BS

Cherise Papa holds a Bachelor of Science in English with a Creative Writing Emphasis and a Certificate of Proficiency in Technical Communications from Utah Valley University. She's spent 10 years helping authors write the books of their dreams in multiple genres, including fantasy, science fiction, memoirs/creative non-fiction, middle grade, children's literature, and short stories.

Middle School Spelling Bootcamp

5th - 8th Grades

Summer 2023



MS Spelling Bootcamp

If you want to make spelling effortless and fun (!) – then this is for you! Get new ways to think about spelling, to make it simple... discover games that make spelling downright fun ... and turn spelling into something you don't have to worry about, because you have "insider information" to make spelling easier!

Course Details

Suggested Credit

Supplemental; one-fourth ($\frac{1}{4}$) to one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) of a semester's credit (may be extended with additional work).

No Prerequisite

Course Materials are provided; requires access to Word 2007 or newer version. **Students should bring two (2) packs of 3x5 cards, a black marker, an 8 ½ x 11 notebook, and a highlighter to class!**

Homework

Between classes, students will have approximately one hour of homework/preparation for the next class with creating fun learning materials, playing spelling games, and practicing the ideas presented in the course. Work and projects will be brought to class and used together in activities that can be repeated and enjoyed at home, beyond the course.

LIVE Course Time Offered

Click on the dates below to register for the course.

Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesday, Thursday, June 19-22 & 26-27.

This is an engaging, six-session "bootcamp" offered in June.

This course begins on June 19, 2023.

Meet Your Instructor

Mrs. Bonnie Donlon earned a Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree in Literature from the University of Virginia. She taught writing at the Charlottesville Writing Center summer camp, then taught multiple subjects at The Covenant School in Charlottesville, Virginia, with Pre-K through 4th-grade students.



Bonnie Donlon, BA

She is thrilled to be able to continue to fulfill her purpose as a mother while still sharing her love of teaching and writing excellence with middle school students online in the Aquinas Writing Advantage program.

High School Spelling Bootcamp

9th - 12th Grades

Summer 2023



Course Details

Suggested Credit

One-third (1/3) semester's credit for high school Language Arts; one-half (1/2) semester's credit if the parent does more with the student/the student repeats the "games"

No Prerequisite

Course Materials are provided; requires access to Word 2007 or newer version. **Students should bring two (2) packs of 3x5 cards, a black marker, an 8 1/2 x 11 notebook, and a highlighter to class!**

Homework

Between classes, students will have approximately one hour of homework/preparation for the next class with creating fun learning materials, playing spelling games, and practicing the ideas presented in the course. Work and projects will be brought to class and used together in activities that can be repeated and enjoyed at home, beyond the course.

HS Spelling Bootcamp

If you finally want to make spelling easier and faster, then this course is for you. Learn new ways to make spelling simple... make remembering spellings uncomplicated... discover games that make spelling downright fun... and learn a whole new way of thinking about spelling that turns spelling into something you don't have to worry about.

LIVE Course Time Offered

Click on the days and times below to register for the course.

Mondays & Wednesdays, 10:00 AM ET

This is an engaging, four-session "bootcamp" offered in August. For exact course dates of this four-week course, click on the day and time, above.

This course begins on August 7, 2023.

Meet Your Instructor

Mrs. Maureen Ryan, BA, is a professional writer with more than twenty-five years of experience writing articles and creating content for a wide variety of news outlets, magazines, websites, and book publishers. She has taught writing across grade levels in classrooms and online for more than eight years.



Maureen Ryan, BA

Mrs. Ryan has a Bachelor of Arts in English and studied interactive learning at Teachers College, Columbia University.

How to be an Excellent Student

For 9th - 12th Grades

Summer 2023



Course Details

Suggested Credit: One-third (1/3) of one semester credit. Add the credits of this 4-week course to any six- or eight-week course for a full semester's credit.

Credit Suggestion: Combine with *Leadership & Interpersonal Communication*, offered in the spring.

No Prerequisite

Course Materials are provided; requires access to Word 2007 or newer version.

Homework is approximately two (2) hours/week.

How to be an Excellent Student:

Note Taking, Test Taking, and How to Get an A

Get the skills to become strong, confident, and able to study for any high school level course with success! This course is a must-have for students who want to make learning and test taking the easiest (and most successful) that it can be. You'll learn the skills of active listening and active reading (what they are and how they work for you), note taking and annotation (for any "live" or online course or learning situation), critical reading skills for comprehension (to remember what you've read faster and with easier recall), test-taking skills (how to prepare for tests and what to do during tests), and more. You'll use these skills in high school, college, and beyond. Be prepared for the future and do well in your coursework today when you take this course!

Sign up for the Leadership & Interpersonal Communication course (spring semester) along with this course, to continue learning communications, writing, and excellent student skills that can put your student ahead.

Meet Your Instructors



Bonnie Donlon, BA **Sharon Hamric-Weis, BS, JD**

LIVE Course Times Offered

Click on the dates and times below to register for the course.

July 10th -13th at 11:30 AM ET

OR

August 7th-10th at 11:30 AM ET

This is a powerful, four-session, week-long "short course" offered in July or August. For exact course dates, click the day and time above.

Join dynamic, **LIVE online courses** for your Fall and Spring semesters with passionate, professional instructors and students from around the world — **with complete, easy-to-access readings, learning resources, videos**, and more — and **direct feedback from an expert writing instructor**, to make your writing the best that it can be.

2023/2024 School Year

Aquinas Writing Advantage LIVE Course Guide

*Your complete, clearly laid out,
easy-to-follow learn-to-write program online.*



AQUINAS
WRITING ADVANTAGE
A HomeschoolConnections.com Program



Yes, we're Catholic!

Email aheki@homeschoolconnections.com to receive your **complete LIVE Course Guide for 6th - 12th grade students** (2023/2024 school year) in foundational writing, fiction writing, advanced writing, and more!

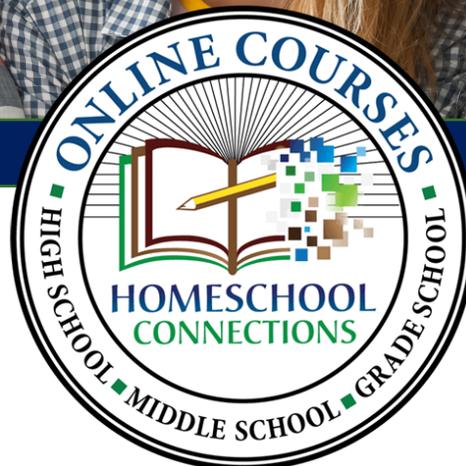
2023/2024 School Year

Aquinas Writing Advantage LIVE Course Guide

*Your complete, clearly laid out,
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 **AQUINAS**
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Aquinas Writing Advantage – About the Program

Your **complete, easy-to-follow learn-to-write program** that's online—
with **LIVE** and recorded courses **taught by world-class professionals**, to
help your students become the best writers possible.

Aquinas Writing Advantage (AWA) is a full middle through high school writing instruction program that's online -- offering both LIVE, scheduled semester-based courses and recorded, self-paced courses that are available 24/7.

AWA is a part of Homeschool Connections, a Catholic online curriculum provider for students in grades three through high school, where courses are offered in all subject areas — including English and writing, mathematics, sciences, humanities, history, government, economics, languages, literature, theology, philosophy, logic, computers, the arts, and more. Anyone can take recorded courses in the Aquinas Writing Advantage program – and all middle and high school students are welcome in LIVE courses; we respect all students' beliefs and welcome you!

What makes **AWA different** from other writing programs?



The Mastery Learning Approach

Courses are designed for your student to learn one skill of writing at a time – and then master the writing skill with immediate practice. You can learn no-error punctuation and grammar, essay and paper writing, higher vocabulary, fiction writing, journalism, poetry, literature and writing, and college prep writing – all with step-by-step knowledge and practice, to master writing skills easily.



Single-Topic Courses

You won't find "general grade-level" English and Writing courses here. Courses are divided into single, specific topics — so your student can focus on (and master) specific writing skills, one at a time, that build upon each other. Courses have an "order" and cover foundations before moving ahead to master specific advanced writing skills.



Clear, Easy, Stepwise Learning

Writing skills are taught in a straightforward, 1-2-3 order. Unlike other writing programs, your student learns simple yet profound professional writing how-to practices (even at the middle school level). The easy, stepwise approach assures that your student can choose powerful words, group words into powerful phrases, and write with clear transitions and cohesive ideas for longer pieces of writing. Most importantly, we want writing to be easy and enjoyable for every student. All that's here can set your student up for success.



