

DELTA COLLEGE

COURSE SYLLABUS

for

ENGL 111A: Writing Methods/College Composition 1

Instructor Contact & Course Information

Semester: Fall 2009

Section: FA175

Instructor: Sol Smith, MFA, ABD

Email Address: solsmith@delta.edu

Office: S 044

Phone Number(s): 686-9024

Office Hours: T/Th 9:30-10 (Riker Center); 1:00-3:00pm; by appointment

Course Days/Times: TTh 3:00pm-5:25pm

Classroom: S058

Prerequisites

READING LEVEL 5 and WRITING LEVEL 3. 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. Of the five credits earned in this course, three will transfer to universities and partially fulfill the college's English composition requirement. Although the other two hours do not transfer, they do provide a solid background necessary toward success in all college courses. Credit may be earned in only ENG 111 or ENG 111A, or ENG 111H. (75-0)

The Vocational Rehabilitation Act (1973)

The Americans with Disabilities Act (1990)

These acts protect us against discrimination. Therefore, if you require reasonable accommodations because of a physical, mental, or learning disability, notify the instructor of this course as soon as possible and preferably before the 7th hour of class.

Additionally, students with disabilities who believe that they need accommodations in this course are encouraged to contact the Office of Disability Services in D102. The telephone number is 686-9330.

EEOC Statement: Delta College is committed to the principle of equal opportunity in education and employment. The college does not discriminate against individuals on the basis of race, color, gender, religion, disability, age, veteran status, national origin, sexual orientation, or ethnicity in the administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, employment policies, scholarship and loan programs, or other college administered programs and activities.

Outcomes and Objectives for: ENG 111A - Writing Methods/College Composition I

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

Outcome 1: Write a formal college composition for a specific audience and purpose.

Objectives:

- A. Use writing processes to generate and organize ideas, including where appropriate, revision.
- B. Include a clear articulate of the important ideas.
- C. Select, organize, and present details to support a main idea.
- D. Demonstrate the ability to move between generalization and detail.
- E. Write effective introductions and conclusions.
- F. Employ the appropriate writing conventions.

Outcome 2: Use writing tasks that involve both reading and writing.

Objectives:

- A. Demonstrate the ability to derive meaning from a piece of reading.
- B. Demonstrate the ability to distinguish between the meaning one makes of a text and the author's intended meaning.
- C. Paraphrase and summarize accurately
- D. Develop critical thinking skills.
- E. Understand the relationship among language, knowledge and power.

Outcome 3: Assess progress

Objectives:

- A. Assess the progress revealed in a body of work.

Academic Integrity

I upholds the core values of learning: honesty, respect, fairness, and accountability. I promote the importance of personal and academic honesty. I embrace the belief that all learners—students, faculty, staff, and administrators—will produce their own work and must give appropriate credit to the work of others. No fabrication of sources, cheating, or unauthorized collaboration is permitted on any.

Nothing in this section shall be interpreted to preclude a professor or academic unit from issuing guidelines giving examples of plagiarism or other forms of academic dishonesty and academic misconduct which are pertinent to the subject matter of the class.

Possible consequences for academic dishonesty to be determined by the professor, or the professor and Academic Dean, or the professor and Chief Student Services Officer can include but are not limited to

1. Having additional course requirement imposed
2. Receiving a grade of zero or "F" for an exam or assignment
3. Receiving a grade of "F" for the course
4. Being withdrawn from the course or program
5. Being expelled from the college

Required Materials:

Petracca, Michael F. "Common Culture." 6th edition. Prentice Hall.
ISBN: 0205645771

Attendance Policy:

Attendance to all classes is expected. Should you anticipate an absence, please notify the instructor in advance. An excessive number of absences will prohibit the successful completion of this course. If you should miss a class, it is the student's responsibility to obtain lecture notes and assignments from a classmate. It is highly recommended that you miss no more than **one week of class** in the semester, since missing class and not turning in work are the two main reasons for students doing poorly in this class, and because you have a responsibility to your classroom community to participate in it.

Make-Up Work:

You are responsible for all work done in class and for keeping up with assignments announced in your absence.

Grading Policy

Your final grade will be determined by the grade level you complete. Each paper will be marked "**ACCEPTED**," "**EDIT**," "**REVISE**," or "**REWRITE**." (You may submit only one paper at a time; when one is **ACCEPTED**, you may submit the next one.) In addition, compliance with your instructor's point system for deadlines and activities may determine your eligibility for a grade of "B" or "A."

ACCEPTED: the paper fulfills the objectives of the assignment and is relatively free of grammatical, spelling, and punctuation errors.

