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English 10250: Expository Writing
Winter, 2000

Chaminade University of Honolulu
Off Campus Program: Winter, 200
T/TH 6:50-8:45pm
Ft. Shafter
Instructor: Mary McCarrick
Phone: 672-5088
Email: mmccarrick@yahoo.com

Course description and Goals:

This course is designed to provide students with practice in the basic types of academic writing – summarizing, analyzing, synthesizing, criticizing readings and preparing research papers. The emphasis is on logical thinking and research. Students also gain practice in revising and editing for clarity, organization, and correct use of standard English.

The theme of this class is ISMS – as in racism, sexism, heterosexism, classism, feminism, and culturism. Your projects and readings will be heavily based on these topics, as will class discussions.

Required Textbooks:

Geshgarian, Gary. *The Contemporary Reader*. 6th ed. New York: Longman, 1999.
Hairston, Maxine, John Ruszkiewicz, and Christy Friend. *The Scott, Foresman Handbook for Writers*. 5th ed. New York: Longman, 1999.

Other Suggested Purchases:

Two - 3.5" HD Formatted diskettes. One notebook suitable for research journal writing. *American Heritage Dictionary & Roget's Thesaurus* are optional, but strongly recommended.

I am also urging students in this class to invest \$15 in the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, 5th edition. You will need precise MLA formatting in this class and for a quiz, and the handbooks which include MLA have been found to contain errors or insufficient information for the depth we will go into MLA. I will expect you to learn the precise format and you will be responsible for the correct citation and documentation styles as found in the MLA Handbook.

Attendance:

Your participation and attendance in class are vital to developing your own writing strategies and working with your classmates who will make up our writing community. Since there will be much discussion and writing practice, your regular participation is required. **I give you two absences with no penalty. After that, your final grade is lowered one full grade for each subsequent absence. Exceptions to this rule will be given for deployment and military work situations.** It is also important to note that I do not distinguish between excused and unexcused absences. I also do not give private lectures to fill you in on what you missed. Find a study buddy or get with your peer editor to find out what you missed, and

follow your syllabus for due dates and assignments.

Participation:

You will work quite a bit with both your classmates and me, responding to readings, writing informally in class, providing feedback, and discussing your own writing with others. Your consistent and conscientious participation in these activities is required and will effect your final grade.

Final grade:

Final breakdown of grade will be as follows:

Argumentative/Persuasive Paper - 20%
I-Search Project - 30%
MLA Quiz - 15%
Library/Research Quiz - 10%
Reading/Lecture Quiz - 10%
Homework - 15%

Grading Scale

Grading scale is as follows:

100-90% = A
89-80% = B
79-70% = C
69-60% = D
59% and below = F

Preparation of Papers:

All papers must be typed or computer generated, double-spaced, with 1" margins. See proofreading guide for helpful tips. Papers should have your name, course and location, my name, and date in the upper left corner of first page. Ex: Jane Smith

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Always title your paper! There is no need for a title page, however. Beginning with the second page, your name and page number should appear in the upper right-hand corner.

Ex: Smith -2-

Make sure print is dark, as light papers will be returned without grades and will have to be resubmitted with legible print.

Late Papers

All papers are due at the beginning of class on the due dates listed under **Assignments**. Late work **will not be accepted**. There are **NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS RULE!** However, should you foresee a problem, please submit to me *in writing* a request for extension *at least one week in advance of the paper due date*. Under ~~no circumstances~~ will missing class excuse you from turning in an essay or assignment.

