

Teacher: Jill Dyer

**Course:** Students will learn to compose different types of paragraphs (expository, persuasive, descriptive and narrative) with theme statements. We will spend some time reviewing grammar and the proper use of mechanics. Those topics are not the focus of the class, but are necessary in order to communicate more effectively. As the class progresses, these foundational skills will be used to construct longer essays and research papers (at the junior high level). The focus of the longer assignments will be on clear communication and utilizing the skills they have learned. I will also introduce plagiarism and citing sources using MLA format.

**Teacher Resources:** Intro to Composition

**Student Materials:** None

*\*Materials will not be finalized until the syllabus is posted on July 15<sup>th</sup>.*

**Class Fees:** \$10

**Class Fee Description:** Copy fees

**Quizzes:** Undetermined

**Tests:** No

**Presentations/Projects:** Yes

**Level of Homework:** 2 - 3 Assignments

**Level of Discussion:** Undetermined

**Level of Memorization:** No

**Level of Writing:** Yes

**Internet required:** Yes

**Grading:** I will clearly communicate my expectations and will also provide a grading rubric. Students will be graded on how well they follow directions. Not everyone will start out as an excellent writer; however, I am confident each student will improve from his/her starting point.

**Comments:** I would not say that the class is predominantly discussion-oriented. However, there will be in-class activities and participation. Most assignments will be of the creative writing sort and will not need internet research. However, there will be at least one assignment that will use the internet. Also, I would like for each student to type his/her work, which will take computer access. If that is a problem for your family, I am willing to discuss other arrangements.