



# Liberty Middle School

281 Dock Murphy Drive, Madison, Alabama 35758

## Composition Workshop

Mrs. Shandi N. Silk

<b>Teacher Contact Information</b>	<b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:snsilk@madisoncity.k12.al.us">snsilk@madisoncity.k12.al.us</a> <b>Classroom Phone:</b> 256-430-0001 ext. 83231
<b>Classroom Digital Platforms</b>	<b>Webpage Link:</b> <b>Schoology Link:</b> <a href="#">Distribution List Link</a>
<b>Textbook Information</b>	<i>No Textbook for this course</i>
<b>Course Description</b>	“This elective will provide an overview of the basic elements of modern English usage, such as spelling, parts of speech, capitalization, punctuation, subject/verb agreement, and correct pronoun usage. The course will include consistent writing experiences paying special attention to Madison City’s writing curriculum, claim, data, commentary, and MLA formatting and citations. With the writing experiences, students will also participate in typing, drafting, editing, and revising. This course is offered to meet the need for a foundation in grammar, sentence structure, composition, and technological publishing skills for final writing projects. (Madison City Middle School Catalog, p. 21)
<b>Course Objectives</b>	Students will develop and strengthen basic writing skills, enhance grammar skills, and improve their analytical writing. Students will delve in depth to each component of the claim, data, commentary (CDC) writing structure. Students will gain confidence in their writing abilities through review and in depth inquiry of grammar, sentence structure, and CDC.
<b>Course Outline</b>	<b>Unit 1: Student Introduction &amp; Prompt Response</b> <b>Unit 2: Parts of Speech</b> <b>Unit 3: Sentence Types &amp; Structure</b> <b>Unit 4: Deconstructing the Prompt</b> <b>Unit 5: Claim, Data, Commentary Breakdown</b>  <b>Culminating Project: Skill Review Game &amp; Presentation</b>  <b>Prompt Responses embedded throughout the course</b>  <i>This is subject to change!</i>
<b>Classroom Expectations</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Be respectful and be responsible!</li> <li>2. Be seated and ready for class when the bell rings. Students tardy to class will receive a detention per LMS policy.</li> <li>3. Come prepared for class. Bring all necessary supplies, including homework.</li> <li>4. Respect your teacher, your classmates, and yourself.</li> <li>5. Listen and follow directions.</li> <li>6. If it’s not yours, don’t touch it. Keep your hands and feet to yourself. If you break something of mine, be prepared to replace it. This also applies to school technology.</li> <li>7. Follow all school rules.</li> <li>8. The teacher dismisses the class, not the bell.</li> </ol>
<b>Progressive Discipline</b> <i>(LMS Policy)</i>	<b>Step 1:</b> Verbal warning <b>Step 2:</b> Student/teacher conference <b>Step 3:</b> Parent contact/conference <b>Step 4:</b> Detention and a parent contact

	<p><b>Step 5: Office referral</b></p> <p>*Please refer to the Social Contract for further guidance.</p>
<p><b>Grading Policy</b> <i>(MCS Policy)</i></p>	<p><b>60%</b> = Assessments (Tests, Essays, Projects)  <b>40%</b> = Daily Grades (Quizzes, Homework, Classwork, and Participation)</p>
<p><b>Late Work Policy</b></p>	<p>I will accept late work up to 1 week late. Each day late is a 10% deduction of the final grade. Please communicate with me in advance if there is an extenuating circumstance. I am here to help and work with you!</p>
<p><b>Make-up Work/Test Policy</b></p>	<p>Students with excused absences will be allowed to make-up all work within three days of returning to school. It is the student's responsibility to ask for make-up work. Students can get with a classmate or ask the teacher for help. Work that is not made up will become a zero (including quizzes/tests). Many times, missed quizzes and tests can be made up during school.</p> <p>Students may retake tests for up to an 85%. It is the student's responsibility to contract with me and set up a time(s) to review the material, ask questions, and retest. Students are expected to study for 48 hours following a test grade of an 84% or lower. Retakes will take place BEFORE school.</p>
<p><b>Technology</b></p>	<p>Student laptops should not be hard-wired to the network or have print capabilities. Use of discs, flash drives, jump drives, or other USB devices will not be allowed on Madison City computers. Neither the teacher, nor the school is responsible for broken, stolen, or lost laptops. Laptops and other electronic devices will be used at the individual discretion of the teacher.</p>
<p><b>Accommodations</b></p>	<p>Requests for accommodations for this course or any school event are welcomed from students and parents.</p>
<p><b>Turnitin Notice</b> <b>(ELA Classes only)</b></p>	<p>The majority of writing assignments in this course will be submitted to Turnitin via the Schoology learning platform. The primary focus of this software is to help students become better writers and scholars. Turnitin generates a report on the originality of student writing by comparing it with a database of periodicals, books, online content, student papers, and other published work. This program will help students discern when they are using sources fairly, citing properly, and paraphrasing effectively-skills essential to all academic work.</p> <p>Students will have the opportunity to review their Turnitin originality report and will have the opportunity to make revisions before submitting their work for grading. Once their work is submitted, teachers have the opportunity to view the student's originality report and grade accordingly.</p>
<p><b>Materials &amp; Supplies</b></p>	<p>Please refer to the Liberty Middle School supply list.</p>
<p><b>Homework</b></p>	<p>Homework is rarely assigned. It is typically either an extension of the day's lesson and/or complete in class work when needed. Students may be expected to complete long term projects outside of class.</p>
<p><b>Parent &amp; Student Acknowledgment Form</b></p>	<p>Please check the box on the distribution list sign up to indicate that you have read and understand this syllabus.</p>