Plagiarism:

The American Heritage Dictionary defines plagiarism as the act of using and passing off as one's own the ideas or writings of another. For writers and scholars, plagiarism is dishonest, dishonorable, and very, very serious. Disciplinary action will be taken against anyone found stealing another writer's words or thoughts. I will discuss plagiarism and ways to properly cite author's works in your

**ENG 10250
Schedule of Assignments
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January 11	Hand out syllabus, discuss I-Search project
January 13	Discussion: What does Writing Involve? Thesis Statements, 5 paragraph review, outlines, frags, ro, cs. READING: Scott Foresman pp. 2-19; 54-65; 500-511 HOMEWORK: By midnight Sunday, I would like you to email me and discuss three possible topics for an I-Search project. Keep in mind the ISMs topics!
January 18	Discuss MLA Documentation Style Assign MLA exercise
January 20	Discuss Sexism READING: Contemporary Reader essays on sexism: "Burning Desire to Be Slimmer is a Slow Suicide" pp. 51 "Sexism and Today's Single Minded Sitcoms" pp. 151 "Hostages to Sexism" pp. 209 "The Masculine Mystique: An Interview with Sylvester Stallone" pp. 218 Heroine Scott Foresman: pp. 93-119 Writing Responsibly & Reading and Thinking Critically
January 25	**MLA Exercises Due!** READING: The following essays from The Contemporary Reader on racism "The Problem with Black TV" pp. 168 "The Revolt of the Black Borgeoisie" pp. 311 "Race is Over" pp. 550 "Redesigning Pocahontas" pp. 232 Scott Foresman pp. 577-675 Research Projects

own texts throughout the semester. Should you have questions regarding proper usage of citations within your papers, consult the MLA Handbook or see me.

Grading of Papers:

When you turn in a paper to me, you should receive it back within one week. In the case of several errors, I will note these errors on the first page or two, and after that it will be YOUR responsibility to look for these errors throughout the rest of the paper. A letter grade will be assigned to the paper. You may submit a revision of the ARGUMENT/PERSUASION paper – but not the I-Search. The revision must follow the rules for revision. Always turn your 1st draft in to me when you submit a 2nd draft. In addition, all new material written in revision must be highlighted. **Remember to always bring copies of your papers to class for workshop, and keep an extra copy on hand should your instructor misplace your paper (believe me, it could happen)!** Also, please note that you **MUST** have a copy of your first draft, completed, for workshop, in order to turn in a copy of the second draft for a grade.

	<p>Scott Foresman pp. 577-675 Research Projects</p>
January 27	<p>Discuss summary vs. critical summary READING: Scott Foresman pp. 190-199 transitions; 200-226 Language HOMEWORK: One summary and one critical summary of an article TBA emailed by Sunday midnight</p>
February 1	<p>READING: From Contemporary Reader on culturalism “TV Talk Shows: Freak Parades” pp. 157 “Cultural Baggage” pp. 344 “What’s So American About English?” pp. 354 “Oh, Those Family Values” pp. 409 “Single Mothers: A Menace to Society?” pp. 431</p>
February 3	<p>Assign Library Quiz Discuss Persuasion/Argument Call to Action Assignment READING: Scott Foresman pp. 275-305 Stylish Sentences</p>
February 8	<p>Hamilton Library</p>
February 10	<p>Discuss Persuasion/Argument Fallacies Assign Argument/Persuasion Paper READING: Contemporary Reader on feminism “Heroine Worship: The age of the Female Icon” pp. 271 “Xena: She’s Big, Tall, Strong – and popular” pp. 300 “Silencing of the Feminine” pp. 246 “Women on the Big Screen” pp. 202</p>
February 15	<p>READING: Scott Foresman pp. 353-365 Subject verb agreement; pp. 366-382 Verb tense; Pronoun reference & agreement pp. 401-416</p>
February 17	<p>Library Quiz due via email by midnight</p>

	READING: Contemporary Reader on heterosexism “Let Gays Marry” pp. 445 “Leave Marriage Alone” pp. 448 selected readings TBA
February 22	Argument/Persuasion paper due READING: Scott Foresman pp. 512-538 commas, semi colons
February 24	READING: Scott Foresman pp. 539-576 punctuation problems, italics, hyphens, caps
February 29	Discuss I-Search
March 2	CONFERENCES
March 4	CONFERENCES
March 7	I-SEARCH
March 9	I SEARCH FINISHING TOUCHES
March 14	I SEARCH DUE

This is a tentative schedule only, and may be adjusted at the discretion of the instructor.