

Revised Spring 2016

Bergen Community College
Division of Humanities
Department of ESL and World Languages

Departmental Syllabus

ALP 053: American Language II: Writing

Semester and year:

Course and Section Number: (e.g. ALP 053 - xxx)

Meeting Times and Locations:

Instructor:

Office Location:

Phone:

Departmental Secretary: (optional)

Office Hours:

E-mail Address:

Course Description

ALP-053 American Language II: Writing is a course in writing for academic purposes for intermediate English language learners. This course prepares students for writing in college level courses by reinforcing and building on the fundamentals of essay structure and organization.

3 lec., 3 non-degree credits . Prerequisite: ALP-043; Pre or Co-requisite: ALP-051/052

Course Texts and/or Other Study Materials:

Longman Academic Writing Series 3: Paragraphs to Essays, (4th ed) Oshima and Hogue.
Pearson.

Student Learning Outcomes

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

- Use the writing process with emphasis on critically reviewing and revising for content, organization, and grammatical correctness.
- Use cause/effect, compare/contrast, and argumentation in essays.
- Demonstrate essay organization and development with an introduction and a thesis statement, topic sentences, supporting ideas, using examples, reasons, facts and cohesive devices such as transitions and subordinators.
- Write a combination of simple, compound, and complex sentences in essays.
- Demonstrate competency in using grammatical structures: present perfect, comparative structures, gerunds and infinitives, and modals.
- Use mechanics (punctuation, spelling, format) correctly.
- Use vocabulary from the Academic Word List.

Means of Assessment

To determine whether students have achieved course goals, teachers will evaluate:

- Portfolios of student writing for each unit showing pre-writing, drafting, revising and editing
- Six to eight essays in-class and homework assignments; at least two (2) 350-word essays
- At the end of the course, all students take a course-wide Writing Exit Test. Students will write one essay in 70 minutes. **Students must pass the final exam in order to pass the class.**

Course Content: In order to achieve course outcomes students will:

- Employ strategies of pre-writing: brainstorming, bubble diagrams, Venn diagrams or outlines;
- Write well organized and well developed essays with thesis, body and conclusion;
- Write basic academic essays using cause/ effect, comparison/contrast, and argumentation
- Incorporate ideas from readings in their writing;
- Write an effective blend of simple sentences with compound elements, compound and complex sentences;
- Use writing process to write multiple drafts
- Use vocabulary that is varied and appropriate for level two.

Special Features of the Course (if any) [to be designated by the instructor]:

E.g. the use of learning technologies in the course (Internet, PowerPoint, Moodle, etc.)

Grading Policy (to be designated by the instructor)

A student's final grade for the course is based primarily on his/her **performance** on the required work for the course (homework, writing assignments, tests), class participation, group work and on his/her overall **mastery** of the material covered in the course. *Sample grading policy*

Homework and Class participation:	20%
In-class essays	50%
Essay assignments	30%

Grade Breakdown:	A	90-100
	B+	86-89
	B	80-85
	C+	76-79
	C	70-75
	D	65-69
	F	64-below

Attendance Policy: (to be designated by the instructor) Sample:

Students are expected to attend class regularly and punctually. Attendance will be taken at each class session. If students occasionally arrive late, they should enter quietly, and not disturb the class. If students miss class, they should find out what they missed. It is probably a good idea for students to exchange telephone numbers with other students as a way to find out about missed classes.

Poor attendance will affect a student's grade. If a student's absence exceeds one and a half times the number of weekly meetings, the student's grade will be lowered by one full letter grade. If a student is absent excessively, the student can expect to fail the course. Lateness counts, too. Two late arrivals will equal one absence.

Statement on Accommodations for Disabilities

Bergen Community College aims to create inclusive learning environments where all students have maximum opportunities for success. Any student who feels he or she may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the Office of Specialized Services at 201-612-5269 or via email at ossinfo@bergen.edu for assistance.

Student and Faculty Support Services

ELRC (English Language Resource Center)	Room E-156	201- 612-5292 http://www.bergen.edu/elrc
Sidney Silverman Library – Reference Desk	Room L-226	201-447-7436 http://www.bergen.edu/library

Sample Course Outline & Calendar (to be designated by the instructor)

Note to Students: The following Course Outline and Calendar is tentative and subject to change, depending upon the progress of the class.

Week(s)	Topics
1	Writing Diagnostic; Review Sentence Types: Simple, Compound, Complex
2	Paragraph Structure: Topic Sentence, Support, Conclusion Writing Process: Pre-writing; Draft; Revising, Editing
3	Paragraph Organization & Development: details, examples, transitions In-class Writing #1
4	From Paragraph to Essay
5	Essay Structure: Introduction, Thesis, Body, Conclusion
6 & 7	Review – Midterm In-Class Writing #2
8 & 9	Essay Writing Using Cause/Effect

10 & 11	Essay Writing Using Comparison/Contrast
12	Essay Writing Using Argumentation In-Class Writing #3
13	Exit Exam
14	Final In-class Writing
15	Conferences