Taught by Skilled Instructors and Professional Writers

All instructors are skilled teacher-leaders who are also highly skilled writing professionals – and many are professional editors, multi-book authors, learning specialists, and seasoned mentors with advanced degrees and years of experience guiding students to confidence and competency.

If you have any questions about course registration, please reach out to info@homeschoolconnections.com
To read more about these courses and the Aquinas Writing Advantage program, visit www.aquinaswritingadvantage.com

Why Trust Aquinas Writing Advantage...

Here, you'll find **clear expertise** that you can trust.

Your student learns **exactly what he or she needs to know** – for now, and for the future.

Aquinas Writing Advantage courses are...

 **Unique** — Not like any other program's content — because each foundational skill is separated and practiced before moving ahead, with pro writing tips and a practical writing perspective — allowing your student to focus on mastering one skill at a time.

 **Back-designed** — Designed by a college writing instructor and professional writer of over 35 years, course content has been created by “working backward” from the skills needed for confident, successful college-level writing — so your student gets exactly what's needed for future success.

 **Linear** — Content is taught “in a line,” with each course building upon the next — and the entire program is designed with complete continuity, so you don't have to worry “that everything is covered.” You get exactly what's needed for Writing, English, and more.

 **Simplified** — So there are no struggles, and your student learns easily – with pro writing tricks not seen anywhere else.

 **Expert** — With fast how-to tips and specific, detailed instruction that comes from both the higher-level curriculum (designed by university-level experts) and professional writing instructors' expertise.

Because the courses are unique, back-designed, linear, simplified, and expertly designed and taught, your student can understand how to write with the highest level of skill — to enjoy writing.

Designer/Senior Director

AWA is developed and led by Erin M. Brown, MA, MFA (aka author EB Conroy/Erin Brown Conroy) — a professional writer/editor and 16-book author. A former college writing professor at two universities, she has designed/developed writing curricula for multiple college/university writing programs; well-known online middle and high school programs; Advanced Placement (AP) English Language and Composition programs; and professional writer trainings. The Senior Writer/Writing Trainer and Supervisor for a worldwide company, she often presents to professional writers and judges teen and professional writing contests, and her *Simplified Writing* books are used in public and private schools and colleges across the world. Professor Brown holds a bachelor's degree in education, a master's degree in a special education field, and a terminal degree (MFA) in Creative Writing. Here at AWA, she oversees the Managing Director, Assistant High School and Middle School Directors, and 20 teaching staff.



Erin M. Brown, MA, MFA
AWA Senior Director

Middle School: Strong Writing Foundations

For 6th - 8th Grade Students

The 6/7 Series Courses

Designed for 6th and 7th-grade students, the 6/7 Series of courses lay the foundation for everything to come at AWA. Your student learns punctuation and grammar errors that are “common” (and how to avoid them) — and your student becomes skilled in using commas, end punctuation, quotation marks, and “tricky punctuation.” You’ll also learn the most common grammar errors to avoid — and master the use of the parts of speech that are critical to writing *anything* well.

Coming from another writing program?

Sign up for the [Aquinas Writing Advantage Assessment](#) for course placement or email info@homeschoolconnections@gmail.com.

Your student learns that writing simple sentences isn’t enough. Knowing how to choose and use deeper language — including strong nouns, active verbs, clarifying adjectives and adverbs, and detailed prepositional phrases — is critical to writing well-crafted sentences, paragraphs, and future essays. In the 6/7 Series, your student comes away with a strong understanding and ability to craft clear text.

MS 6/7-1 WRITING ESSENTIALS 1: Punctuation and Grammar I

MS 6/7-2 WRITING ESSENTIALS 2: Excellent Sentence & Paragraph Writing I

MS 6/7-3 WRITING ESSENTIALS 3: Punctuation & Grammar II

MS 6/7-4 WRITING ESSENTIALS 4: Excellent Sentence & Paragraph Writing II

The 7/8 Series Courses

Designed for 7th and 8th-grade students, the 7/8 Series of courses build on the foundations laid in the 6/7 Series. Your student learns that composition depends on the ability to purposefully craft diction (word choice) and syntax (word arrangement) — and your student continues to practice choosing precise and powerful words while clearly arranging the words in strong paragraphs with purpose.

Your student also learns the elements of essay writing and form that are key to all future academics — and finds out that there are many kinds of writing, each with its own purpose, audience, and style (way to write). Because learning to write isn’t just about academic writing, students learn to see differences — and purposefully choose the writing techniques and styles needed for each type of writing.

Perhaps most importantly, in the 7/8 Series courses, students learn that there are “secrets” to crafting paragraphs and essays — ways to make writing easier and more enjoyable — so your student comes away with a strong understanding and ability to craft longer portions of text with confidence.

MS 7/8-1 SIMPLIFIED WRITING FOR MS 1: Foundations of Composition I

MS 7/8-2 SIMPLIFIED WRITING FOR MS 2: Introduction to Essays and Papers

MS 7/8-3 SIMPLIFIED WRITING FOR MS 3: Writing the Excellent Essay

MS 7/8-4 SIMPLIFIED WRITING FOR MS 4: Writing Form and Style

Want **30% off?**
Use **msawa30**
during registration
for Middle School
writing courses.

How the Middle School Writing courses fit together...

GRADE	FALL SEMESTER		SPRING SEMESTER	
6 th (or 7 th)	<u>6/7-1</u>	<u>6/7-2</u>	<u>6/7-3</u>	<u>6/7-4</u>
7 th (or 8 th)	<u>7/8-1</u>	<u>7/8-2</u>	<u>7/8-3</u>	<u>7/8-4</u>

If you have any questions about course registration, please reach out to info@homeschoolconnections.com
To read more about these courses and the Aquinas Writing Advantage program, visit www.aquinaswritingadvantage.com

Middle School Writing Foundations 6/7 Series

For 6th or 7th Grade Students

Fall Semester 2023 ~ To gain **one full semester** of credit, sign up for both courses below...

6/7-1

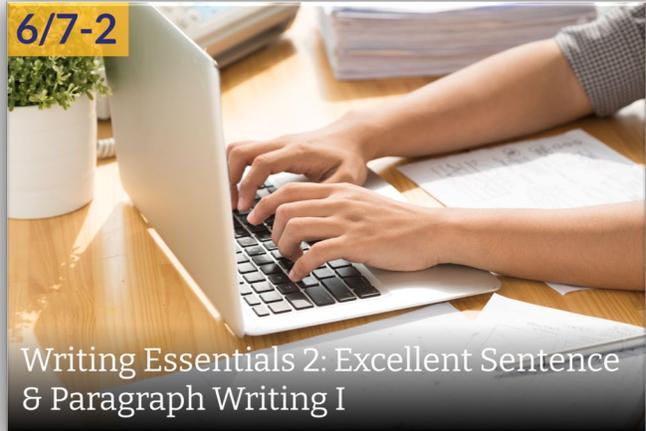


Writing Essentials 1: Punctuation & Grammar I

WRITING ESSENTIALS 1: Punctuation and Grammar I (MS 6/7-1)

Help your middle school student gain confidence and master must-have skills for writing with this excellent foundational punctuation and grammar course — using specific “helps,” tips, and how-to’s to make your student’s critical writing skills strong. **This course is held in the first half of the fall semester.**

6/7-2



Writing Essentials 2: Excellent Sentence & Paragraph Writing I

WRITING ESSENTIALS 2: Excellent Sentence & Paragraph Writing I (MS 6/7-2)

Help your middle school student learn how to skillfully use the specific and powerful parts of speech (nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, prepositions, and complete phrases), transitions, linear writing, and more in this must-have foundational writing course that goes beyond “normal” writing courses with practical writing using critical thinking (no workbooks). **This course is held in the second half of the fall semester.**

LIVE Course Times Offered

Punctuation and Grammar I (MS 6/7-1)

Click on a day and time below to register for the course.

[Mondays, 11:30 AM ET](#)
[Tuesdays, 11:30 AM ET](#)
[Wednesdays, 10:00 AM](#) OR [1:00 PM ET](#)
[Thursdays, 10:00 AM ET](#)

For exact course dates, click on a day and time, above.

Excellent Sentence & Paragraph Writing I (MS 6/7-2)

Click on a day and time below to register for the course.

[Mondays, 11: 30 AM ET](#)
[Tuesdays, 11:30 AM ET](#)
[Wednesdays, 10:00 AM](#) OR [1:00 PM ET](#)
[Thursdays, 10:00 AM ET](#)

For exact course dates, click on a day and time, above.

Course Details

Suggested Credit

Take 6/7-1 & 6/7-2 to gain one (1) full semester of writing credit.

No Prerequisite

Course Materials are provided; requires access to Word 2007 or newer version.

Homework is approximately one (1) to three (3) hours/week.

