The **Expository Reading and Writing Course (ERWC)** aims to facilitate access to higher education through a substantive inquiry-oriented curriculum that helps students develop the high-level literacies they need to succeed in college and beyond.

**Course Description/ Curriculum**

The skills of reading and writing are required in post-secondary contexts. In addition, college readiness involves developing educational habits of mind (both practical and intellectual). The ERWC curriculum builds these valuable habits of mind by using strategic rhetorical approaches to engage students deeply in critical reflections about high-interest texts on varied topics.

The ERWC responds to the literacy challenges of the 21st century by creating college and career ready students with preparation in rhetorical reading and writing. By helping secondary students become more competent, confident users of the myriad literacies they will encounter in diverse professional and community contexts, the ERWC also addresses issues of access and equity.

**Books**

Texts include: the Holt anthology *Elements of Literature 6th Course*, the Holt writing skills text *Elements of Writing 6th Course*, *Expository Reading and Writing Course* materials, as well as *Magic Lens Grammar and Prestwick House Vocabulary*. Other selections from *Recommended Literature, Grades Nine through Twelve* will be included to supplement the curriculum.

**Grades**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grading Scale</th>
<th>Grading Percentages</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A 90-100%</td>
<td>Projects (Writing)</td>
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<tr>
<td>B 80-89.9%</td>
<td>Assessments</td>
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<tr>
<td>C 70-79.9%</td>
<td>Daily Assignments</td>
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<tr>
<td>D 60-69.9%</td>
<td>Discussion/Participation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F 0-59.9%</td>
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**Senior Project**

The multiple parts of the senior project (a graduation requirement) will be completed during the course of our year in English 12.
Final Copies of Formal Writing
Final copies of papers, essays, and projects will be word-processed in MLA format unless otherwise specified. We will go over MLA format in class, and it is also detailed in the Holt Handbook. Students will use blue/black ink to complete all other assignments. All material submitted will be retained by the instructor. Should you desire copies of submitted materials, make copies before you submit. Turnitin.com is an electronic paper submissions service that is used at JFK to reduce paper use, support our digital literacy, and discourage plagiarism.

Attendance/ Tardy Policies
Every student is expected to attend every class on time every day unless the student is required to be absent for a valid excuse. Truancy, unverified and unexcused absences, excessive absences, and tardiness affect the students’ education and increase the chances for failure. Tardiness interrupts and interferes with the learning environment for all students and the teaching opportunities for teachers.

Supplies
Students will need to bring the following items to class with them each day
- All students are required to have a separate binder (at least 1”) for English class. I will check this binder periodically for correctly divided sections, completion of work, and neatness. You will receive more information about the binder separately. **NOTE: Bring binder every day!**
- Pens (dark blue and/or black ink only, please)
- Textbook(s) or current reading materials
- Highlighters, glue sticks, post-it notes can be useful in class but are not required
- Daily planner/organizer (this will be discussed in class)

Class Expectations
1. Be on time, prepared and ready to go with all required materials when the bell rings.
2. Be respectful of your teacher, your classmates, other teachers and administrators, your school, and anything that does not belong to you. Disrespect in any form will result in disciplinary action.
3. Turn off and put away all electronic devices unless the teacher gives permission to use them. Desks should also be clear of purses, backpacks, and clothing.
4. Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty will not be tolerated. (See plagiarism/Cheating Policy on the next page)
5. Participate, take risks, and do not be afraid to make mistakes!


Late or Missing Work:
1. Late homework is not accepted. (However, if you have an EXCUSED absence and present a readmit slip, you will be able to make up that work) For large projects, presentations, and writing assignments, 10% will be deducted from the grade for each day it is late.
2. Since homework counts as a part of your grade, keep returned papers at home, in a folder, or in a binder. There are two reasons for this:
   a) to review notes/homework before a test
   b) to have proof of completed assignments.
3. If an absence is planned in advance, arrange to have someone turn in your work for you. It is the student’s responsibility to contact their peer partner or email the teacher about work missed during an excused unplanned absence. Make-up work will be accepted when turned in within two days for each excused absence. Please ask me for work you may have missed immediately after
an absence, NOT during class time. I am also usually in my room during lunch and after school to help with assignments. The student should make arrangements with me outside of class time for assistance if needed. Make-up work is not accepted for unexcused absences.

**Plagiarism/ Cheating/ Academic Dishonesty Policy:**

Academic dishonesty is the use of a person’s work, concepts, designs, data, ideas, research, or documentation without assigning proper credit to the source. It goes beyond plagiarism to include lying, cheating, providing and/or using unauthorized materials in preparation for an assignment, quiz, or test, and/or using and/or providing unauthorized materials during a quiz or test.

**Forms of Academic Dishonesty (Examples include, but are not limited to, the following):**

- Looking at someone else’s work product or allowing someone else to look at one’s work product.
- Using any kind of “cheat notes” during a quiz or test.
- Copying any work assigned to be done independently and/or allowing others to copy one’s work.
- Unauthorized access to and/or using stolen assignments, quizzes, and/or tests.
- Providing and/or selling an assignment, quiz, and/or test.
- Using an electronic device to provide, receive, store, and/or copy information before, during, or after an assignment, quiz, and/or test.
- Collaborating on any assignment, test, or quiz without prior approval from the teacher.
- Falsifying one’s attendance in order to be eligible to complete assignments, quizzes, and/or tests.

Plagiarism is a serious offense that is unacceptable and it will be dealt with accordingly.

**Contact Me!**

Two ways to contact me for further information:

- Email: Emily-Sommer@scusd.edu
- Telephone: (916) 433-5200 Extension 1303 (This is a voice mailbox. Please leave a message and I will get back to you as soon as possible.)

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After reading this syllabus with your parent, please print this page and fill out the section below. (Be sure to print all required information neatly.) Cut off this portion and bring to class by September 11, 2015.

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(Printed Student Name)  
(Student Signature)  
(Student Email)

(Printed Parent Name)  
(Parent Signature)  
(Parent Email)