

Composition & Rhetoric

I. General Information

Teacher: Dr. Karen Croftcheck

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II. Course Description

Composition & Rhetoric is a required English course that explores the four principles of effective writing: unity, support, coherence, and sentence skills. Students will apply these principles in a variety of well-developed essays.

III. Text and Supplemental Material

Holt Handbook. Third Course. Austin: Holt, Rinehart, & Winston, 2003.

IV. Supplies Needed

USB drive, notebook, folder or binder, and writing utensils

V. Grading Scale and Evaluations

Student grades will be based on several methods of assessment, including homework assignments, tests and quizzes, journal entries, formal writing assignments, and class projects. Quarterly and final grades will be based on the following grading scale:

96 – 100% = A 93 – 95% = A- 90 – 92% = B+ 88 – 89% = B 85 – 87% = B-

81 – 84% = C+ 78 – 80% = C 75 – 77% = C- 70 – 74% = D 0 - 69% = F

VI. Guidelines

Students are expected to be respectful of the teacher, their classmates, and school property. They must also show responsibility for their own learning by coming to class prepared and by following all school policies. More information can be found in Geibel Catholic's student handbook.

Scope and Sequence

QUARTER 1

Essay Writing - • Identify the basic principles of effective writing • Identify and model steps of the writing process

Essay Development – • Identify common patterns of essay development

Sentence Skills – • Identify subjects and verbs in sentences

QUARTER 2

Essay Writing – • Write thesis statements and support them with specific evidence

• Organize and connect specific evidence in the body paragraphs of an essay

Essay Development – • Develop, write, and revise a descriptive essay

Sentence Skills – • Identify and correct sentence fragments and run-ons

QUARTER 3

Essay Writing – • Revise so that your sentences flow smoothly and clearly

- Edit so that your sentences are error free

Essay Development – • Develop, write, and revise a comparison/contrast essay

Sentence Skills – • Identify and correct common errors with subject-verb agreement

QUARTER 4

Essay Writing – • Revise for unity, support, and coherence

Essay Development – • Develop, write, and revise a persuasive essay

Sentence Skills – • Identify and correct misplaced and dangling modifiers in sentences