Meet Your Instructors

Click on the links below to view the instructors' biographies



[Bonnie Donlon, BA](#)



[Natalie Schira, BA](#)

If you have any questions about course registration, please reach out to info@homeschoolconnections.com
To read more about these courses and the Aquinas Writing Advantage program, visit www.aquinaswritingadvantage.com

Middle School Writing Foundations 6/7 Series

For 6th or 7th Grade Students

Spring Semester 2024 ~ To gain **one full semester** of credit, sign up for both courses below...

6/7-3



Writing Essentials 3: Punctuation & Grammar II

WRITING ESSENTIALS 3:

Punctuation and Grammar II (MS 6/7-3)

Give your middle school student the mastery needed for punctuation — creating strong sentences and getting rid of the most common writing mistakes. This critical course helps your student write clearly, free of punctuation and grammar errors. **This course is held in the first half of the spring semester.**

6/7-4



Writing Essentials 4: Excellent Sentence & Paragraph Writing II

WRITING ESSENTIALS 3:

Excellent Sentence & Paragraph Writing II (MS 6/7-4)

Help your student craft excellent sentences and paragraphs in writing practice through learning and using critical middle school must-haves for writing well — and gain understanding with practice in this hands-on writing course that goes beyond “normal” writing courses with practical writing using critical thinking (no workbooks). **This course is held in the second half of the spring semester.**

LIVE Course Times Offered

Punctuation and Grammar II (MS 6/7-3)

Click on a day and time below to register for the course.

[Mondays, 11:30 AM ET](#)

[Tuesdays, 11:30 AM ET](#)

[Wednesdays, 10:00 AM](#) OR [1:00 PM ET](#)

[Thursdays, 10:00 AM ET](#)

For exact course dates, click on a day and time, above.

Excellent Sentence & Paragraph Writing II (MS 6/7-4)

Click on a day and time below to register for the course.

[Mondays, 11:30 AM ET](#)

[Tuesdays, 11:30 AM ET](#)

[Wednesdays, 10:00 AM](#) OR [1:00 PM ET](#)

[Thursdays, 10:00 AM ET](#)

For exact course dates, click on a day and time, above.

Course Details

Suggested Credit

Take 6/7-3 & 6/7-4 to gain one (1) full semester of writing credit.

Prerequisite is 6/7-1 & 6/7-2 via LIVE or Unlimited Access.

Course Materials are provided; requires access to Word 2007 or newer version.

Homework is approximately one (1) to three (3) hours/week.

Meet Your Instructors

Click on the links below to view the instructors' biographies



[**Bonnie Donlon, BA**](#)



[**Natalie Schira, BA**](#)

If you have any questions about course registration, please reach out to info@homeschoolconnections.com
To read more about these courses and the Aquinas Writing Advantage program, visit www.aquinaswritingadvantage.com

Middle School Writing Foundations 7/8 Series

For 7th or 8th Grade Students

Fall Semester 2023 ~ To gain **one full semester** of credit, sign up for both courses below...

7/8-1

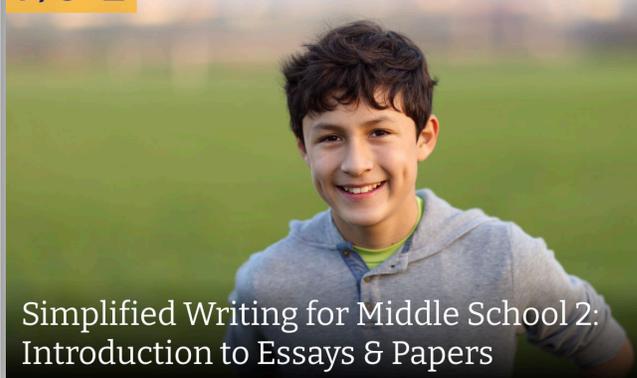


Simplified Writing for Middle School 1:
Foundations of Composition

SIMPLIFIED WRITING FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL 1: Foundations of Composition (MS 7/8-1)

Help your middle school student gain writing confidence and become a skilled writer with an introduction to informative, expressive, and persuasive writing, including choosing strong and clear words, crafting strong sentences and paragraphs, and understanding how to write the parts of an essay with personal help and feedback on your work. **This course is held in the first half of the fall semester.**

7/8-2



Simplified Writing for Middle School 2:
Introduction to Essays & Papers

SIMPLIFIED WRITING FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL 1: Introduction to Essays and Papers (MS 7/8-2)

Help your middle school student gain must-have essay writing skills with personal help and feedback on their work, while understanding how to write an excellent introduction with a hook and thesis statement; how to brainstorm, order, and outline; and how to draft, revise, and edit for excellence. Students also learn upper-level paragraph structure. This course prepares your student for high school and helps your student write longer works with confidence. **This course is held in the second half of the fall semester.**

LIVE Course Times Offered

Foundations of Composition (MS 7/8-1)

Click on a day and time below to register for the course.

[Mondays, 10:00 AM](#) OR [4:00 PM ET](#)

[Tuesdays 10:00 AM](#) OR [11:30 AM ET](#)

For exact course dates, click on a day and time, above.

Introduction to Essays & Papers (MS 7/8-2)

Click on a day and time below to register for the course.

[Mondays, 10:00 AM](#) OR [4:00 PM ET](#)

[Tuesdays 10:00 AM](#) OR [11:30 AM ET](#)

For exact course dates, click on a day and time, above.

Course Details

Suggested Credit

Take 7/8-1 & 7/8-2 to gain one (1) full semester of writing credit.

Prerequisite is 6-series courses via LIVE or Unlimited Access.

Course Materials are provided; requires access to Word 2007 or newer version.

Homework is approximately three (3) to four (4) hours/week.

Meet Your Instructors

Click on the links below to view the instructors' biographies.



[Natalie Schira, BA](#)



[Reilly Starrett, BA](#)

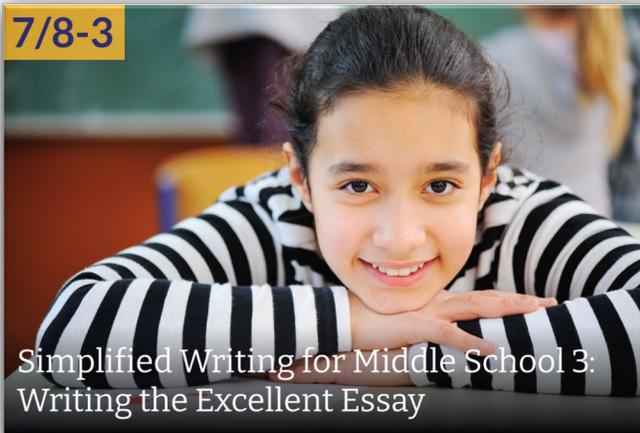
If you have any questions about course registration, please reach out to info@homeschoolconnections.com
To read more about these courses and the Aquinas Writing Advantage program, visit www.aquinaswritingadvantage.com

Middle School Writing Foundations 7/8 Series

For 7th or 8th Grade Students

Spring Semester 2024 ~ To gain **one full semester** of credit, sign up for both courses below...

7/8-3



Simplified Writing for Middle School 3:
Writing the Excellent Essay

SIMPLIFIED WRITING FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL 3: **Writing the Excellent Essay** (MS 7/8-3)

In this advanced-level essay writing course for middle school students, help your student master essay writing with advanced concepts leading the student into high school writing. Taking the concepts learned in the 7/8-1 and 7/8-2 courses, the successful student finishing this course has the tools and is ready for successful high school essay writing. **This course is held in the first half of the spring semester.**

LIVE Course Times Offered

Writing the Excellent Essay (MS 7/8-3)

Click on a day and time below to register for the course.

[Mondays, 10:00 AM OR 4:00 PM ET](#)
[Tuesdays 10:00 AM OR 11:30 AM ET](#)

For exact course dates, click on a day and time, above.

Course Details

Suggested Credit

Take 7/8-3 & 7/8-4 to gain one (1) full semester of writing credit.

Prerequisites are 7/8-1 & 7/8-2 courses via LIVE or Unlimited Access.

Course Materials are provided; requires access to Word 2007 or newer version.

Homework is approximately three (3) to four (4) hours/week.

7/8-4



Simplified Writing for Middle School 4:
Writing Form and Style

SIMPLIFIED WRITING FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL 4: **Writing Form and Style** (MS 7/8-4)

Help your middle school student be fully prepared for high school writing by learning the forms of nonfiction, fiction, informational writing, journalism, descriptive writing, reviews, speeches, Biblical writing, & more. Your student will learn to write in all these forms and how to choose the exact, clear style needed for future writing success.

This course is held in the second half of the spring semester.

