

## Lumen Christi Composition Program

This document will provide an overview of our school's program for teaching writing, known as the Composition Program. English composition meets twice a week for 45 minute classes. The Freshman year covers many mechanical issues for the beginning writer and uses Andrew Pudewa's high school level *Writing Intensive*, as well as other resources. Writing goals for all years are listed below: students will become competent writers of each style listed. The composition instructor will assess work and keep grades; Composition will earn students one credit each year.

### Resources

The resources listed below directly correlate with our writing goals and teach specific pieces of writing:

- OWL Purdue Writing Lab: <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/>
- *A Writer's Reference* by Diana Hacker. St. Martin's Press 5<sup>th</sup> Ed.
- *Excellence in Writing*. High School Level: *Student Writing Intensive*. Andrew Pudewa
- *LitWeb* The Norton *Introduction to Literature* Web Site
- *Super Star Student*. Video presentation by the *Teaching Company* (Jam writing; organization, note taking.)

### Composition Skill Set: Freshman Year

**Teaching Goals:** All eleven tasks and review of Pudewa's *Writing Intensive*.

**Student Goals:** Completing all assignments; creating five pieces worthy of including in the Senior Portfolio.

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Know the writing process</li> <li>2. Write Effective Sentences             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Practice sentence variety</li> <li>B. Use proper subject-verb agreement</li> <li>C. Identify /correct fragments, run-ons</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Use correct word choices             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Avoid wordiness</li> <li>B. Use active verbs</li> <li>C. Use appropriate and exact language</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. Paraphrase efficiently</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Summarize by using key word outlines</li> <li>6. Create and use <i>Cornell Notes</i> efficiently</li> <li>7. Practice Jam writing</li> <li>8. Practice concise word usage</li> <li>9. Write effective paragraphs, using proper structure—thesis sentence, body, conclusion or transition</li> <li>10. Use dictionary and thesaurus correctly</li> <li>11. Understand plagiarism and methods to avoid it</li> </ol> |
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### ***Composition Skill Set: Sophomore Year***

**Teaching Goals:** All ten tasks below.

**Student Goals:** Five pieces worthy of including in the Senior Portfolio Know the writing process

1. Write a short essay
2. Complete journal entries
3. Employ editing methods effectively; learn and use proofreaders' marks
4. Complete reports:
  - o A scientific lab report
  - o A consumer report
  - o A briefing
5. Quote sources correctly in your writing
6. Annotate a bibliography
7. Answer identification questions on exams proficiently
8. Create effective Power-point presentations
9. Create captions and annotations for an illustrated work
10. Know different types of web based writing and be able to assess the quality of internet sources

### ***Composition Skill Set: Junior Year***

**Teaching Goals:** All ten tasks below.

**Student Goals:** Five pieces worthy of including in the Senior Portfolio.

1. Know how to use a library and conduct research
2. Complete a Research project using secondary sources
3. Document resources properly
4. Write essays proficiently
5. Write a fictional narrative
6. Answer SAT essay prompts proficiently
7. Proficiently write the "Document Based Essay" or DBQ
8. Compare several diaries; practice diary technique
9. Transcribe an interview, then write an essay based on the interview
10. Create an academic poster worthy of presentation at a conference and present its contents

## Composition Skill Set: Senior Year

**Teaching Goals:** All tasks below. The instructor will set the number of pieces which seniors will include in the portfolio, and assign new writing styles and pieces appropriate to college bound seniors.

**Student Goals:** Complete a Senior Portfolio of outstanding writing through the high school years. The portfolio (electronic or paper) will be gathered, edited, approved, and bound; it will include a cover and a table of contents.

### Senior Portfolio Content

- Approved writing from previous three years (15 pieces)

*Other writing choices from Senior Composition lessons:*

1. Demonstrate excellent academic writing:
  - Note taking
  - Synopsis
  - “jam” writing—brainstorming
  - DBQ—document based essay
2. Write journal entries
3. Create a personal narrative—often seen in the college application
4. Construct efficient and clear business memos
5. Create an excellent resume
6. Write two letters—one personal and one business (example: the job acceptance letter)
7. Write a newspaper story—using proper technique
8. Review a book, using the guidelines provided
9. Review a play
10. Review a film
11. Write explanations—explanatory writing
12. Write directions—how to do something
13. Annotate a document
14. Write a general report such as a consumer report
15. Create a scientific lab report
16. Create realistic story—a non fiction piece
17. Write a historical narrative (see our History writing guide)
18. Create a poem
19. Create a blog—publish at least ten entries; printouts if paper portfolio
20. Conduct research and write a research paper—usually this is the junior year project
21. Create an annotated bibliography on a topic