

## Composition I Course Expectations

**Objective:** This course is designed to provide practical tools for and much practice in composing prose. We will focus on clear development of ideas, organization, style and tone, grammar, vocabulary, and mechanics. Throughout the semester we will revise by means of peer review and ad hoc editing by the teacher. We will take every opportunity to integrate the class with writing for other courses, especially literature and history.

### Materials

Binder for storing handouts and all writing (may be used for other courses)  
Loose-leaf paper  
Pens (black/blue for writing, red for correcting)  
Text: Warriner's *English Composition and Grammar* (to be kept in classroom); various handouts and essays

### Grading Policy

Homework/Classwork	25%
Quizzes	15%
Essays	40%
Participation	20%

**Homework:** This includes planning, writing, and revising essays; completing exercises from the text; and reading literature to be discussed. According to Ridgeview policy, homework that is one day late will receive up to 50% credit, and 0% after that. Missing homework includes not having read an assignment.

**Quizzes:** We will occasionally have pop and planned quizzes over the writing and grammar elements we study. I may consider some exercises from the text to be "quizzes."

**Essays:** You will write and revise several essays/papers on approved or given topics. Your grade depends upon the quality of your outlining, drafts, and final draft, in terms of content and style. You will also receive a grade for how well you review your peers' writing.

**Participation:** You will be informally assessed throughout the period. Participating means that you are actively involved in class discussions and during peer review sessions, as well as prepared for class each day. As part of the participation grade, I may periodically check notebooks for thoroughness and organization.

If you are having trouble with any portion of the class, I am more than willing to help you outside of class. Please contact me to arrange an appointment.

Please sign and return by Friday, September 7, 2007. Keep this paper in your binder.

I have read the course expectations attached and will call or e-mail Mrs. Pichel with any concerns or questions.

**Student Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_