

English 101 ⁴⁰
English Composition

Course Description and Syllabus

Time. M 7:50-9:55
Instructor: Dr. Shapiro
Internet: mshap61933@aol.com

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

English 101 is designed to improve students' college-level writing skills. Students will learn the basic argumentative essay format, develop thesis statements, and argue through to conclusions. Students will revise and edit essays, improve style and employ various rhetorical modes such as description, narration, persuasion and exposition. We will also pay close attention to grammar, spelling and mechanics as necessary.

TEXTS:

Skwire and Skwire *Writing With a Thesis*
Kirsznar & Mandell *The Roll Handbook*

ASSESSMENT:

Grades will be based on two short (3-5 page) and one longer (6-10 page) essays, including revisions. These will count for 80% of the final grade, and the remaining 20% is based on participation. Participation includes engaging in class exercises and discussions, turning in assignments on time and attending class regularly.

OUTCOMES:

By the end of the class, the student should be able to:

- Identify and write persuasive essays in various rhetorical modes that may include: description, narration, exposition, definition, comparison and contrast, classification, argumentation
- Construct and hone a thesis statement
- Logically argue a thesis statement using examples
- Identify and correct logical errors
- Write effective introductions and conclusions
- Identify and correct common errors of style, grammar and mechanics
- Use clear and specific details to maintain interest
- Effectively use simple and complex sentence structures

English 101
Introduction to Expository Writing
Syllabus

Week 1

- 10/5 Introduction
Basic writing problems and solutions
Grammar review - parts of speech, basic sentences
- 10/7 Discussion & exercises:
Thesis statements
The process of "Definition."
Brainstorming on possible paper topics

Week 2

- 10/12 Paper #1 Due: 1st **Draft**
Style discussion: "**emphatic sentences.**"
Discussion on the process of revision
Peer editing
- 10/14 **Paper #1** Due: Final **Draft**
In class revision exercise
Concise sentences

Week 3

- 10/19 Assign Paper #2: Comparison and **Contrast**
Discussion: Comparison and Contrast
Discussion: Effective use of emotion and logic
- 10/21 **Paper #1** Due: Revised Final
Assign Paper #2: **Comparison** and Contrast
Discussion of sample **essay**
Structural considerations
Critical Thinking

Week 4

10/26 In-class work on paper #2

Finding connections

Mechanics Lesson: punctuation

10/28 Paper #2 Due: **1st** Draft

Peer Editing

In class revision

Sentence-level revision: conciseness, variation, parallelism.

Paper Formatting

Week 5

11/2 Paper #2 Due: **2nd** Draft

Peer Editing

Discussion of sample essay

11/4 Writing to maintain interest

in-class **revision work**

Week 6

11/9 Paper #2 Due: Final Draft

11/11 No Class - **Veteran's Day**

Week 7

11/16 Assign Paper #3

In-class pre writing

11/18 Planning and outlining

Week 8

11/23 Paper #3 Due: First Draft

Peer Editing

11/25 No Class - **Thanksgiving**

Week 9

11/30 In-class revision workshop

12/2 Paper #3 Due: **2nd** Draft

Peer Editing

Week 10

12/7 Paper #3 **3rd** draft
In-class revision/tutorial

12/9 TBA

Week 11

12/14 Paper #3 **4th** draft

12/16 Paper #3 Final Draft