

Honors Writing Workshop

2010 Summer Project

Your prerequisite project for Advanced Writing Workshop will consist of two parts: two reading selections and a writing component. Please complete all assignments prior to your first class of the next academic year. All materials, including both books, should be brought to class on the first day.

Assignment 1a: *On Writing*, Stephen King:

Please purchase and read this lively and entertaining text about the pitfalls and concerns of both student and professional writers. As you read, highlight and annotate the text with your responses to the information and advice set forth in this book. Be prepared to discuss his advice for usage, syntax, editing, and revision.

Assignment 1b: Stephen King selection

Choose one of Stephen King's many novels or his collection of short stories to read and enjoy over the summer. We will be examining his works at the beginning of the course, so you will need to bring your copy to class to use during the first week of classes.

Assignment #2: Portfolio (5-7 pages, minimum)

Using the techniques and advice provided by Mr. King, prepare a portfolio of writing samples. Please do not include in your portfolio any essays, papers, or assignments previously prepared for another class.

Please type and double-space all submissions. Include your name and date.

Please prepare your writing samples using the following requirements for content:

1. Personal Narrative: Write about a person or event which has had some influence on your life. Put, at least, three years space between you and this person/event for greater objectivity. Include specific description, dialogue, characterization, *etc.*
2. Argumentative/Position Essay: Choose **one side of an arguable topic** which you can defend with evidence. Be objective, but persuasive. Use connotation to your best advantage.
3. Exposition: Choose a topic about which you know a great deal, but one about which your audience is generally unfamiliar. Be specific in defining terms appropriate to your topic while keeping your audience engaged . . . and entertained!