

Writing in History

Ms. Kim Young

kyoung@wajcs.org

Room 225

Course Overview:

This course will build student appreciation for writing and develop student skills in writing in the Social Studies discipline. This is a pass/fail course based on student participation in assigned activities. Students will receive daily feedback on their work and instruction will be geared toward the needs of students in the room.

Course Objectives:

- Develop daily writing practices and an appreciation for writing for multiple purposes
- Engage in oral, written, and visual discourse around issues in history, current events, and students' lives
- Construct and support arguments with relevant evidence
- Paraphrase and analyze evidence as it relates to historical documents, historical events, and contemporary issues
- Apply social studies practices to develop arguments with attention to:
 - Point of view
 - Purpose
 - Bias
 - Historical context/circumstances
 - Cause/effect
 - Turning point
 - Similarity/difference

Course Materials - to be kept in classroom:

- Notebook (1 subject is fine)
- Pens/pencils
- Folder

Daily Activities *may include*:

- **Intro Writing:** *Most days, students will have a bell ringer that requires them to write for a brief period of time (5-10 minutes).*
- **Class Discussion**
- **Small Group Work**
- **Writing Workshop including peer review and teacher conferences**

Expectations:

- **Be Responsible:** Be present; attendance is very important.
- **Be Ready to Learn:** Come to class every day with all materials and come ready to participate in the day's lesson.

- **Be Respectful:** Respect students, staff, and materials at all times. Recognize and be respectful of different points of view; be open to re-considering a position. Help others when needed.
- **Be an Advocate & a Leader:** Students should ask for help when needed and ask for help for others - academically and outside of the classroom. Students should advocate for themselves and others (be a leader!). Students should be a role model; standing up against negative behavior and reporting issues to a trusted adult.