

### **English Writing Instructor: Amanda Chen**

Amanda Chen is a sophomore double majoring in Philosophy and Economics and minoring in Middle Eastern Studies at Dartmouth College. Currently, she's an undergraduate legal intern at the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York.

As a writer, Amanda has been writing since she was in Middle School. She's won regional and state awards at the National Scholastic Art all four years of high school and awards on the national level (Gold Medals) for two of those years. She was a 2017-2018 semi-finalist of the Scholastic National Students Poets Program and received the 2017-2018 NCTE Achievement Awards in Writing Certificate for Superior Writing.

As someone who's been through the college admissions process and who has been a college application consultant for the last two years, Amanda understands how to write and sell a personal statement. As someone who's never gotten below an A in both high school and college writing-intensive courses and someone who was the Debate Team Captain at Westlake High School, Amanda understands how to write argumentative essays that are necessary to succeed in any course that requires writing.

## **Advanced English Writing Class 1:** Grades: 7-10

### **Setting up for Success as an Underclassmen in High School: Arguments and the Persuasive Essay**

Sessions: 15, Tuition: \$250, **Sunday 8:15am-9:15am**

#### **Course Overview:**

The first two years of high school are some of the most important for establishing academic excellence and developing the writing tool set necessary for higher education, especially when thinking about college further down the line. One of the most important skill sets to doing well all throughout high school is writing persuasive arguments. Whether the assignment is a literature review, science report, or argumentative essay, knowing how to write compelling, concise, and precise arguments is crucial to succeeding in classes.

This course will focus on the fundamentals of the persuasive essay, one of the most common assignments in high school and even college. Students will learn how to research, how to structure arguments (including basic argument structure), and how to persuade the reader using a variety of appeals: ethos, pathos, and logos. They'll learn how to cite sources and how to convince any reader. They'll become so adept at the art of persuasion, their own parents will have a difficult time saying no to their well-warranted, well-executed, and well-structured arguments.

## **Advanced English Writing Class 2:** Grades: 10-12

### **Standing Out in the Common Application Essay: Personality and the Personal Statement**

Sessions: 15, Tuition: \$300 **Sunday 9:30am-10:30am**

#### **Course Overview:**

One of the most common reasons for being rejected from a dream school is not showing enough personality in college essays, especially in the 650-word Common Application. Showing the college who you are, proving that you're the perfect fit, and differentiating yourself from the stacks on stacks of applications they receive is the difference between an acceptance letter and a rejection letter. Most people don't wait until three months before the application deadlines to take the steps to get into that dream college (ex: getting good grades or building a resume), so why wait until then to learn how to write a personal statement, the one place where you can show the college who you are?

This course will focus on the fundamentals of the personal statement. Students will learn how to write descriptively, show emotion, and most importantly, show their personality through well-organized essay structures, precisely chosen detail, and emotive imagery all while responding to the prompt. Learn the basics of a personal statement from an experienced college essay editor. Learn how to avoid the common pitfalls that most students make, like telling and not showing. Learn how to make your personality pop so that it shines from the stack of essays on your admission officer's desk. Learn how to take that statement and make it personal, so that you're not just writing a statement but a personal statement.