

English 090, Introduction to College Reading and Writing
Fall 2011

Time and Days:

T/TH: 2-3:55
SLA: 4-4:25

Instructor: Mr. Vande Zande
Office: S049
Office Phone: (989) 686-9538
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Office Hours:

Required Texts: No Required Text

Required Materials: One notebook
USB/Flash Drive/Thumb Drive

Course Description:

This course was designed to get you ready for the challenges of college-level writing. The work in this course will introduce you to strategies that will help you write successful academic papers. The kind of writing we will be doing is concerned with trying to express ideas to a specific audience; meeting the needs of your reading audience can be challenging and frustrating, but this course is designed to give you the extra time and attention you will need. By the time you leave this course, you will be very familiar with the writing process. When you work with a writing process, you don't simply write your papers the night before they are due. Instead, you spend time brainstorming for a topic, free-writing about that topic, writing and rewriting the paper, receiving feedback from your peers, rewriting based on the feedback, receiving comments from the instructor, rewriting based on those comments, and finally editing and proofreading before turning the paper in. Having a writing process really gives you the chance to write the best papers possible. When you leave this course with a better understanding of your own individual writing process, you will be much more likely to be successful in ENG 111 and other courses that require writing. At the very least, I guarantee that you will leave this course a stronger writer than when you came in.

Structured Learning Assistance:

Our class is fortunate to have the added assistance of an SLA Leader. An SLA Leader is a person with a degree who has already done well in this or a similar course and is here to help you be successful in this course. Our SLA Leader will help us in class by being available for questions. The SLA Leader will also help us outside of class by making workshops available after class. You must attend the workshop whenever your grade in the course is a C+ or below, but you are welcome to attend the workshops whenever you'd like. We will take some time right now to introduce your SLA Leader, talk about the SLA attendance policy, and talk about the SLA behavior policy.

Grading:

There are 375 points available in this course. Your essays will be evaluated by their show of organization, logic, development, introductions and conclusions, thesis, and grammar and mechanics. The 375 points available break down as follows.

Paper #1:	500 words	Chinese Zodiac	50 pts
Paper #2:	500 words	Influential Person	75 pts
Paper #3:	650 words	Experience vs. Expectation	100 pts
Paper #4:	650 words	Blue Collar Review	100 pts
Final Exam:	500 words		50 pts

* - Note, the word requirements for the papers are minimums. Your paper is not necessarily done just because you hit 500 or 650 words. I encourage you to go beyond the minimum.

Your grade will be determined by the percentage of the points you earn.

A= 95% and above

A-= 90% to 94%

B+= 87% to 89%

B= 83% to 86%

B-= 80% to 82%

C+= 77% to 79%

C= 73% to 76%

C-= 70% to 72%

D+= 67% to 69%

D= 63% to 66%

E= 62% and below.

A late paper will be penalized 10 points for each day it is late.

All Final drafts of essays will be typed, double spaced

Benefits of this course:

I know this course sounds like a lot of work, but I know you will be a better writer and thinker after it is through. Don't forget, I try to give you considerable time in class to work on your essays, too. Writing requires a process -- it takes time. The nature of this course requires you to put time in on your essays. This course will require you to start papers early, work with the opinions of others, revise frequently and thoroughly, and evaluate your own work. You will also develop good college-level reading habits. These are all habits of good writers and readers -- especially good academic writers and readers. This course is an investment in your future.

Instructor Initiated Drop for Lack of Attendance

Your English Division instructor will drop you from this course if you miss, for any reason, in excess of 2/15 of your classes for this course. For this particular course this semester (or term) that means in excess of 4 class periods. This is an English Division policy.

Also, anyone who misses the first two days without contacting me or three days in a row without contacting me will be dropped.

Not attending the course, however, does not guarantee that I will drop you. If you wish to drop the course, you must do so on your own through My Delta or the Registrar's Office.

Disabilities

If you have a documented disability which affects your academic performance, and need an academic accommodation, please contact the Office of Disability Services in D102. The telephone number is 686-9330. Mike Cooper, Disability Services Director, D-WING, D102, 989-686-9322.

Integrity of Academic Work (From the Delta College Catalog)

I. Statement of Values

The principles of truth and honesty are fundamental to a community of learners. All members of the Delta College Community are expected to honor these principles and are responsible for maintaining the integrity of academic work at the College.

Plagiarism or any misrepresentation of work, unsanctioned collaboration, use of prohibited materials, and participation in any form of dishonesty all constitute violation of this policy.

Violations of this policy will result in the actions and consequences specified within this policy.

II. Faculty determine standards of integrity for academic coursework.

Examples of academic dishonesty that would constitute violations of this policy include, but are not limited to, the following:

- A. Plagiarism*
- B. Cheating on tests, quizzes, or any assignments
- C. Fabrication
- D. Aiding and abetting dishonesty
- E. Falsification of records and official documents

*Plagiarism is defined as, "the false assumption of authorship; the wrongful act of taking the product of another person's mind and presenting it as one's own." As developed by Alexander Lindey in "Plagiarism and Originality" (N.Y.: Harper, 1952)

Other Student Responsibilities:

All cell phones and electronic devices must be shut off or set to vibration before class begins. ID all calls that you receive, and only answer those calls that **MUST** be answered...and please leave the room to do so. Do **NOT** answer calls while in the classroom.

I have very low tolerance for disruptive behavior (side conversations not related to the course, sleeping, speaking out when others are trying to speak, going to websites not related to course work, etc). If you're disruptive, I'll simply ask you to leave. When I ask you to leave, don't try to debate or bargain with me; simply pack up your things and leave. I hate for this to ever happen, but don't test me on this policy either.

Tutors:

The English Division has a Writing Center staffed with Writing Consultants. We'll talk more about it as the semester progresses.

Me:

Simply stated, I'm a pretty decent guy to have as an instructor. I really want you to be successful in this course. Bear in mind, I also take writing very seriously, and I'm going to ask you to rework your papers quite a bit. I'm also a good listener, and I want to hear from you when you're having trouble in this course, be it from the material or factors outside of class. Always talk to me when you have questions. If you're ever thinking of dropping the course, talk to me first.

Tentative Schedule of Assignments and Events

(I reserve the right to change this schedule to meet the needs of this course.)

Week 1- Introduction to the course. Introduction to Essay #1

Week 2- In-class writing

Week 3- In-class writing

Week 4- Essay #1 due for comments/Introduction to Essay #2/Conferences

Week 5- Conferences/In-class writing

Week 6- Essay #1 due/In-class writing

Week 7- In-class writing

Week 8- In-class writing/Essay #2 due for comments/Introduction to Essay #3

Week 9- Conferences

Week 10- In-class writing/**Essay #2 due**

Week 11- In-class writing

Week 12- In-class writing/Essay #3 due for comments

Week 13- Introduction to Essay #4/In-class writing

Week 14- In-class writing/**Essay #3 due**

Week 15- In-class writing

Week 16- Final Exam/Essay #4 due