

The 11th Grade Writing Portfolio

A large part of your grade for this course will come from the creation of a portfolio of your writing each semester. A full 40 percent of your grade will be determined by the work you do here, so give it your best. I promise that if you do, I will, too.

This semester we will be producing several major writing assignments. They are:

- A Reflective Essay
- Three (perhaps four) formal Literary Analysis essays
- A compare/contrast essay
- An Expository Essay

Naturally, each of these components will count towards your grade for the portfolio.

For each section of the portfolio you will be asked to complete a number of shorter, in-class writing assignments that will be designed to help you work towards the goals of each paper. These in-class assignments are exceedingly difficult to make up, so please make sure that you are in class for them. You will also complete the formal writing piece that corresponds with the unit of study. Finally, you will be asked to complete a short reflective piece in which you will outline how the work you did demonstrates that you did, in fact, meet the goals outlined for the particular unit of study. **Any portfolio missing components will be considered incomplete and will be eligible for a D, as best.** Final essays will be graded on a 4.0 scale, but will be entered into the grade book as 50 points. The scale is as follows:

- 4.0 = 100 percent
- 3.5 = 90 percent
- 2.5 = 80 percent
- 1.5 = 60 percent

The reflection will be worth an additional 10 points, also graded on a 4.0 scale.

So, each section of the portfolio will contain the following:

- In-class writing assignments. These are often 5-minute warmups.
- Drafts and revisions
- A formal essay (graded)
- A reflection (graded)

Each unit will, as stated previously, have a unique set of goals that will be outlined in a rubric. You will receive this rubric before we begin work on the formal essay, but not before we begin the in-class writing pieces. The rubrics will be available both in class and on my website at www.mrisakson.com.

All final essays and reflections will be turned in via Turnitin.com. We'll cover that in class.

I know this seems like a bit of a daunting task right now, but don't worry. We'll take our time, and before you know it, we'll be there.



Mark Isakson
Isakson@mrisakson.com
www.mrisakson.com
425-431-5011