**Fundamentals of Literature and Composition**

**Revised 2016**

**Description:** This course teaches the student to be a discerning reader by focusing on the fundamentals of literature—conflict, character, theme, structure, point of view, tone, etc. The student studies contemporary and classic American, British, and world authors in four genres: fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and drama. Critical thinking skills are encouraged throughout the text through discussion questions. Instruction also includes writing exercises that expand communication skills, provides practice in narrative, expository, and persuasive writing, and an introduction to research skills and documenting sources as well as professional writing.

**Textbooks/Materials:**

1. Writer’s Inc.
2. Supplies needed:  USB drive, writing composition notebook, and any sort of electronic device if possible (i.e. laptop, tablet, i-pad, etc.)

**Fundamentals of Composition: Writing & Grammar (1st semester)**

This course emphasizes grammar skills, beginning with sentence patterns and going on to the eight parts of speech, phrases, and clauses. It reviews spelling, capitalization, and punctuation. Students practice these skills by completing several writing assignments, including description, comparison and contrast, personal experience, research essay, poetry, personal response to literature, devotional, and professional writing.

## Fundamentals of Literature (2nd semester)

This semester teaches the student literary analysis by discussing six literary elements: conflict, character, theme, point of view, structure, and tone.  The student analyzes and evaluates authors, works, and themes.

**Reading List:**

*Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry*

*The Book Thief*

*The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*

**Method of Evaluation:**

Tests/Final Projects and Papers 40%

Drafts 30%

Daily assignments and reading 20%

Quizzes 10%

**Tests will consist of short answer, essay, and multiple choice questions.**

**Papers will be graded as follows:**

Content – 60%

Grammar and Mechanics – 30%

Effort – 10%