

English 101 – Freshman Composition
Spring 2009 Section 003
MW 2:00 – 3:15 Morton Hall 201

Instructor:
Office: MO 103B
Office Hours:

E-mail:
Mailbox: first floor of Morton Hall
Phone Number:

Required Texts and Materials:

Miller, Gilbert H. *The McGraw-Hill Reader: Issues Across the Disciplines* 10th Ed.
Aron, Jane E. *LB Brief*. 3rd ed. New York: Pearson Longman, 2008.
A one subject notebook to be used as a reading journal

Course Description: Prerequisite: Evidence of competence on an English placement test. Introduction to college-level writing and reading. Extensive practice in analyzing and responding to texts, with emphasis on narrative and expository forms appropriate to academic writing.

Course Objectives:

This course will require a great deal of reading and writing. While our major focus will be on the writing process, we will also focus on reading comprehension and critical thinking skills. You will have the opportunity to express ideas in writing and in classroom discussion.

Course Requirements:

Definition Essay – 15 points
Analysis Essay – 15 points
Argument Essay – 20 points
Reading Journal – 15 points
Grammar Presentation – 10 points
Common Final – 15 points
Class Participation (including pop-quizzes) – 10 points

Final Grading Scale:

93-100 points – A	73-76 points – C
90-92 points – A-	70-72 points – C-
87-89 points – B+	67-69 points – D+
83-86 points – B	63-66 points – D
80-82 points – B-	60-62 points D-
77-79 points – C+	Below 60 points – F

Essays: You will be writing three formal essays for this class. For these essays, we will be focusing on content and style, along with the writing process. Workshops and scheduled conferences are vital to this process, so you must be present on these days. Failure to attend a workshop or scheduled conference with a typed, complete rough draft will negatively affect your grade for that assignment.

Deadlines: All deadlines in this class are firm. Be sure to plan wisely and save all work in at least two places. All assignments are expected to be turned in on time, in person, and at the beginning of the class period. For each day that an assignment is late, the grade for that assignment will be reduced by 3 points.

Grading Procedure: I typically take a maximum of two weeks to return essays. Regardless of how long it takes, I will always have essays returned before you are expected to turn in the next assignment. If you are absent on the day that I return an assignment, I will leave yours in the box outside my office door for pick up.

Revisions: You will have the opportunity to revise *one* of your first two essays for up to 3 extra points. In order to revise, you must meet with me by April 6th to discuss your essay. Revisions will be due on April 27th.

Reading Journal: Another portion of your grade will be based on your reading journal. You should use a one-subject notebook, and you should always write neatly. Refer to the schedule of assignments at the end of this syllabus for daily prompts. Journal entries should typically be approximately one handwritten page. You should always come to class with your journal, as I will often call on students randomly to share. You will also have the opportunity to share your journals in small groups.

Grammar Presentation: During the second week of classes, I will pass around a sign-up sheet for grammar presentations. For these presentations, you will work in groups to teach a short grammar lesson to the class. Presentations will take place throughout the semester. All students should refer to the schedule of assignments for the grammar presentation schedule, and should read the appropriate sections before coming to class.

Participation: Participation in this course is worth 10 points. I will judge participation on the following:

- ❖ Evidence of having read the required material, including performance on **pop-quizzes**
- ❖ Participation in discussion, workshops, and other class activities
- ❖ Attentiveness during class
- ❖ Coming to class prepared. This means having completed all assignments before the class period, and bringing all necessary materials. For each class meeting, you should bring the following:
 - *Patterns for College Writing*
 - *LB Brief*
 - This syllabus
 - Reading journal
 - Pen and paper for taking notes
 - Other materials as requested

Classroom Behavior: It is imperative that the classroom be an environment that lends itself to discussion and learning. My expectation is that all students will behave in a way that is respectful to everyone. Unless specifically asked, do not use laptops in the classroom. You should also not use cell phones, ipods, or other distracting objects during class time. Consistently disruptive students will be asked to leave the classroom, and will be counted absent for the day.

Attendance: Attendance in this course is mandatory. You may miss 4 classes without penalty. After that, your grade will be reduced by 5 points for each missed class, **regardless of the reason**. I recommend that you save your absences for when you really need them, as I do not make distinctions between excused and unexcused absences. Arriving to class late (or leaving early) two times will count as one absence. Extra credit will be awarded at the end of the semester to any student with perfect attendance. If you do miss class, it is **your** responsibility to find out what you have missed from another classmate. I will not respond to any email that asks what was missed in class on a particular day. In the space below, write down the names, phone numbers, and email addresses of three people near you.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Lateness: Coming to class late is disruptive and disrespectful. You should therefore be on time to every class period. Anyone who arrives to class after roll has been called will be considered late. Two late arrivals will count as an absence. This policy also applies to students leaving class before it has been dismissed.

Common Final: The department requires a common final exam in this course. The exam will be worth 15 points and will be given on Friday, May 2nd at 11:30 a.m. You **MUST** take this exam during the scheduled exam period.

Disabilities: If you have a disability and need special accommodations, you should let me know within the first week of classes. You will also need to register with Disability Services for proper documentation. The phone number for Disability Services is 910-962-7555.

