

Instructor : Rusty Gorby

## Academic Writing I Syllabus

Business letter and paragraph structure  
Writing process and narrative writing  
Short stories, writing process and grammar mini-lesson  
Informative/ descriptive writing and mini-lesson  
Informative/ descriptive writing editing  
Tom Sawyer (by Mark Twain) and figurative language  
Tom Sawyer and character sketch  
Tom Sawyer , peer editing, and mini-lesson  
Parenthetical documentation  
Little Men or Little Women (by Louisa May Alcott) and grammar review  
Little Men or Little Women grammar mini-lesson, writing techniques  
Little Men or Little Women and classificatory writing  
Story pyramid, classificatory writing and editing  
Persuasive writing and mini-lesson  
Persuasive writing, fact/opinion, and mini-lesson  
Editing persuasive writing  
Research Paper Introduction  
Bibliography cards and research  
Note cards and research  
Thesis statement and note cards  
Outlining and first draft  
First draft and editing  
Research paper and organization  
Biography/Autobiography - Creative project  
Creative project presentations  
Writing techniques  
Poetry discussion and analysis  
Writing poetry  
Narrative/dramatic poetry

Mini-lessons include instructions on grammar, punctuation and writing styles. These building blocks will improve the students' writing skills and should be incorporated into each paper thereafter.

The following supplies are needed:

- 3 ring notebook
- 1 folder with pockets and brads (Portfolio)
- 5 dividers
- thesaurus
- index cards (3x5 for bibliography cards and larger size for note cards)
- The Adventures of Tom Sawyer (unabridged) by Mark Twain
- Little Men or Little Women (unabridged) or any another Louisa May Alcott novel
- parent-approved biography or autobiography