

What is up with Writing 12?

“...We have discovered that writing allows even a stupid person to seem halfway intelligent, if only that person will write the same thought over and over again, improving it just a little bit each time. It is a lot like inflating a blimp with a bicycle pump. Anybody can do it. All it takes is time.” Kurt Vonnegut

Writing 12 is a class-directed, creative-writing workshop that will allow you to probe the deepest recesses of your tortured psyche, and turn this psychic pain into works of pure genius for fun and profit. Except for the profit part...

During a year of Writing 12, you will have the opportunity to explore the writing of a variety of genres that the class will determine (hey, democracy works!). Genres will include the memoir, short story writing (true crime!), children's lit, screenwriting, magazine creation... the list is as long as the class' brainstorming ability. Emphasis will be placed upon the process part of the writing- how does one start, how does one finish, how does one edit, how does one create the next series like Harry Potter... you get the idea.

I only ask for one thing in Writing 12: do your best work. Your best may not be as accomplished as another student's work, but I reward honest effort in this class. And I punish half-buttedness.

Please come to class with a dedicated spiral note book (in which you will write, daily), a binder or folder (for handouts and notes), and lots of pens. Not pencils-pens. For in the process of writing, it's best to show all of your work during the drafting process, so that you may hide it in the finished copy.

That, and pencils smudge.

What genre of writing pays the best? Ransom notes...