Course Syllabus
WRT 101 - (Section): Composition I
Semester and Year
Meeting Time and Location

Instructor’s Name
Office Location
Phone
Office Hours
Email Address

Course Description

English Composition I is a three-credit, general education course that gives students the opportunity for extensive practice in critical reading and thinking, and in writing expository prose. This course emphasizes the writing process and concentrates on the organization and development of ideas in written form. Correct language usage, research skills, and document presentation are covered. Particular attention is given to writing techniques that will enable the student to communicate successfully in various tasks. The prerequisite in this course is EBS-017, EBS 024, ALP-063, or by placement exam.

Student Learning Objectives

As a result of meeting the requirements in this course, you will be able to:

1. Employ a variety of approaches to analyze and interpret texts. (PLG 1) (Gen Ed Goal 1 a)
2. Respond to texts, in discussion and writing assignments, demonstrating an understanding of rhetorical strategies employed in the texts. (PLG 2) (Gen Ed Goal 1a, b; 6 a, b)
3. Incorporate the fundamentals of academic essay writing such as gathering ideas, developing and clearly stating theses, organizing, drafting, revising, and editing. (PLG 3) (Gen Ed Goal 1 c, d)
4. Compose essays in several rhetorical modes, such as description, comparison/contrast, and argument. (PLG 3) (Gen Ed Goal 1c, d)
5. Move from personal responses to formal academic essays, including appropriate, properly formatted evidence from outside sources. (PLG 4, 5) (Gen Ed Goal 1 c)

6. Accurately incorporate the ideas of others using summary, paraphrase, and direct quotation. (PLG 4, 5) (Gen Ed Goal 1 c; 6 b)

7. Incorporate the academic requirements, tools, and techniques of research through the resources of contemporary information science. (PLG 6) (Gen Ed Goal 4 a, b, c, d)

8. Employ current MLA style for text presentation, in-text citations, and Works Cited pages for essays and research papers. (PLG 5, 6) (Gen Ed Goal 4 a, b, c, d)

9. Write an argumentative research paper accurately incorporating material from outside sources. (PLG 4, 5, 6) (Gen Ed Goal 1 a, b, c, d; 4 a, b, c, d; 6 a, b)

**Course Requirements**

You will be required to do the following:

1. Write at least four multi-paragraph assignments of at least 500 words.  
   (Meets student learning objectives 1-5)

2. Write at least one in-class essay.  
   (Meets student learning objectives 2-5)

3. Complete other writing exercises such as summaries, journals, reading responses, reading comprehension questions, quizzes on reading assignments, letters, resumes, etc.  
   (Meets student learning objectives 1-6)

4. Read, interpret, and analyze a variety of texts.  
   (Meets student learning objectives 1, 2)

5. Conduct independent research and write a 5-7 page research paper, using MLA style.  
   (Meets student learning objectives 6-9)

6. Submit papers that adhere to MLA manuscript requirements and which demonstrate effective proofreading and editing.  
   (Meets student learning objectives 1-9)

7. Participate in class discussions and other in-class (individual or group) activities necessary to produce quality expository prose.  
   (Meets student learning objectives 2-7)
Course Content

As a student in this course, you can expect to do a great deal of reading, writing, and thinking. All three of these tasks should work in tandem and not in isolation from one another. When you read, you should think deeply about the ideas presented in the text you are studying and the ways in which these ideas are organized. Don’t simply see the words on the page. Think about them and the way in which the author put these words together to convey meaning. Write about what you read. This will help you understand the material better. Read what you write and be certain that your words convey the meaning you intend. Don’t think about writing as splashing enough words on a page so that you fill up two or three pages of typewritten text. Take pride in your writing for it represents your unique way of seeing the world.

You can expect to read many fiction and non-fiction texts, written by professional writers, and to write about these texts. In a way, this class prepares you for the work that you will do in this or any other college. Whether you take a math, economics, or philosophy course, you will have to read and understand the course material. Effective reading skills are essential to success in college. In addition, many college professors will require you to write a “term paper” of one sort or another. Composition I will help you develop the skills that you will need in other college courses. Please don’t think about this course in isolation; instead, think about how your experience here can help make you a better student.

Course Texts and Other Required Materials*

A handbook such as:

or


and

A reader such as:

or

College Dictionary

Notebook and computer discs

*Adjuncts are required to select from the approved department texts listed.

Grading Policy

[Your grading policy must be included in the syllabus you distribute to students. The policy below is an example of one approach among many. It is provided here as an example. It should not be interpreted as the English Department’s policy on grading. Instructors may use the approach below or devise a fair and balanced grading policy of their own. Instructors must include an explicit statement on penalties for late or missed assignments.]

Your final grade will be computed in the following way: four essays and revisions, 50%; research paper, 25%; journals, quizzes, and homework 15%; and class participation, 10%.

Attendance Policy

[Your attendance policy must be included in the syllabus you distribute to students. The policy below is an example of one approach among many. It is provided here as an example. It should not be interpreted as the English Department’s policy on attendance. Instructors may use the approach below or devise a fair policy of their own; however, the BCC policy must be included.]

BCC Attendance Policy: “All students are expected to attend punctually every scheduled meeting of each course in which they are registered. Attendance and lateness policies and sanctions are to be determined by the instructor for each section of each course. These will be established in writing on the individual course outline. Attendance will be kept by the instructor for administrative and counseling purposes.”

Class Attendance Policy: Poor attendance will affect your grade. If your absences exceed twice the number of weekly meetings, your grade will be lowered. If you are absent excessively, you can expect to fail the course. Arriving late to class can affect your grade, too. If you arrive to class late twice, I will count that as one absence.

Statement on Plagiarism
Statement on Learning Assistance Center
See attached.

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