

DELTA COLLEGE
ENGLISH 111A: WRITING METHODS - COLLEGE COMPOSITION
WN-140 5 credit hours

M-W, 11:30-1:55 p.m. Room S264 (11:30a.m.-12:45 p.m.)

Monday LAB , 1 p.m.-1:55 p.m , K-111; Wednesday LAB, 1-1:55 p.m. M-100

Instructor: Crystal McMorris
S-54

Office Hours: M-W 2:30-3:30 p.m.,

E-mail: crystalmcmorris@delta.edu

Class blog: english111a.wordpress.com/

COURSE DESCRIPTION OF ENGLISH 111 (from the Delta College Catalogue)

Develops fluent, effective, and confident writers. Practices the process of composing: generating ideas, shaping and evaluating their writing. Uses reading and language awareness to further the development of their writing.

COURSE OUTCOMES AND OBJECTIVES

OUTCOME: Write a formal college composition for a specific audience and purpose.

Objectives:

1. Use writing processes to generate and organize ideas, including where appropriate, revision.
2. Include clear articulation of the important ideas.
3. Select, organize, and present details to support a main idea.
4. Demonstrate the ability to move between generalization and detail.
5. Write effective introductions and conclusions.
6. Employ the appropriate writing conventions.

OUTCOME: Use writing tasks that involve both reading and writing.

Objectives:

1. Demonstrate the ability to derive meaning from a piece of reading.
2. Demonstrate the ability to distinguish between the meaning one makes of a text and the author's intended meaning.
3. Paraphrase and summarize accurately.
4. Develop critical thinking skills.
5. Understand the relationship among language, knowledge, and power.

OUTCOME: Assess progress revealed in a body of work.

Objective: Assess the progress revealed in a body of work.

MY PROMISE

I respect each of you as an individual and a learner. It is my goal to meet your learning needs. Please call, e-mail or visit me in my office if you have a concern or need additional help with coursework.

REQUIRED TEXTS and MATERIALS

Pocket Style Manual 2009, MLA Update Ed. By Diana Hacker. St Martins ISBN 0-312-59324-4

Norton Sampler, Cooley. ISBN 0-393-92935-3 (Available in bookstore Jan. 15).

Coach, by Michael Lewis. ISBN 0-393-33113-X

Three-ring binder, dividers, and loose-leaf paper

2-pocket folder for turning in work

A flash-drive or disc to save work in progress

Access to computer/Internet/printer outside class

APPROACH

We will work as a community of readers, writers and learners in what I hope will be a dynamic semester of discovery. At the end of this class, you will assemble a portfolio of your work and write an essay reflecting on your growth, so be sure to save all drafts, etc.

GRADES

Participation and homework is worth 25 percent of you grade. This includes in-class activities, assigned readings, quick-writes, quizzes, workshops, blog postings, etc.

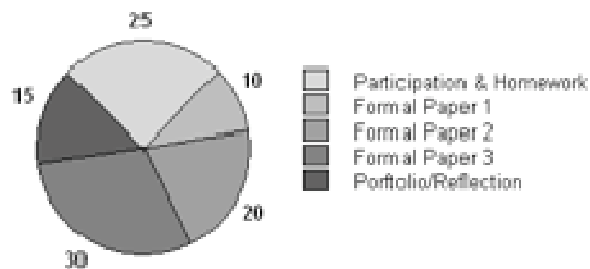
Formal Paper 1, "This I Believe" essay, will be worth 10 percent of your grade.

Formal Paper 2 "Researched Persuasive Letter," will be worth 20 percent of your grade.

Formal Paper 3, "Cause and Effect Investigation" will be worth 30 percent of your grade.

Your portfolio and reflective essay will be worth 15 percent of your grade.

Grade Breakdown



To pass this course you need a C or better.

A- 94-100 A- = 90-93 % B+ = 87-89% B = 84-86% B- = 80-83%
C+ = 77-79% C = 74-76 % C- = 70-73%
D+ = 67-69% D = 64-66% D- = 60-63 % F = 0-59%

ATTENDENCE

Please be present for each class period, as it is difficult to impossible to make up for missed instruction, peer groups, quizzes, etc. If, for any reason, you miss more than two classes OR THE EQUIVALENT, the English Division requires you to be dropped from the class. Showing up more than 5 minutes late or leaving more than 5 minutes early counts as a half-absence.