Class Website / Email: You should refer to the class website often (on seaport). If you are unsure of how to access it, please see me. I will often post announcements and reminders, as well as resources for the class. Sometimes, I will send important information via email, so you should check your campus email often as well. Email is also the best way to contact me if you have questions throughout the course.

Academic Honesty: Plagiarism is unacceptable and is grounds for failure for this course. Simply put: don't do it. If you are unsure of what constitutes plagiarism, feel free to see me. You can also read the entire policy in the Code of Student Life, which can be found at the following website:
<http://www.uncw.edu/stuaff/doso/documents/Code.Of.Student.Life.pdf>

I've included an excerpt here:

I-1 ACADEMIC DISHONESTY OFFENSES

Students who violate any of the following standards will be subject to disciplinary action:

A. PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism means the appropriation, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another person's work and the unacknowledged submission or incorporation of it in one's own work. Plagiarism is doubly unethical, since it deprives the true author of his/her rightful credit and then gives that credit to someone to whom it is not due.

I-3 RESPONSIBILITY OF UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

A. GENERAL RESPONSIBILITY

It shall be the responsibility of every faculty member, student, administrator and staff member of the university community to uphold and maintain the academic standards and integrity of the university. Any member of the university community who has reasonable grounds to believe that an infraction of the Academic Honor Code has occurred has an obligation to report the alleged violation.

Tentative Schedule of Assignments

- Wed. 1/7 First day of classes – Introductions
- Mon. 1/12 Read: “Critical Thinking, Reading, and Writing” p2-28
Write: Complete “Comprehension” questions on p23 and p26.
Print Essay Assignment #1 from Seaport and bring to class
- Wed. 1/14 Read: “How to Mark a Book” p57-62
“Freewriting” p68-71
Write: Write a summary of “How to Mark a Book.” Then, in a short paragraph, respond to any aspect of the essay that you wish.
- Mon. 1/19 No Classes – Martin Luther King Day
- Wed. 1/21 Read: “Learning to Read and Write” p277-282
“The Lonely, Good Company of Books” 282-287
Write: Complete “Synthesis” question #1 p287
- Mon. 1/26 Read: “Sex Ed” p297-299
“When Bright Girls Decide That Math is ‘A Waste of Time’” p303-307
- Wed. 1/28 Rough Draft – Workshop
- Mon. 2/2 **Essay 1 Due - Definition**
- Wed. 2/4 Read: “Stone Soup” p327-334
Write: “Respond to any aspect of this essay that you wish.
Grammar Presentation 1: Parallelism, Variety and Details, and Appropriate Words p187-214
Print Essay Assignment #2 from Seaport and bring to class
- Mon. 2/9 Read: “Third Time’s the Charm” p351-359
Write: Complete “Rhetoric” questions p359
Grammar Presentation 2: Verbs – Forms, Tenses, and Mood p250-277
- Wed. 2/11 Read: “Professions for Women” p499-504
“Delusions of Grandeur” p504-507
Write: Respond to any aspect of “Professions for Women” that you wish.
Grammar Presentation 3: Verbs – Voice and Subject-Verb Agreement p277-289
- Mon. 2/16 Read: “A Modest Proposal” p548-555
Write: Complete “Comprehension” questions p554
Grammar Presentation 4: Pronouns p289-305
- Wed. 2/18 Read: “The Gangster as Tragic Hero” p563-568
“Our Mobsters, Ourselves: Why The Sopranos is Therapeutic TV” p568-576
- Mon. 2/23 **Rough Draft – Workshop**
- Wed. 2/25 Conferences
- Mon. 3/2 Conferences
- Wed. 3/4 **Essay 2 Due**

- Mon. 3/9 No Classes – Spring Break
- Wed. 3/11 No Classes – Spring Break
- Mon. 3/16 Read: “Reading and Writing Effective Arguments” p104 -133
Grammar Presentation 5: Modifiers p306-326
Print Essay Assignment #3 from Seaport and bring to class
- Wed. 3/18 Read: “Case Study for Synthesis: MySpace: Friend or Foe?” p133-144
Write: Write a one-paragraph summary for each of the three essays in this section.
Grammar Presentation 6: Comma Splices and Fused Sentences p332-339
- Mon. 3/23 **Library Instruction Day**
- Wed. 3/25 Read: “I Listen to My Parents and I Wonder What They Believe” p688-693
Write: Respond to any aspect of this essay that you wish.
Grammar Presentation 7: Mixed Sentences p339-346
- Mon. 3/30 Read: “The Divine Revolution” p700-704
“The Culture of Disbelief” p716-726
Grammar Presentation 8: Punctuation – Comma, Semicolon, and Colon p348-372
- Wed. 4/1 Read: “Natural Selection” p867-871
“Of Altruism, Heroism and Nature’s Gifts in the Face of Terror” p871-876
Write: Complete “Comprehension” questions on p870
- Mon. 4/6 Read: “Staying Human” p893-902
“Anybody Out There?” p902-907
Last Day for Revision Conferences
- Wed. 4/8 Work on Essays
- Mon. 4/13 **Rough Draft – Workshop**
- Wed. 4/15 Conferences
- Mon. 4/20 Conferences
- Wed. 4/22 Read: TBA
Write: TBA
- Mon. 4/27 Last Day of Classes
Review for Final Exam
Essay 3 Due
Revisions Due
- Fri. 5/2 **Final Exam**