Writing Form and Style (MS 7/8-4)

Click on a day and time below to register for the course.

[Mondays, 10:00 AM OR 4:00 PM ET](#)
[Tuesdays 10:00 AM OR 11:30 AM ET](#)

For exact course dates, click on a day and time, above.

Meet Your Instructors

Click on the links below to view the instructors' biographies.



[Natalie Schira, BA](#)



[Reilly Starrett, BA](#)

If you have any questions about course registration, please reach out to info@homeschoolconnections.com
To read more about these courses and the Aquinas Writing Advantage program, visit www.aquinaswritingadvantage.com

Middle School Literature & Writing

For 6th - 8th Grade Students

Fall Semester 2023



Course Details

Suggested Credit

One-half (1/2) of a semester's credit for Writing or Literature.

Please note— this class does not take the place of the 7/8 foundational essay writing course within the Middle School writing program. We encourage 7th graders to take the 7/8 course either concurrently or previous to this course.

Prerequisites are 6/7-1 & 6/7-2 courses via LIVE or Unlimited Access.

Course Materials are provided; requires access to Word 2007 or newer version.

Homework is approximately one (1) to two (2) hours/week.

Meet Your Instructor

Click on the link below to view the instructor's biography.



Geralyn Rea, MA

If you have any questions about course registration, please reach out to info@homeschoolconnections.com
To read more about these courses and the Aquinas Writing Advantage program, visit www.aquinaswritingadvantage.com

INTRODUCTION TO LITERATURE & WRITING 1: How to Read, Interpret, & Write about Literature, Part One

Studying and writing about literature is a part of school success—and middle school is the time to start! In this course, learn how to read, interpret, and write about literature—gaining a strong foundation for literature and writing courses for high school, college, and beyond. Learn the beauty and importance of the world of literature – and build the skills to write with understanding about the basic literary genres. Analyze and write about the elements of plot, setting, characterization, point of view, metaphor, irony, and symbolism – examining why authors write their stories (and make their writing choices). Most importantly, learn how to write an analysis using key literary works such as *The Gift of the Magi* and chapters from C.S. Lewis, Robert Louis Stevenson, and more! Here, you'll write each week and gain the tools necessary for literary analysis in future academic courses. **This fall course is Part One of a two-part series; take both courses (fall and spring) for a full year's credit of literature and writing!**

LIVE Course Time Offered

Click on the day and time below to register for the course.

Thursdays, 11:30 AM ET

For exact course dates, click on the day and time, above.

Middle School Literature & Writing

For 6th - 8th Grade Students

Spring Semester 2024



Course Details

Suggested Credit

One-half (1/2) of a semester's credit for Writing or Literature.

Please note— this class does not take the place of the 7/8 foundational essay writing course within the Middle School writing program. We encourage 7th graders to take the 7/8 course either concurrently or previous to this course.

Prerequisite is *Introduction to Literature and Writing: How to Read, Interpret, and Write about Literature, Part One*.

Course Materials are provided; requires access to Word 2007 or newer version.

Homework is approximately one (1) to two (2) hours/week.

Meet Your Instructor

Click on the link below to view the instructor's biography.



Geralyn Rea, MA

If you have any questions about course registration, please reach out to info@homeschoolconnections.com
To read more about these courses and the Aquinas Writing Advantage program, visit www.aquinaswritingadvantage.com

INTRODUCTION TO LITERATURE & WRITING 2: How to Read, Interpret, & Write about Literature, Part Two

Continue studying and writing about literature with this middle school course, and learn how to read, interpret, and write about literature -- guiding you to understanding the literary genres, increasing critical thinking through the knowledge of story elements in literature, and introducing authors' writing techniques. Learn alliteration, assonance, colored narrative, dialogue, narrative elements, tone, description, and more! Analyze stories and famous poems, including works by Tolkien, while focusing on group discussions leading to stronger analysis and writing skills. Explore more literary elements – and learn how to write about the elements with confidence. You'll also get a chance to write every week – and after the course, you'll be prepared to move into any middle or high school literature course with confidence.

This spring course is Part 2 of a two-part series; take both courses (fall and spring) for a full year's credit of literature and writing!

LIVE Course Time Offered

Click on the day and time below to register for the course.

Thursdays, 11:30 AM ET

For exact course dates, click on the day and time, above.

High School: Strong Writing Foundations

For 9th – 12th Grade Students

The 9 Series Courses

The 9-Series courses cover essential writing foundations — with rare tips to write faster, solidify upper-level punctuation and grammar, and get new ways to think about writing that make writing easier. Be sure to take these prerequisite courses, because what's taught here is different — not like any other program. Students learn special terms, tips, and ways to think about writing that are used throughout the entire AWA program (9-12th grades).

HS 9-1, Essential Punctuation & Grammar I
HS 9-2, Strong Foundational Writing Skills

HS 9-3, Excellent Paragraphs & Essay Writing
HS 9-4, Beyond the Five-Paragraph Essay

The 10 Series Courses

With the Vocabulary and Writing courses (for 9-11th grade students), your student learns over 750 vocabulary words in one year — vocabulary that's important for succeeding in college-level writing, literature, and college entrance exams. Your student also gets weekly writing practice, memory training and studying tips, and enhanced critical thinking strategies.

HS 10-1, Vocabulary and Writing I
HS 10-2, Vocabulary and Writing II

Coming from another writing program?

Sign up for the **Aquinas Writing Advantage Assessment** for course placement or email info@homeschoolconnections@gmail.com.

The 11 Series Courses

The 11 Series Fiction Writing courses develop both narrative and creative writing skills in a powerful, experiential way, so your student gains the skills that apply to academic, creative, and critical expressive forms. Under the fun, exploratory writing of “creating your own book,” students learn first-hand the elements that make literary form great — and become better writers through ways that only narrative writing can powerfully influence skill and style.

HS 11-123, Fiction Writing & Literary Form — Creative Writing, Part 1
HS 11-457, Fiction Writing & Literary Form — Creative Writing, Part 2

The 12 Series Courses

The 12 Series courses (for college prep) give teens advanced skills to make writing strong, clear, and ready for college. Students write within the nine rhetorical modes, identify and use rhetorical strategies and figures of speech; and pre-write, draft, and edit a comparison and contrast paper, using advanced writing methods for a paper's hook, thesis, introduction, body, and conclusion. Students get specific, individual feedback from the instructor; learn vocabulary related to upper-level writing; and gain advanced editing and revising skills for upper-level work. These courses prepare college-bound students for success.

HS 12-1, Advanced Rhetoric & Writing 1: Rhetoric, Figures of Speech, Essays, & Papers
HS 12-2, Advanced Rhetoric & Writing 2: Rhetoric, Figures of Speech, Essays, & Papers

How the High School Writing courses fit together...

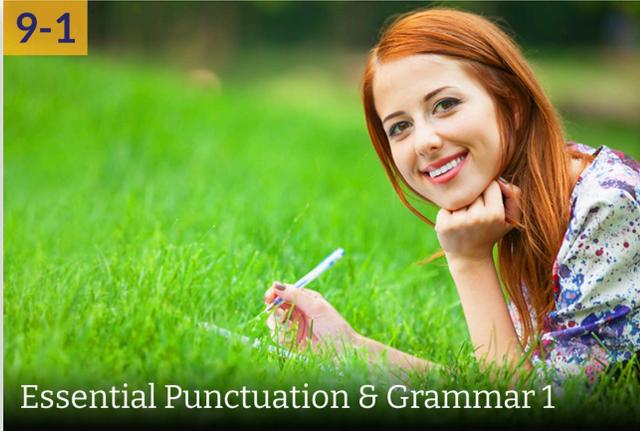
GRADE	FALL SEMESTER		SPRING SEMESTER	
9 TH	<u>9-1</u>	<u>9-2</u>	<u>9-3</u>	<u>9-4</u>
10 TH or (11 TH)	<u>10-1</u>		<u>10-2</u>	
11 TH	<u>11-123</u> (Fiction Writing) OR <u>11-9</u> (Business Writing)		<u>11-457</u> (Fiction Writing) OR <u>11-10</u> (Journalism)	
11 TH or (12 TH)	<u>12-1</u> & <u>X-5</u> [Advanced]		<u>12-2</u> & <u>COLL-1</u> [Advanced]	

High School Writing Foundations 9 Series

For 9th Grade Students

Fall Semester 2023 ~ To gain **one full semester** of credit, sign up for both courses below...

