

English 101 – College Reading and Writing I

Fall 2010

Section 026
Morton Hall 205
MW 3:30-4:45

Instructor: Ms. Ashley Bissette
Office: MO 103B
Office Hours: MW 2:00 – 3:00 and by appt.

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COURSE OVERVIEW

Required Texts and Materials:

- *The McGraw-Hill Reader* – Tenth Edition
- Easy Writer Handbook
- A 2 pocket folder with loose leaf notebook paper
- Microsoft Word and PowerPoint (If you do not have access, you can use [“Tealware”](#))
- A saving device such as a flash drive

Course Description:

Prerequisite: Evidence of competence on an English placement test. Introduction to the composing process through practice in analysis and rhetoric as well as narrative and expository forms appropriate to academic writing. Students also conduct research using print and online sources, correctly document sources, and write persuasively.

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. Our readings and discussions will focus on four major themes: “reading and writing in college,” “gender roles and stereotypes,” “business and economics,” and “science and technology.”

Course Requirements:

Class Participation (includes quizzes) – 10 points
Responses and In Class Writing– 10 points
Narrative Essay – 20 points
Definition Essay – 20 points
Summary and Rhetorical Analysis Essay – 20 points
Argumentative Essay – 20 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

TECHNICAL THINGS

Blackboard:

We will be using Blackboard quite a bit in this course. This is where important materials for the course will be posted. For instructions on how to log in, go to <http://www.uncw.edu/itsd/help/instructions/BlackBoardVistaLoginInstructions.html>. If at any point during the semester you have problems with Blackboard, you can receive assistance from the Technology Assistance Center. The email address is tac@uncw.edu and the phone number is 910-962-HELP (4357). If you do email the TAC, be sure to put "Blackboard" in the subject line.

WEEKLY ASSIGNMENTS

Responses:

Part of your grade will be based on periodic response papers. These responses should be typed, and should be kept in your 2 pocket folder. Prompts can be found on the schedule of assignments at the end of this syllabus. You should always come to class with your responses, as I will often call on students randomly to share. You will also have the opportunity to share your responses in small groups. Responses will be collected at the end of the semester.

In-Class Writing Assignments:

Bring your two pocket folder with loose leaf notebook paper to class each day. This will be for in-class writing assignments. These will be collected, along with the responses, at the end of the semester. If you miss an in-class writing, you should consult a classmate to find out the prompt, and complete it on your own time.

ESSAYS

You will be writing four formal essays for this class. Essays should be emailed to my campus email address as a .doc or .docx attachment. *Essays that are not turned in as a .doc or .docx attachment will be considered late until they are turned in correctly.* For these essays, we will be focusing on content and style, along with the writing process. Peer Editing 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.

The Writing Center:

I encourage all students to obtain online help from the Writing Center for their essays. Take care to make these appointments several days in advance. http://www.uncw.edu/stuaff/uls/writing_newconsultation.htm

Deadlines:

All deadlines in this class are firm. Be sure to plan wisely and save all work in at least two places. For each day that an assignment is late, the grade for that assignment will be reduced by **3 points**.

COMMUNICATION

Email / Phone:

Sometimes, I will send information via campus email, so you should check your email often as well. All students will be responsible for knowing this information. “I forgot to check my email” is not an excuse. Email is also the best way to contact me if you have questions throughout the course. While I do check my email often, students should be aware that **I usually only check email Sunday – Thursday before 6:00pm**. Therefore, it is a good idea to work on assignments ahead of time in case you have questions. My cell phone number is listed at the top of this syllabus. Students are welcome to call or text this number *in cases when email is insufficient*. **However, I do ask that students only call or text Sunday – Thursday between 10:00am and 6:00pm.**

*When using text messaging or voicemail, include your full name, course title, and section number.

*For email, include course title, section number, and a few words about your question in the subject line. Also, be sure to use proper etiquette, including a greeting such as “Dear Ms. Bisette” and concluding with a salutation such as “Sincerely, John Doe.”

Office Hours:

I will have office hours on Mondays and Wednesdays from 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. If you’d like to discuss something with me during office hours, you may either see me in person or call me on my Office Phone at 910-962-2690.

**If you are not available to contact me during office hours, you can set up an appointment with me.*

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION

Attendance:

Attendance in this course is mandatory. You may miss 3 classes without penalty. After that, your grade will be reduced by 2 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.

If you do miss class, it is **your** responsibility to find out what you have missed from another classmate—including prompts for in-class writing activities. 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. **I do not give make-up quizzes.*

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.

