



Semester and Year – Summer 2010-Session One
CRN (Course Reference Number), Course Prefix, Number and Title – CRN 30014: ENGL 1301 Composition 1
Turnitin.com ID: 3304799 / password: Patterns
Course Meeting Days, Times and Location (Campus, Building, & Room) – 8:00 am – 9:55 am M T W Th F WCJC/UH Sugar Land Complex room 275
Instructor’s Name - D. Glen Smith
Instructor’s Telephone number(s) – dna Instructor’s email address – smithd@wcjc.edu Instructor’s webpage – davidglensmith.com/wcjc
Instructor’s Office Hours and Office Location – by appointment, M-F noon-1:00 pm
Course Catalog Description – Study of English to improve students’ ability to think objectively and to communicate effectively. Stress on clarity and effectiveness in the sentence, paragraph, and whole composition. The composition is chiefly expository and assigned material is designed to increase students’ ability to read objectively, to develop skills in critical analysis, and to improve style. Prerequisites: THEA reading and writing requirements met. [Offered Fall, Spring, and Summer semesters. Also offered as an Internet course.]
Instructor’s Grading System – A: 90 -100 B: 80 – 89 C: 70 – 79 D: 60 – 69 F: 0 - 59
Instructor’s Attendance Policy – Due to the nature of the course and the in-class exercises, four (4) absences result in a failing grade in the course. No exceptions. Emergency situations do happen, but keep in mind: an absence is an absence regardless if the situation is medical or legal emergency. Budget your time accordingly. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students are responsible for filling out paperwork to drop course in order to avoid failing grade. • Students are responsible for signing the daily roll sheet at the beginning of each class. • If you forget to sign the form you are considered absent. • Physician appointments, court dates, and job interviews should not be set during class time. • If you make an appointment within the timeframe of a course period, don’t come to class for that day. • If you leave early, for any reason, you will be considered absent.
Last day to “Drop” course with grade of “W” – April 16, 2010

** Any student with a disability or other special circumstance requiring academic accommodations or other consideration in order to successfully complete the requirements of this course should identify himself or herself individually to the instructor to discuss the matter in a private and confidential manner.*

*** Misconduct for which discipline may be administered at WCJC includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, or knowingly furnishing false information to the college (plagiarism and cheating refer to the use of unauthorized books, notes, or otherwise securing help in a test, copying tests, assignments, reports, or term papers).*

(syllabus subject to change with notice)

TEXTBOOKS:

Kirszner, Laurie & Stephen G. Mandell. *Patterns for College Writing: A Rhetorical Reader and Guide*. 11th ed.

Sommers, Nancy. *The Bedford Handbook*. 8th ed.

College dictionary

Classroom Etiquette:

- When someone has the floor, instructor or student, the rest of the class pays attention.
- Only do English work for English class. Do not complete homework for other classes during lectures and student presentations. I will assume I have not given you enough work and will assign more material for you to complete.
- Texting or surfing the net with the latest tech-device is not allowed.
- I will give you only one warning.

ASSIGNMENTS

Students will write a minimum of four full essays, some of which will be started in class.

Likewise, students will compose an eight-page research paper as a final project.

- These four essays will be turned in as print files and as digital files.
- There will be in-class assignments and occasional homework. We will have several reading quizzes as well. Since these are based on specific lectures, you must be present on the day the in-class assignment is given and collected.
- *No late work will be accepted for in-class work, reading quizzes, or for missed homework.*

LATE PAPER POLICY

Since the progress of this class depends on essays turned in on time, late essays will be penalized ten points for each course day that they are late. **If you miss class when an essay is due, valid documentation is required explaining the absence for the paper to be considered on time.**

- After a three (3) class days late papers will not be accepted.
- Printed work is collected within the first few moments of class.
- Papers turned in *after* class, *even just a few minutes*, is considered late. *Staple papers before class begins. Do not dog-ear papers.*

MISSED EXAMS POLICY

Depending on circumstances, missed examinations must be taken within a week of scheduled test.

- **Valid documentation for absence is required.**

CELL PHONE / TEXT MESSENGER/ LAPTOP POLICY

Cell phones must be silent in class. If an important call arrives, take it into the hall quickly. Laptops are permitted of course, so long as they are used without distractions and if student sits in the front row.

On the other hand, no text messengers in the classroom. You will be asked to leave the room and will be given a mark of absence for the day.

PLAGIARISM POLICY

If clear evidence of academic dishonesty is found for any assignment, 0 points for the assignment will be recorded and the English Department Chair will be notified of the incident and the grade. If a second incident of academic dishonesty occurs, an F for the course grade will be recorded and the English Department Chair notified of the incident and the grade.

GRADE PERCENTAGES

In Class Exercises/Free-Writes/HW	5%
Ex. 01: Informal/Formal Exercise	
Ex. 02: Narrative Pattern	
Ex. 03: Description Pattern	
Process Pattern <i>or</i> Exemplification Pattern: Essay # 1	10%
Cause/Effect Pattern: Essay #2	10%
Midterm: Comparison/Contrast Pattern: Essay #3	20%
Classification/Division Pattern <i>or</i> Definition: Essay #4	10%
Final Research Paper	25%
• Thesis Statement	
• Introduction page	
• Preliminary Work Cited page	
• Full Document	
Departmental Final	20%

GRADING STANDARDS

Essays will be graded based on a variety of skills. All written work should show evidence of logical thought and strong concepts. Points will be deducted for errors on your essays.