9-1



Essential Punctuation & Grammar 1

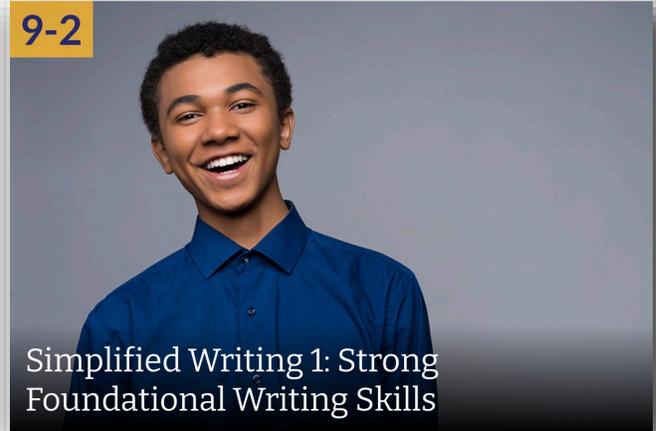
ESSENTIAL WRITING 1:

Essential Punctuation & Grammar (HS 9-1)

Get rid of punctuation and grammar struggles and learn the must-have writing skills for mastering commas, tense, colons, semicolons, dashes, ellipses, and more – and overcome punctuation and grammar mistakes for good.

This course is held in the first half of the fall semester.

9-2



Simplified Writing 1: Strong Foundational Writing Skills

SIMPLIFIED WRITING 1:

Strong Foundational Writing Skills (HS 9-2)

Make your writing strong & clear — and master the most critical foundations needed for excellent high school writing, including writing for an audience and purpose, perfecting word choice, strong sentences & paragraphs, linear writing, rhetoric, transitions, and more.

This course is held in the second half of the fall semester.

LIVE Course Times Offered

Essential Punctuation & Grammar (HS 9-1)

Click on a day and time below to register for the course.

[Mondays, 11:30 AM](#) OR [1:00 PM](#) OR [5:30 PM ET](#)

[Wednesdays, 11:30 AM](#) OR [1:00 PM ET](#)

[Thursdays, 2:30 PM ET](#)

For exact course dates, click on a day and time, above.

Strong Foundational Writing Skills (HS 9-2)

Click on a day and time below to register for the course.

[Mondays, 11:30 AM](#) OR [1:00 PM](#) OR [5:30 PM ET](#)

[Wednesdays, 11:30 AM](#) OR [1:00 PM ET](#)

[Thursdays, 2:30 PM ET](#)

For exact course dates, click on a day and time, above.

Course Details

Suggested Credit

Take 9-1 & 9-2 to gain one (1) full semester of writing credit.

No Prerequisite

Course Materials

[Simplified Writing 101: Top Secrets for College Success](#), by Erin Brown Conroy is required. The course requires access to Word 2007 or newer version.

Homework is approximately two (2) to four (4) hours/week.

Meet Your Instructors

Click on the links below to view the instructors' biographies.



[Nick Wilson, BA, MAR](#)



[Erin M. Brown, MA, MFA](#)



[Sharon Hamric-Weis, BS, JD](#)

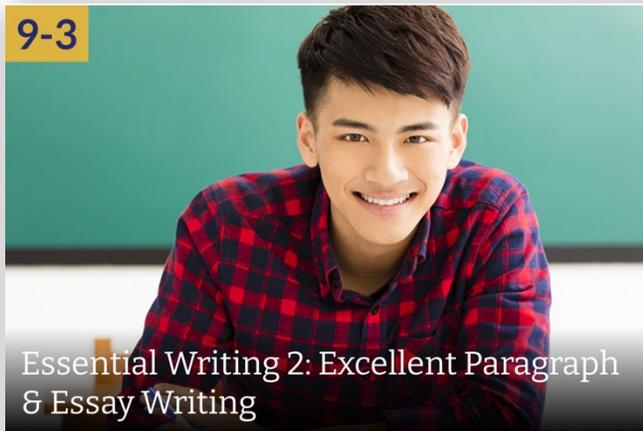
If you have any questions about course registration, please reach out to info@homeschoolconnections.com
To read more about these courses and the Aquinas Writing Advantage program, visit www.aquinaswritingadvantage.com

High School Writing Foundations 9 Series

For 9th Grade Students

Spring Semester 2024 ~ To gain **one full semester** of credit, sign up for both courses below...

9-3



Essential Writing 2: Excellent Paragraph & Essay Writing

ESSENTIAL WRITING 2:

Excellent Paragraph & Essay Writing (HS 9-3)

Master the details of writing that you need to succeed — and perfect the essential tools necessary for excellent high school writing, including clear sentence and paragraph construction, summary and paraphrase, answering essay questions, linear & process writing, advanced paragraph structure, and more. **This course is held in the first half of the spring semester.**

9-4



Simplified Writing 2: Beyond the Five-Paragraph Essay

SIMPLIFIED WRITING 2:

Beyond the Five-Paragraph Essay (HS 9-4)

Go beyond writing standard essays to mastering the secrets of advanced essay writing, including different essay types, advanced brainstorming techniques, using parallelism, cohesive writing, bookending, and more. These must-have essay skills apply to all high school and college courses.

This course is held in the second half of the spring semester.

LIVE Course Times Offered

Excellent Paragraph & Essay Writing (HS 9-3)

Click on a day and time below to register for the course.

[Mondays, 11:30 AM](#) OR [1:00 PM](#), OR [5:30 PM ET](#)

[Wednesdays, 11:30 AM](#) OR [1:00 PM ET](#)

[Thursdays, 2:30 PM ET](#)

For exact course dates, click on a day and time, above.

Beyond the Five-Paragraph Essay (HS 9-4)

Click on a day and time below to register for the course.

[Mondays, 11:30 AM](#) OR [1:00 PM](#) OR [5:30 PM ET](#)

[Wednesdays, 11:30 AM](#) OR [1:00 PM ET](#)

[Thursdays, 2:30 PM ET](#)

For exact course dates, click on a day and time, above.

Course Details

Suggested Credit

Take 9-3 & 9-4 to gain one (1) full semester of writing credit.

Prerequisites are 9-1 & 9-2 courses via LIVE or Unlimited Access.

Course Materials

[Simplified Writing 101: Top Secrets for College Success](#), by Erin Brown Conroy is required. The course requires access to Word 2007 or newer version.

Homework is approximately two (2) to four (4) hours/week.

Meet Your Instructors

Click on the links below to view the instructors' biographies.



[Nick Wilson, BA, MAR](#)



[Erin M. Brown, MA, MFA](#)



[Sharon Hamric-Weis, BS, JD](#)

If you have any questions about course registration, please reach out to info@homeschoolconnections.com
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High School Writing Foundations 10 Series

For 10th Grade Students

Fall Semester 2023

10-1



Essential Vocabulary & Writing, Part One

Course Details

Suggested Credit

Take 10-1 (fall) & 10-2 (spring) to gain one (1) full year of writing credit.

Prerequisites are 9-1 & 9-2 courses via LIVE or Unlimited Access; 9-3 & 9-4 courses are recommended.

Course Materials

EB Conroy's [*Simplified Vocabulary Guide*](#). The course requires access to Word 2007 or newer version.

Homework is approximately three (3) to four (4) hours/week.

Meet Your Instructors

Click on the links below to view the instructors' biographies



[Sharon Hamric-Weis, BS, JD](#) [Mike Stoumbos, MAT](#)

Vocabulary & Writing I (Part 1) (HS 10-1)

In this course (the first of two successive courses), your student will learn over 350 upper-level vocabulary words related to writing that are needed for high school advanced writing, Advanced Placement (AP) English Language and Composition courses, the ACT and SAT, advanced writing courses, and all of college writing—and an introduction to the concepts associated with the terms. Because vocabulary is the number one indicator of success on college entrance testing, if you want your student to not only score well on testing but also be able to be prepared for college writing and vocabulary, this course is for you.

Coursework will be focused on the critical thinking and writing practice needed for your future success, and each week, you'll learn tips and how-to's for learning the words with comprehension and memory, giving you comprehension methods that can be used in any course.

Sign up for Part Two (spring semester), for a complete year of writing credit.

LIVE Course Times Offered

Click on a day and time below to register for the course.

[Mondays, 1:00 PM ET](#)

[Tuesdays, 1:00 PM ET](#)

[Wednesdays, 11:30 AM ET](#)

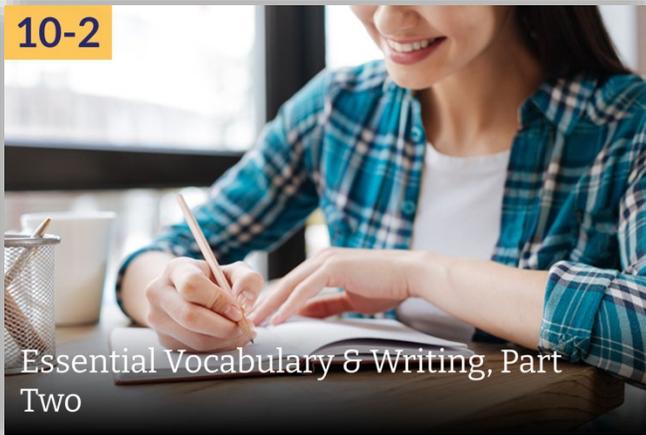
For exact course dates, click on a day and time, above.