Participation:

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

- Evidence of having read the required material
- Participation in discussion, workshops, and other class activities
- Attentiveness during class
- Performance on occasional quizzes
- 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:
 - ✓ *The McGraw Hill Reader*
 - ✓ The Easy Writer Handbook
 - ✓ This syllabus
 - ✓ 2 pocket folder with loose leaf paper
 - ✓ Pen and paper for taking notes
 - ✓ Other materials as requested

POLICIES

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. Students must adhere to the following guidelines:

- Unless given permission for a particular assignment, do not use laptops in the classroom.
- **Turn off cell phones before entering the classroom; cell phones should remain off for the duration of the class period.** Use of cell phones (including texting, checking emails, etc.) will not be tolerated.
- Ipods/mp3 players and other distracting objects are prohibited.
- Do not work on assignments for other courses during class time.
- There should be no talking while the instructor, graduate teaching assistant, or a fellow student has the floor.
- Be open-minded and respectful to each other during discussions, peer editing, and the sharing of written work.
- Class is not over until the instructor or graduate teaching assistant dismisses it. **Students should not begin putting away their materials until this time.**

Failure to adhere to these guidelines will negatively affect your participation grade. Consistently disruptive students will be asked to leave the classroom, and will be counted absent for the day.

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.

Academic Dishonesty:

Academic Dishonesty is unacceptable and is grounds for failure for this course. All students are responsible for knowing the guidelines listed in this UNCW Academic Honor Code:

http://www.uncw.edu/policies/documents/03_100FINALHONORCODE_Aug2009.pdf

SCHEDULE OF READINGS (tentative)

Unit 1 – Reading and Writing in College

- Wed. 8/18 First Day of Classes, Introductions
- Mon. 8/23 “College Pressures” (online)
“Critical Thinking, Reading, and Writing” p2-20
Response Due: In what ways can you relate to the essay, “College Pressures”? Include at least one quote from the text in your response.
- Wed. 8/25 “Critical Thinking, Reading, and Writing” p21-28
“How to Mark a Book” p57-62
**Last Day for Drop / Add*
Response: In your own words, explain how you believe Adler would define the word, “book.” Then, explain why you agree or disagree with this definition.
- Mon. 8/30 “Academic Writing: Some Basic Do’s and Don’ts” (online)
“Freewriting” p68-71
**Visit from the Writing Center*
- Wed. 9/1 “Salvation” p693-696
[“Shooting an Elephant” \(online\)](#)
Response: Respond to any aspect of “Shooting an Elephant” that you wish. Remember to think critically and avoid telling whether or not you liked the essay. Include at least one quote from the text in your response.
- Mon. 9/6 Labor Day – No Classes
- Wed. 9/8 “Approaches to Revising a Draft”
Rough Drafts Due – Peer Editing
- Mon. 9/13 Conferences
- Wed. 9/15 Conferences
- Mon. 9/20 **Narrative Essay Due**

Unit 3 – Gender Roles and Racial Stereotypes

- Wed. 9/22 [“I Want a Wife” \(online\)](#)
[“Ain’t I a Woman” \(online\)](#)
Response: Comment on some aspect of style in “I Want a Wife.” Then explain why you think Syfers made that choice. You might consider repetition, capitalization, sentence length, etc.
- Mon. 9/27 “Sex, Lies, and Conversation” p86-92
- Wed. 9/29 [“Just Walk on By” \(online\)](#)
Response: Respond to any aspect of “Just Walk on By” that you wish. Remember to think critically and avoid telling whether or not you liked the essay. Include at least one quote from the text in your response.
- Mon. 10/4 Fall Break – No Classes

- Wed. 10/6 Rough Drafts Due – Peer Editing
- Thurs. 10/7 Last Day to Withdraw with a grade of W
- Mon. 10/11 Definition Essay Due

Unit 4 – Business and Economics

- Wed. 10/13 “Professions for Women” p499-504
 “Nickel and Dimed” p526-534
Response: Following the guidelines listed in your textbook, write a summary of "Professions for Women."
- Mon. 10/18 “A Modest Proposal” p548-554
Response: Respond to any aspect of “A Modest Proposal” that you wish. Remember to think critically and avoid telling whether or not you liked the essay. Include at least one quote from the text in your response.
- Wed. 10/20 Rough Drafts Due – Peer Editing
- Mon. 10/25 **Summary and Rhetorical Analysis Essay Due**

Unit 5 – Science and Technology

- Wed. 10/27 “Reading and Writing Effective Arguments” p105-114
- Mon. 11/1 “Case Study for Synthesis: MySpace, Friend or Foe?” p133-144
 “Natural Selection” p867-871
Response: Write your own short argument on the subject of social networking. Include ideas / information / quotes from at least two of the three essays you read for today.
- Wed. 11/3 Library Instruction Day
- Mon. 11/8 Research Day
- Wed. 11/10 “Nutcracker.com” p876-880
 “Anybody Out There?” p902-906
Response: Respond to any aspect of “Anybody Out There?” that you wish. Remember to think critically and avoid telling whether or not you liked the essay. Include at least one quote from the text in your response.
- Mon. 11/15 Film Clips – *Modern Times*
- Wed. 11/17 Conferences
- Mon. 11/22 Conferences
- Wed. 11/24 Thanksgiving Break – No Classes
- Mon. 11/29 Rough Drafts Due – Peer Editing
Responses and In-Class Writings Due
- Wed. 12/1 Work on essays
- Fri. 12/3 **Argumentative Essay Due**