



## **Advanced Writing**

*by Dr. Stanley*

### **Goal:**

The main goal of this course is to teach students habits that will help them to improve as writers. Writing is a process. It's something that requires consistent practice and patience. It's a retreat inwards, where an individual can spend time alone with the intricacies of their thoughts. To get lost in this inner world and to come out of it with insight, desire and a plan is the joy of writing. Without practice and patience, this rewarding feeling will become inaccessible.

### **Content and Requirement:**

Over the duration of the semester, students will be required to plan, research, edit and complete a series of inter-related writing pieces. Working to express themselves through a variety of academic and creative styles, students will learn to recognize the similarities in the writing process for short stories, essays, and poetry. In my opinion, the skills and creativity required for writing a great essay are nearly identical to those needed for a short story or a poem.

By the end of the semester, students will have a portfolio demonstrating their attempts at expressing themselves in different styles. All of the works will be related to one another; a unique written world created by the student.

While there will not be an intensive study of a novel, students will be assigned short stories, essays, poetry, or academic texts throughout the semester. Every 4 weeks, a new unit will be introduced. While there will not be new homework every week, emphasis will be placed on consistent weekly writing. There will be progress reports charting development over the semester and constant check-ins with students. In order to succeed in this class, students cannot just complete their assignments the night before. There needs to be daily progress towards their writing goals.