High School Writing Foundations 10 Series

For 10th Grade Students

Spring Semester 2024

10-2



Essential Vocabulary & Writing, Part Two

Vocabulary & Writing II (Part 2) (HS 10-2)

In this second (Part 2) of two successive courses, you'll continue learning advanced concepts associated with over 350 more upper-level vocabulary words necessary for success in all high school writing and literature courses, Advanced Placement (AP) English Language courses, and college-level writing. Coursework will be focused on the critical thinking and writing practice needed for your future success, and each week, you'll learn tips and how-to's for learning the words with comprehension and memory, as well as use the words in writing. Because vocabulary is an indicator of success in college *and* for the best communication practices in adult life, if you want to be prepared for college courses and beyond, this course is for you. **Be sure to sign up for Part One (fall semester) along with this course, for a complete year of writing credit.**

Course Details

Suggested Credit

Take 10-1 (fall) & 10-2 (spring) to gain one (1) full year of writing credit.

Prerequisites are 9-1 & 9-2 courses via LIVE or Unlimited Access; 9-3 & 9-4 courses are recommended.

Course Materials

EB Conroy's [Simplified Vocabulary Guide](#). The course requires access to Word 2007 or newer version.

Homework is approximately three (3) to four (4) hours/week.

Meet Your Instructors

Click on the links below to view the instructors' biographies



Sharon Hamric-Weis, BS, JD **Mike Stoumbos, MAT**

LIVE Course Times Offered

Click on a day and time below to register for the course.

Mondays, 1:00 PM

Tuesdays, 1:00 PM ET

Wednesdays, 11:30 AM ET

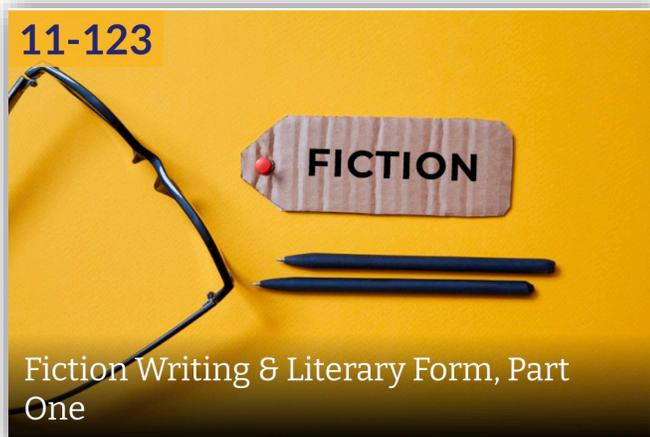
For exact course dates, click on a day and time, above.

If you have any questions about course registration, please reach out to info@homeschoolconnections.com
To read more about these courses and the Aquinas Writing Advantage program, visit www.aquinaswritingadvantage.com

High School Writing Foundations 11 Series

Fiction Writing Track – For 11th Grade Students

Fall Semester 2023



Fiction Writing, Part One (HS 11-123)

“What makes great fiction? And how can I use fiction writing to make all of my writing dynamic, interesting, and strong?” In this course (the first of two successive courses), you’ll understand what makes excellent fiction writing and hone your writing skills as you write your own story using the elements and writing techniques of excellent storytelling. Whether you want to write a novel or want to be a dynamic, successful writer in all that you do — learning great plot and structure, description and setting, and characters and dialogue skills will allow you to write exceptionally well, raise your written communication skills, become skilled in the elements of literary analysis, and be fully prepared for college and beyond. Learn skills, be creative, and enjoy writing!
Be sure to sign up for Part Two (spring semester) along with this course, for a complete year of writing credit.

Course Details

Suggested Credit

Take 11-123 (fall) & 11-457 (spring) to gain one (1) full year of writing credit.

Prerequisites are 9-1 & 9-2 courses via LIVE or Unlimited Access

Course Materials are provided; requires access to Word 2007 or newer version.

Homework is approximately three (3) to four (4) hours/week.

Meet Your Instructors

Click on the links below to view the instructors' biographies.



Mike Stoumbos, MAT



Cherise Papa, BS

LIVE Course Times Offered

Click on a day and time below to register for the course.

Tuesdays, 2:30 PM ET

Wednesdays, 10:00 AM ET

Thursdays, 11:30 AM ET

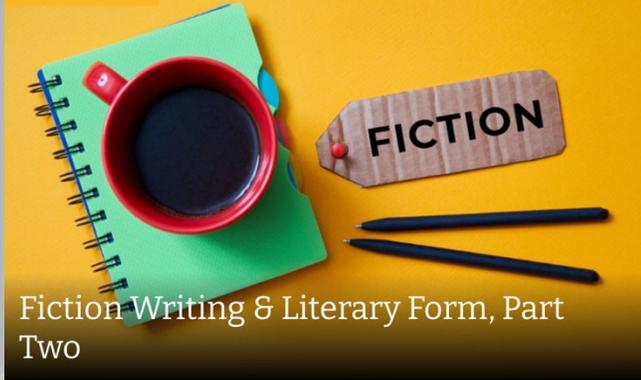
For exact course dates, click on a day and time, above.

High School Writing Foundations 11 Series

Fiction Writing Track – For 11th Grade Students

Spring Semester 2024

11-457



Fiction Writing & Literary Form, Part Two

Fiction Writing, Part Two (HS 11-457)

“What makes great fiction? And how can I use fiction writing to make all of my writing dynamic, interesting, and strong?” In this course (the second of two successive courses), you’ll learn what makes excellent fiction writing — and hone your writing skills through the elements and writing techniques of writing an excellent story. Whether you want to write a novel or want to be a dynamic, successful writer in all that you do — learning the elements of theme, writing style, point of view, creating conflict, and “what makes a short story great” allows you to write exceptionally well, raise your written communication skills, become skilled in the elements of literary analysis, and be fully prepared for college and beyond. **Be sure to sign up for Part One (fall semester) along with this course, for a complete year of writing credit.**

Course Details

Suggested Credit

Take 11-123 & 11-457 to gain one (1) full year of writing credit.

Prerequisites are 9-1 & 9-2 courses via LIVE or Unlimited Access

Course Materials are provided; requires access to Word 2007 or newer version.

Homework is approximately three (3) to four (4) hours/week.

Meet Your Instructors

Click on the links below to view the instructors' biographies.



Mike Stoumbos, MAT



Cherise Papa, BS

LIVE Course Times Offered

Click on a day and time below to register for the course.

Tuesdays, 2:30 PM ET

Wednesdays, 10:00 AM ET

Thursdays, 11:30 AM ET

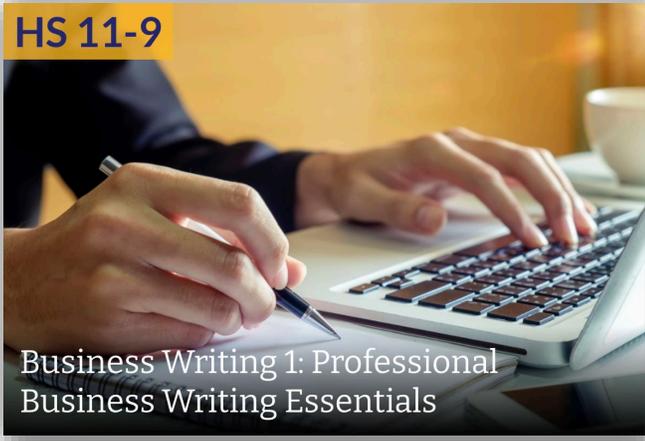
For exact course dates, click on a day and time, above.

High School Writing Foundations 11 Series

Business Writing Track – For 11th Grade Students

Fall Semester 2023

HS 11-9



Business Writing 1: Professional Business Writing Essentials

BUSINESS WRITING 1

Professional Business Writing Essentials (HS 11-9)

Learn how to present yourself professionally in multiple areas of writing! Because business writing is distinctive from academic or creative writing, writing powerfully in your dealings with others in any organization, mastering business writing is essential. In this course, you'll write letters and professional correspondence, create a professional resume, and write pieces critical to getting a job. Whether you plan on entering college, getting a job right out of high school, or building your own business as an entrepreneur right now, this course is for you. **Be sure to sign up Business Writing 2 (spring semester) along with this course, for a complete year of writing credit.**

Course Details

Suggested Credit

Take 11-9 (fall) & 11-10 (spring) to gain sixteen (16) weeks of business writing credit.