Serious Grammatical Error: (lower grade point for each / 3 or more, revise)

- i. fused sentences
- ii. sentence fragments
- iii. comma splices , run-on sentences

Serious Grammatical Flaw: (point by point for each occurrence)

- i. subject-verb agreement and tense inconsistency
- ii. pronoun antecedent agreement
- iii. indefinite pronoun reference
- iv. dangling or misplaced modifier
- v. non-parallelism

Improper Essay Format (point by point for each occurrence)

- i. lack of introduction or weak introduction
- ii. less than 5 sentences per paragraph
- iii. lack of topic sentence or weak topic sentence
- iv. lack of unity within individual paragraphs
- v. lack of logical sequence between paragraphs
- vi. lack of conclusion or weak conclusion

Improper spelling (5 or more misspelled words, failed assignment)

• The school has tutors available for you at the *Learning Assistance Center*.
I recommend you visit them with early drafts of your papers before turning in work.

ESSAY FORMAT

Essays should be typed double-spaced and have a standard one-inch margin. Always use Times New Roman, 12 point size. No title page is necessary. For all essays, follow the template provided. Put your last name and the page number in the upper right hand corner of each page using the "header" feature in Word 2003, Word 2007.

- When making corrections, be neat and use ink.
- Staple your essay before coming to class. I will not accept work not stapled.
- Your grade will be lowered a full letter-point if your paper does not follow MLA standards. This includes proper heading, titling, paragraph formatting, and margins.

TENTATIVE COURSE CALENDAR

(subject to change with notice)

Week 1 || Monday _____ 06/07/10

Go over syllabus • General Essay Guidelines • Prewriting Techniques

FW Exercise: First Impressions & Observations: Frida Kahlo's *Las Dos Fridas*

Tuesday _____ 06/08/10

Essay writing modes, Reading Journal

Wednesday _____ 06/09/10

Formal / Informal Audience and tone

Kinky Friedman, "Smoke Gets In Your Eyes"

Wikipedia.org, "Smoking Ban"

Thursday 06/10/10

Autobiographical Writing, *supplemental*

Narrative Essay Pattern introduced

Informal vs. Formal Voice

Exercise 1: Formal/informal letters 06-14-10

Friday 06/11/10

John Updike "Beer Can"

Narration Essay Pattern

Types of conflict; How to read an essay

Sandra Cisneros, "Only Daughter" p 97

Exercise 2: Autobiographical Narrative due 06-14-10

Week 2 || Monday 06/14/10

Narration Essay Pattern

E. B. White, "Once More to the Lake" p 183

Tuesday 06/15/10

Isabel Allende, "The Amazon Queen" *handout*

Exercise 3: Description Essay Pattern (in-class)

Wednesday 06/16/10

Description Essay Pattern • Organizing information

N. Scott Momaday, "The Way to Rainy Mountain" *handout*

Thursday 06/17/10

Exemplification (Illustration) Essay Pattern

Brent Staples, "Just Walk on By: A Black Man Ponders His Power to Alter Public Space" p 236

Friday 06/18/10

Process Essay Pattern

Arthur Miller, "Get it Right: Privatize Executions" p 299

Essay 1: Process or Exemplification Essay Pattern, due 06.21.10

Week 3 || Monday 06/21/10

Final project outlined: Seven page essay, with MLA Work Cited Page , due 07.02.10

Choose topic of interest for final essay, due 06.22.10.

Tuesday 06/22/10

Cause / Effect Essay Pattern

Robin Lakoff, "The Power of Words in Wartime" p 363

Essay 2: Cause / Effect Essay due 06.25.10

Wednesday 06/23/10

Citations and Plagiarism Defined • Signal Phrases • In-Text Citations

Creating a Thesis Statement Based on Supportive Evidence

Library Orientation: School Databases || **Begin Preliminary Research**

Begin Constructing Final Project

Thursday 06/24/10
Essential Rhetorical Elements
Comparison / Contrast Essay Pattern

Friday 06/25/10
Deborah Tannen, "Sex, Lies, and Conversation" p 436
E. S. Maduro, "Excuse Me While I Explode" *supplemental*
Gwendolyn Brooks, "Sadie and Maud" p 443
MLA Changes • Guidelines for Works Cited Page
Formal Thesis for Final Project due || Continue Research

Week 4 || Monday 06/28/10
Midterm: Essay 3: In-Class Comparison/Contrast
Preliminary Work Cited due
Division / Classification Pattern

Tuesday 06/29/10
Division / Classification Pattern
Stephanie Ericsson, "The Ways We Lie" p 485
Definition Essay Pattern
José Antonio Burciaga, "Tortillas" p 524

Wednesday 06/30/10
Definition Essay Pattern
Lauren Slater, "On Love" *supplemental*

Thursday 07/01/10
Definition Essay Pattern
Essay 4: Definition or Division/Classification Essay due 07.06.10

Friday 07/02/10
Final Paper due

Week 5 || Monday 07/05/10
School Holiday

Tuesday 07/06/10
Last Day for Dropping Courses with Grade of "W"
Combining patterns

Wednesday 07/07/10
Combining patterns
Virginia Woolf, "The Death of the Moth" handout

Thursday 07/08/10
Final Departmental Exam