

Teacher: Beth Troyer

## **Basic Composition**

Tuition: \$80/semester

<u>Course Description</u>: This basic composition course focuses on helping students overcome their fear of writing as they learn the fundamental skills required for effective writing in a variety of contexts. This is an introductory composition class for the student who has a rudimentary understanding of how to write a solid paragraph but little or no experience writing longer essays. Students will write descriptive, persuasive, expository, and narrative essays and will learn step-by-step how to write an MLA-formatted research essay using at least three sources. Class instruction will also include reinforcement of grammar rules and the introduction of basic editing skills. The goal of instruction is for students to establish good writing habits and become comfortable writing coherent essays with focused thesis statements and ample supporting evidence. I will use an online grading system so that parents can monitor their student's progress.

<u>Requirements and Expectations:</u> Students must have reliable access to the internet and a printer. Assignments will not be handwritten, so keyboarding skills are essential. Students can expect to spend at least two hours per week outside of class to complete assignments.

## Textbook:



The Elegant Essay Building Blocks for Analytical Writing [Student Book only]

Author: Lesha Myers ISBN: 978-0-9779860-1-9

Third Edition, 2011

**Note:** This is a consumable workbook. **I will require students to write in this book.** Please do not expect your student to pass this book on to other students. If you obtain a used copy, make sure the pages are free from marking and writing.

An Important Note about Credit: This class will satisfy the composition requirement only for one high school English credit. To earn one full English credit, students will need to complete an additional literature component. I recommend the series *Excellence in Literature: Reading and Writing Through the Classics by Janice Campbell; Introduction to Literature ISBN-10: 1613220235.* This material is written to the student and is designed for self-directed study.