Prerequisites are 9-1 & 9-2 courses via LIVE or Unlimited Access.

Course Materials are provided; requires access to Word 2007 or newer version.

Homework is approximately three (3) to four (4) hours/week.

Meet Your Instructor

Click on the links below to view the instructor's biography.



Maureen Ryan, BA

LIVE Course Time Offered

Click on the day and time below to register for the course.

Thursdays, 1:00 PM ET

For exact course dates, click on the day and time, above.

High School Writing Foundations 11 Series

Business Writing Track – For 11th Grade Students

Spring Semester 2024

HS 11-10



Business Writing 2: Foundations of Journalism

Course Details

Suggested Credit

Take 11-9 (fall) & 11-10 (spring) to gain sixteen (16) weeks of business writing credit.

Prerequisites are 9-1 & 9-2 courses via LIVE or Unlimited Access

Course Materials are provided; requires access to Word 2007 or newer version.

Homework is approximately three (3) to four (4) hours/week.

BUSINESS WRITING 2

Foundations of Journalism (HS 11-9)

If you want to get all the must-have foundational knowledge about journalism and get hands-on writing experience, this course is for you! Introducing journalism in a sturdy overview, you'll understand and practice writing skills in the genre of news report writing, as a journalist. Whether you're interested in learning about how the news that you read is created, or you're considering becoming a writer of news stories yourself – look over the course outline below. If you see yourself enjoying all that's here, sign up for this course today. **Be sure to sign up for Business Writing 1 (fall semester) along with this course, for a complete year of writing credit.**

Meet Your Instructor

Click on the links below to view the instructor's biography.



Geralyn Rea, MA

LIVE Course Time Offered

Click on the day and time below to register for the course.

Thursdays, 1:00 PM ET

For exact course dates, click on the day and time, above.

High School Writing Foundations 12 Series

Fiction Writing Track – For 12th Grade Students

Fall Semester 2023

12-1



Advanced Rhetoric & Writing 1: Rhetoric, Figures of Speech, Essays, & Papers

Course Details

Suggested Credit

Take 12-1 (fall) & 12-2 (spring) to gain one (1) year of writing credit.

Prerequisites are 9-1, 9-2, 9-3, & 9-4 courses via LIVE or Unlimited Access

Course Materials *Simplified Writing 101: Top Secrets for College Success*, by Erin Brown Conroy; requires access to Word 2007 or newer version.

Homework is approximately four (4) to five (5) hours/week.

Meet Your Instructor

Click on the link below to view the instructor's biography.



Sharon Hamric-Weis, BS, JD

ADVANCED RHETORIC AND WRITING 1: Rhetoric, Figures of Speech, Essays, & Papers

(HS 12-1)

Give your teen the advanced skills to make writing strong and clear. In this course, your student learns foundational college writing skills—including in-depth use of the nine basic forms of rhetoric (rhetorical modes); identifying and using major rhetorical strategies and figures of speech; and pre-writing, drafting, and editing a comparison and contrast paper. Students also use advanced writing methods for a paper's hook, thesis, introduction, body, conclusion, and key rewriting skills with specific, individual feedback from the instructor. Vocabulary related to upper-level writing is introduced and integrated into the learning. Specific class time will be used to show how to edit and revise upper-level work. This course's content is prerequisite for many colleges for college-bound students.

Be sure to sign up for Part Two of the 12 Series (spring semester), for a complete year of writing credit.

LIVE Course Times Offered

Click on a day and time below to register for the course.

Thursdays, 10:00 AM ET

Fridays, 11:30 AM ET

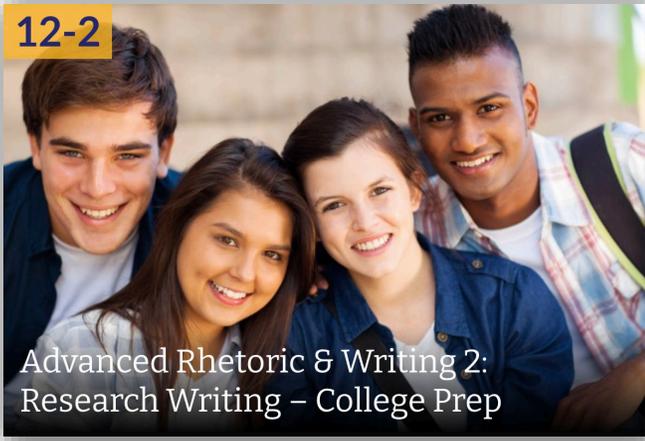
For exact course dates, click on a day and time, above.

High School Writing Foundations 12 Series

Fiction Writing Track – For 12th Grade Students

Spring Semester 2024

12-2



Advanced Rhetoric & Writing 2:
Research Writing – College Prep

Course Details

Suggested Credit

Take 12-1 (fall) & 12-2 (spring) to gain one (1) year of writing credit.

Prerequisites are 9-1, 9-2, 9-3, & 9-4 courses via LIVE or Unlimited Access

Course Materials [Simplified Writing 101: Top Secrets for College Success](#), by Erin Brown Conroy; requires access to Word 2007 or newer version.

Homework is approximately four (4) to five (5) hours/week.

Meet Your Instructor

Click on the link below to view the instructor's biography.



[Sharon Hamric-Weis, BS, JD](#)

ADVANCED RHETORIC AND WRITING 2: Rhetoric, Figures of Speech, Essays, & Papers (HS 12-2)

Would you like to be completely prepared for college writing? When you take this college prep course, you'll learn advanced research and writing techniques for argumentative research writing, how to craft an advanced research paper, and understanding style guides (APA, CMS/Turabian, MLA, AP) — and become comfortable with the writing skills you'll use in college-level writing. A bibliography and research paper will be written during the course, and students will learn how to cite sources, use advanced methods of outlining, and master revising, editing, and final draft completion for upper-level academic papers. **Be sure to sign up for Part One of the 12 Series (spring semester) along with this course, for a complete year of writing credit.**

LIVE Course Times Offered

Click on a day and time below to register for the course.

[Thursdays, 10:00 AM ET](#)

[Fridays, 11:30 AM ET](#)

For exact course dates, click on a day and time, above.

Advanced Writing Excellence Courses

For 11th & 12th Grade Students

Advanced High School Fiction & Poetry Courses

The following advanced courses give your student “the edge” for college-level writing success. Future authors and poets can gain the professional-level knowledge needed to succeed in the published world. Some prerequisites apply.

The Hero’s Journey & Mythic Structure for Writers, Parts 1 & 2 (p. 23 & 24) courses build on the 11 Series fiction courses with writing knowledge typically shared with book authors and college literature majors. Through the course, students can gain what’s needed to write their own novel or short story.

How the Advanced Fiction Writing courses fit together...

FALL SEMESTER	Spring
The Hero's Journey, Part One (X-9)	The Hero's Journey, Part 2 (X-10)

Exploring and Mastering Poetry Writing and Poetic Forms, Parts 1 & 2 (p. 24 & 25) are independent creative writing courses with writing knowledge that leads your writer to college-level skills taught by professional poets. Through the course, students can gain what’s needed to write their own poems and poem collections, with the intent to advance personal creativity and publish their work in the future.

How the Poetry Writing courses fit together...

Fall	Spring
Exploring and Mastering Poetry Writing and Poetic Forms, Part One (POET – 1)	Exploring and Mastering Poetry Writing and Poetic Forms, Part Two (POET – 2)

For creatives who dream of being published, these courses are a lifeline to professional foundations and secrets to success. Taught by highly-skilled, published writers — each course is designed especially for the student who wants to be ahead in college literature, writing, and the professional performance-based arts. A number of students who have taken the advanced courses are now published writers and authors.

College-Prep Writing

Essay Test Mastery for College-Bound Students (p. 27) is foundational for preparing students for college-level writing. If a student plans on attending any level of college, university, or specialized post-high school training (any major), **take this course along with the 12 Series courses to be fully prepared and make college-level writing easier.**

Fall	Spring
High School Writing Essentials 5: Punctuation and Grammar II (X-5) Take via Unlimited or Instructor Access	Essay Test Mastery for College-Bound Students (COLL-1) Offered LIVE in 2023-2024

Advanced High School Fiction Writing

For 9th - 12th Grades

Fall Semester 2023

HS X-9



The Hero's Journey & Mythic Structure for Writers, Part One

Course Details

Suggested Credit: Two-thirds (2/3) of a semester's credit for writing. For a full semester's credit, continue with daily writing, working with the parent.

