



FLEX Writing Center: A Division of FLEX Headstart Biographical Essay Writing LL (6-7th Grade)

Instructor: Meagan Mason

February 2nd-May 4th, 2021

Tuesdays 4:00-5:30 pm

Course Description

This course teaches students how to take a more objective (scholastic) approach to reading and writing while honing the techniques for persuasive and compelling narrative writing developed in previous coursework.* The class will culminate in the completion of a biography project (app 25 pages). The project consists of three chapters (biographies) of individuals who have something in common, and an essay that discusses this commonality.

Topics will include:

- Reading across a range of texts
- Analyzing and evaluating texts
- Using a variety of technological and informational resources to conduct research
- Using a variety of writing techniques to persuade, engage, and convey information
- Planning for and sustaining a longer project (3 chapter biography)

Program Objectives:

In studying the biography, students are exposed to a diverse array of texts. They learn the basics of writing a research paper: consideration of sources, the weighing and presenting evidence, documentation, and analysis. These skills are critical for success in high school English and History classes. Finally, a small component of the class also exposes students to the critical thinking skills required for standardized test prep.

Curriculum:

- Course Reader
- *Steve Jobs: The Man Who Thought Different*, by Karen Blumenthal OR *Steve Jobs, by Walter Isaacson* (advanced)
- *Two Miserable Presidents*, Steve Sheinkin

FREE 4 Week Preparation Course:

- Register by 12/12
- Classes on 1/5, 1/12, 1/19, 1/26
- Tuesdays (4-5:30 pm)

Instructor Background: Meagan Mason

- Program Coordinator and Instructor
- UC Davis: College Essay Mentorship Program
- UC Davis: Undergraduate Research Assistant
- UC Davis: BA Communication

Tuition: \$1,495 (+\$50 curriculum fee)

- Early Registration or Returning Students: \$200 off by 12/12
- Discounts cannot be combined with other offers
- Tuition must be paid in full to receive discounts

For more information or to register, please contact headstart@flexcollegeprep.com
or call **(408) 252- 7742**.

* "The Biography" is the second in a series of FLEX Writing Center courses. Each course in the series stands alone but continues to advance skills developed in prior coursework. "Personal Narrative Essay" recommended but not required.