CLASSROOM CONDUCT

- While in class, remain on task and distraction-free. A first offense will net you a warning; further offenses may result in your being asked to leave for the evening.
- Bring your textbooks, course work, and other materials to class every day.
- Turn off your cell phone, mp3 player, drink blender, radar detector, etc. before coming to class.
- Lab computers are learning tools. Do not use them for checking email, instant messaging, web surfing, game playing, etc. except during break times.
- Food and drink is allowed in the classroom but not in the computer labs.
- Do not bring guests with you to class.

BLOG

The web site: <http://english111a.wordpress.com/> will serve as a bulletin board of sorts for this class. Check for updates, reminders, schedules, etc. You'll also regularly post short writings on the blog. Create your user name with your first and last name and, in postings, use standard spelling, punctuation, etc.

CANCELATION

If class is cancelled, I will send an email to your Delta account with instructions. If weather is predicted to become treacherous, please check your e-mail, even if the entire college is not shut down.

ORGANIZATION

Save all handouts, activities, notes, process work, and papers and organize them in your binder.

FORMAT

All drafts must be typed in MLA format in 12-point font. In-class work may be hand-written.

PLAGIARISM/ ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Plagiarism will result in failing the assignment and possibly the course. This includes improperly citing sources, not marking borrowed material as such, purchasing work from a term paper mill, and turning in work written for a previous course. Other forms of cheating will not be tolerated. For more information, visit <http://www.delta.edu/english/plagiarism.html>.

DISABILITY

If you have a documented disability which affects your academic performance, and need accommodation, contact the Office of Disability Services. Visit D-102 or by call 686-9330.

NON-DISCRIMINATION

Delta College does not discriminate in employment, education, public accommodation, or public service on the basis of religion, race, color, national origin, age, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, height, weight, arrest record, veteran status, disability, or other classification as required by applicable U.S. federal, state, and local law.

TENTATIVE AGENDA I will update the agenda (and post updates on the class blog) regularly. Here's a rough idea of what to expect. (Further details coming once our Norton Samplers arrive.)

Week One: 1/11/10 Class overview; ice-breakers, note-taking and text-marking; Hacker, p. 2-3, "Tighten Wordy Sentences;" 3-5, "Prefer Active Verbs." Blog 1: Haiku

Homework: Read Coach, p. 1-33; Hacker: "Parallelism

1/13/10 Reading quiz + discussion; Narrative writing, description

Homework: Read Coach, p. 34-52, Hacker "Needed Words", 6-9.

Week Two: 1/18/10 Reading quiz + discussion; Narrative writing, dialogue. Blog 2

Homework: Read Coach, p. 53-92; Read Hacker, "Eliminate Confusing Shifts," 9-11.

1/20/10 Reading quiz + discussion, character sketch assignment.

Homework: Complete character sketch.

Week Three: 1/25/10 Peer group discussion, character sketch. Hacker, "Find an appropriate voice." Blog 3.

Homework: Blog evaluation.

1/27/10 **Essay 1: This I Believe** assignment explained.

Homework: Write rough draft of Essay 1.

Week Four: 2/1/10 **Rough draft of Essay 1 due.** Peer workshop. MLA style. Revision lab.

2/3/10 INDIVIDUAL CONFERENCES

Week Five 2/8-10 **Final draft of Essay 1 due.** 2/10/10

Week Six 2/15-17

Week Seven 2/22-24 **Essay 2:** Persuasive, researched letter assignment explained.

Week Eight 3/1-3 **Essay 2 Rough Draft due.** Peer workshop, revision lab, mini-conference.

3/8/10 - SPRING BREAK

Week Nine 3/15/10 **Final draft of Essay 2** (letter) due (2 copies), with envelope for mailing.

Essay 3, Investigative report- cause and effect - assignment explained.

Week Ten 3/22/10 **Week Eleven** 3/29/10 Library research instruction.

Week Eleven, 3/29/10 Source list, outline and plan for Essay 3 due (mini-conferences).

Week Eleven 4/5/10 **Rough drafts of Essay 3 due;** peer workshop, revision lab. Turn in.

Week Thirteen 4/12/10. Drafts returned.

Week Fourteen 4/19/10 **Final drafts of Essay 3 due**, with presentation.

Week Fifteen 4/26/10 Portfolio and reflective essay completed in class.