Prerequisite is to have taken (or be enrolled in) 11-level fiction course via LIVE or Unlimited Access.

Course Materials: [*The Writer's Journey: Mythic Structure for Writers*](#), 3rd Edition, by Vogler and Montez; the same book is used in *The Hero's Journey, Part 2*. The course requires access to Word 2007 or newer version.

Homework is approximately two (2) to four (4) hours/week.

Meet Your Instructor

Click on the link below to view the instructor's biography.



[Mike Stoumbos, MAT](#)

ADVANCED FICTION WRITING:

The Hero's Journey & Mythic Structure for Writers, Part One (X-9)

This advanced fiction writing course makes your writing and literary knowledge top-tier, as you delve into how to use archetypes and "The Hero's Journey," the mythic, overarching structure that most stories follow. In this course, you'll learn the different kinds of typological characters appearing in stories (from the Hero and Mentor, to the Threshold Guardian and Shapeshifter) and use that knowledge to craft your own fiction story — while getting upper-level literature keys to "get the edge" for understanding literature and story. Take this course in conjunction with the 10, 11, or 12 Series courses offered with Homeschool Connections. Whether you plan on going into fiction writing (books, screenwriting, poetry, television writing), enjoy studying literature, or simply want to expand your ability to write with the advanced skills that come from understanding and using mythic structure — this course is for you. **Be sure to sign up for Part 2 (spring semester) along with this course, for a complete year of advanced writing credit.**

LIVE Course Time Offered

Click on the day and time below to register for the course.

[Wednesdays, 2:30 PM ET](#)

For exact course dates, click on the day and time, above.

Advanced High School Fiction Writing

For 9th - 12th Grades

Spring Semester 2024

HS X-10



The Hero's Journey & Mythic Structure for Writers, Part Two

Course Details

Suggested Credit: Two-thirds (2/3) of a semester's credit for writing. For a full semester's credit, continue with daily writing, working with the parent.

Prerequisite is *Hero's Journey and Mythic Structure for Writers, Part One* via LIVE or Unlimited Access.

Course Materials: [The Writer's Journey: Mythic Structure for Writers](#), 3rd Edition, by Vogler and Montez; the same book is used in *The Hero's Journey, Part Two*. The course requires access to Word 2007 or newer version.

Homework is approximately two (2) to four (4) hours/week.

Meet Your Instructor

Click on the link below to view the instructor's biography.



[Mike Stoumbos, MAT](#)

ADVANCED FICTION WRITING: The Hero's Journey, Part Two (X-10)

In this advanced how-to fiction writing course, you'll learn to powerfully use ancient archetypes in "The Hero's Journey" — the mythic structure that most stories follow — to capture the reader's heart and excitement. Learn different kinds of typological characters appearing in stories, and apply that knowledge to the crafting of your own fiction book. Learn a story's structure points a Hero can encounter along the way, to overcome and grow through a story, to reach the story's Outer Goal with triumph! This course can be taken at the same time as any of the other 10, 11, or 12 Series AWA courses. Whether you plan on becoming a writer of fiction (books, screenwriting, poetry, television writing, or more) or you simply want to expand your ability to write in advanced styles and get ahead in advanced literature studies for college — this course is for you. **Be sure to sign up for Part 1 (fall semester) along with this course, for a complete year of advanced writing credit.**

LIVE Course Time Offered

Click on the day and time below to register for the course.

[Wednesdays, 2:30 PM ET](#)

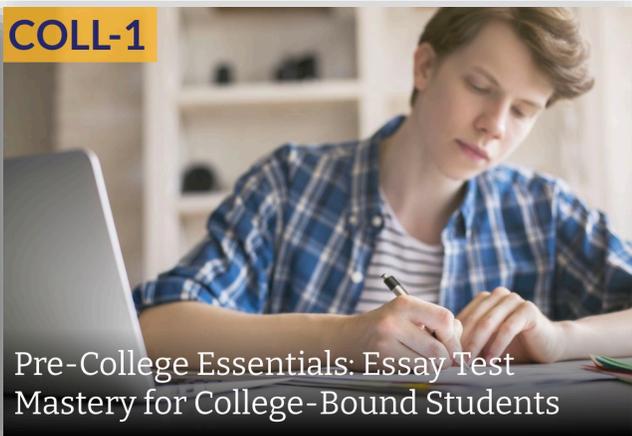
For exact course dates, click on the day and time, above.

Advanced College-Prep Writing

For 9th - 12th Grades

Spring Semester 2024

COLL-1



Pre-College Essentials: Essay Test Mastery for College-Bound Students

PRE-COLLEGE ESSENTIALS:

Essay Test Mastery for College-Bound Students (COLL-1)

Master in-class essay tests with this how-to course with practical, prescriptive, clear direction on how to decipher a prompt, think and process the instructions clearly, quickly brainstorm an answer, and write an essay in a linear narrative format with few errors – to “show the teacher what you know” with style. Learn essay writing secrets from Professor Brown's 20 years of college-level teaching and college writing course curriculum development at three universities. Come prepared to write– and to enjoy writing!

Course Details

Suggested Credit: One (1) full semester's credit for Writing or English.

Prerequisites are 9-1, 9-2, 9-3, & 9-4 courses via LIVE or Unlimited Access.

Course Materials are provided; requires access to Word 2007 or newer version.

Homework is approximately two (2) to five (5) hours/week.

LIVE Course Time Offered

Click on the day and time below to register for the course.

Thursdays, 2:30 PM ET

For exact course dates, click on the day and time, above.

Meet Your Instructor

Click on the link below to view the instructor's biography.



Maureen Ryan, BA

Credit Suggestion – Fall Semester 2023

Take [High School Writing Essentials \(X-5\)](#) via [Unlimited or Instructor Access](#) along with this course, for more pre-college writing prep.

How to be an Excellent Student

For 9th - 12th Grades

Fall Semester 2023



Course Details

Suggested Credit: One-third (1/3) of one semester credit. Add the credits of this 4-week course to any six- or eight-week course for a full semester's credit.

Credit Suggestion: Combine with *Leadership & Interpersonal Communication*, offered in the spring.

No Prerequisite

Course Materials are provided; requires access to Word 2007 or newer version.

Homework is approximately two (2) hours/week.

Meet Your Instructor

Click on the link below to view the instructor's biography.



Geralyn Rea, MA

How to be an Excellent Student:

Note Taking, Test Taking, and How to Get an A

Get the skills to become strong, confident, and able to study for any high school level course with success! This course is a must-have for students who want to make learning and test taking the easiest (and most successful) that it can be. You'll learn the skills of active listening and active reading (what they are and how they work for you), note taking and annotation (for any "live" or online course or learning situation), critical reading skills for comprehension (to remember what you've read faster and with easier recall), test-taking skills (how to prepare for tests and what to do during tests), and more. You'll use these skills in high school, college, and beyond. Be prepared for the future and do well in your coursework today when you take this course! **Sign up for the Leadership & Interpersonal Communication course (spring semester) along with this course, to continue learning communications, writing, and excellent student skills that can put your student ahead.**

LIVE Course Time Offered

Click on the day and time below to register for the course.

Fridays, 11:30 AM ET

This is a powerful, four-week "short course" offered in September. For exact course dates, click the day and time above.

Leadership & Interpersonal Communication

For 9th - 12th Grades

Spring Semester 2024



Course Details

Suggested Credit: One-half (1/2) of a semester's credit for Communications or Life Skills. Add the credits of this 6-week course to any six- or eight-week course for a full semester's credit.

Credit Suggestion: Combine with *How to be an Excellent Student*, offered in the fall.

No Prerequisite

Course Materials are provided; requires access to Word 2007 or newer version.

Homework is approximately two (2) to four (4) hours/week.

Meet Your Instructor

Click on the link below to view the instructor's biography.



Aubrey Heki, BA
AWA Managing Director

Leadership & Interpersonal Communication

“What is leadership and interpersonal communication, and what does it have to do with my future?” This essential course guides you through the foundational and critical leadership and communication skills that all students need to succeed, including managing yourself well with emotional intelligence, conflict management, body language, speaking skills, and more to become a person of positive influence. Special attention is given to integrating our faith into leadership and personal communication, as well as practical action steps for building healthy relationships and living our faith to positively influence others in our community and world. This course draws from university-level leadership and interpersonal communications, to guide each student into good personal leadership practices and communication that is easy to understand, practical, and fun. Join this course if you want to be confident and able to connect with others in a positive way – and have the skills to build success for your future!

LIVE Course Time Offered

Click on the day and time below to register for the course.

Fridays, 11:30 AM ET

This is a 6-week course offered in Jan. – Feb. For exact course dates, click on the day and time, above.