EDIT: the paper fulfills the objectives of the assignment but contains errors. **You must avoid similar errors in subsequent papers in order to progress in the course.**

REVISE: the paper needs improvement in style, organization, or development.

REWRITE: the paper does not fulfill the objectives of the assignment.

When every essay is labeled "accepted," and with an acceptable portfolio, you have achieved a "C" in the course. With proper attendance, daily work, and participation, the instructor will decide that you are eligible to earn a "B" grade by writing the "B Paper." With all of the above, you are eligible for an "A" by completing the "A Paper" and turning in an "Outstanding" portfolio. The final exam is a meaningful part of class work and is required to pass the course.

All essay assignments are expected to present Standard English grammar, spelling, punctuation, and adhere to assigned format requirements. They are to be written in 12-point Times New Roman font with proper margins

Components of the Course

- Journals—periodically checked for participation and completion.
- A short, introductory paper
- Multiple drafts of four papers
 - A Narrative Essay dealing with Advertising.
 - A Description Essay about Music
 - A Compare/Contrast Essay about Television and Film
 - An Argumentative essay about Social Change
- Student responses to classmates' papers at different stages of the writing process (peer reviews)
- In-Class Writing Assignments and Exercises

English 111A—Sol Smith--Policy Statement & Syllabus

- Daily Self-evaluation/reflection writing
- Various in-class and at-home writing responses to readings from the text or other outside reading selections
- Class debate exercises
- Audio and Visual rhetoric exercises
- A Comprehensive Portfolio
- Optional “A” and “B” Essays
- A reflective final

Turnitin.com

Delta College subscribes to Turnitin.com which supports faculty in their quest to uphold academic integrity. Student coursework may be submitted to the scrutiny of the Turnitin software. Please note that these submissions of assignments to Turnitin do not necessarily constitute an accusation or suspicion of plagiarism on the student’s part.

Grading Scale:

The evaluation of a student’s course progress and final grade is based upon the degree of mastery and of course outcomes.

To earn an “A” the student will:

- Have every essay written or rewritten to “acceptable” level
- Have no attendance problems
- Have 90% or more of daily work and journals turned in
- Participate in class
- Write and turn in an acceptable “A” Essay at the end of the semester
- Turn in an outstanding portfolio
- Satisfy the comprehensive final

To earn a “B” the student will:

- Have every essay written or rewritten to “acceptable” level
- Have good attendance, missing no more than about a week’s worth of class
- Have 80% or more of daily work and journals turned in
- Participate in class
- Write and turn in an acceptable “B” Essay at the end of the semester
- Turn in an acceptable portfolio
- Satisfy the comprehensive final

To earn a “C” the student will:

- Have every essay written or rewritten to “acceptable” level
- Not have missed classes excessively
- Have 70% or more of daily work and journals turned in
- Participate in class
- Turn in an acceptable portfolio
- Satisfy the comprehensive final

To earn a “D” the student will have one or more of the following:

- Have most essays written or rewritten to “acceptable” level
- Missed excessive classes
- Not have 70% of daily work turned in
- Not be an active participant in class
- Have a poor or no portfolio

Below these achievements an “F” is received.

Classroom Respect:

As college students you are expected to behave in a courteous and respectful manner toward your instructor and fellow students at all times. You should avoid sleeping during class, reading non-relevant material in class, talking or interrupting while others have the floor, acting belligerently or in a belittling manner, openly challenging the instructor's authority, or otherwise displaying disruptive behavior. Verbal harassment of instructors or fellow students orally or through email will not be tolerated.

Since this class is held in a computer classroom, it will be tempting from time to time to check/send email, surf the Web, or any other computer activity not related to our class. Unless you are completing a computer assignment that is given by the instructor to be completed during the course of the class period, any extraneous computer activity will NOT be tolerated and you may be asked to leave the class and/or receive a zero for that assignment. It is fine to check email before or after class, but once I begin class, you should refrain from any email or Internet activity that does not directly involve what we are working on for the course.

NOTE: All beepers, cellular phones, or any other electronic device which may prove disruptive to the classroom learning environment MUST be turned off prior to your entrance in the classroom. Once class has begun, students are not to send or receive text messages, phone calls, or engage in any other disruption. Should this occur, the student may be asked to leave class and may be counted absent for that day.

Changes to Assignment Schedule and Course Policies:

The instructor reserves the right to update the course policies, assignments, and schedule at any time. Changes may be made throughout the semester. It is the student's responsibility to keep up with changes as they are announced.
