English Composition Syllabus

Freshman Composition I - ENGL110 Fall Semester 2015

Course Description

Emphasis on writing as a learning, thinking process. Discussion of and practice in strategies used in prewriting, writing, and revising expressive, informative, analytical, and argumentative essays. Special sections designated for Honors students (ENGL 110 Honors). (Credit, 3 Hours)

Instructor Emphasis

English 110 is a freshman-level course designed to teach students to write the five-paragraph essay utilizing standard English. The instructor will introduce students to the writing process and give extended practice in the development of each stage with special emphasis on revising and editing. To achieve this end, the instructor will assign essays following designated methods of development. Writing topics will revolve around dining or other food-related topics as well as issues related to social justice and literacy.

Grading System

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<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>100-90</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>89.9-80</td>
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<td>C</td>
<td>79.9-70</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>69.9-60</td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>59.9-0</td>
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Grading System

Graded Work

- Essays 75%
- Quizzes 10%
- Journals 10%
- Exams 5%

Required Materials

Five Bluebooks
Two Paper/Plastic Folders with pockets
Portfolio Binder -1/2" or 1"
College Dictionary
Tabbed Dividers (1 set)
Highlighter

Dr. D. Porche, Ph.D.
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www.professorporche.com
Come to class on time, undistracted by technology, and prepared with completed assignments. A successful learning experience depends on your willingness to work; recall that good grades and college credits are earned.

Report to class before the official start time and be sure to sign only your name in the attendance book to receive credit for attendance.

Bring assignments, including essays, for submittal during the first five minutes of class so that you may earn full credit for your work.

Classroom Behavior Policy
Clear and consistent observance of class rules are the proper foundation for a productive and positive learning experience. Overall, to remain a student in this course, students must be honest, respectful, punctual, responsive and responsible.

“When I sit down to write a book, I do not say to myself, ‘I am going to produce a work of art.’ I write it because there is some lie that I want to expose, some fact to which I want to draw attention, and my initial concern is to get a hearing.”
—George Orwell.
Safety

Southern University is committed to providing a safe teaching and learning environment for student and faculty members. In order to enhance your safety in the unlikely case of a campus emergency, make sure that you know where and how to quickly exit your classroom and how to follow any emergency directives.

If a student creates a disturbance by repeatedly violating class rules or becomes threatening, he or she will be asked to leave the classroom immediately. The student will be marked absent for the day and be required to meet the Dean of Students before re-entering the classroom. Once the student is cleared by the Dean of students, they may be allowed to rejoin the course. If a situation arises that merits serious and immediate attention please contact safety officers. If it is a critical emergency, immediately call 911 and let the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) decide what to do. To view additional campus emergency information go to the college's main page.

Academic Honesty

The highest standards of academic integrity are expected from students and faculty alike. All aspects of cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, interference, misrepresentation, violation of rules, and contribution to academic dishonesty constitute academic misconduct and warrant disciplinary action.

PLAGIARISM OR ANY OTHER DISHONEST SCHOLARSHIP IN THIS COURSE WILL RESULT IN THE HIGHEST PENALTY ALLOWED BY BRCC’S ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY; IN MOST CASES THIS MEANS FAILING THE COURSE. In accordance with school policy, I also reserve the right to initiate proceedings to EXPEL YOU FROM THE COLLEGE. Any time you borrow a phrase, sentence, paragraph or idea from any outside source – printed material, lecture, friend, television show, etc. – without giving that source credit, you have plagiarized. The student must address the charge in person and an appointment is required. Careful documentation of your sources is the most effective way to avoid plagiarism. If you have questions, check a style manual or ask for help. We will discuss plagiarism extensively prior to your first paper.
**Paper Submission Requirements:**

All assignments that you submit for course credit in this class must be properly prepared and submitted on time. Honesty is crucial. All assignments must be authored by you, the student. I allow and encourage you to get help; however, assistance by a college tutor, program or another assistant must be acknowledged to avoid a charge of academic dishonesty. Further, when you receive feedback on an assignment, you are to correct the marked errors only. Do not produce an entirely new essay after the assignment has been graded or marked.

All assignment are your responsibility. It is therefore crucial that you keep everything you write and revise for this course and keep it in some organized fashion whereby you can retrieve it at a later time. You will be required to submit all of your work at the end of the course. Therefore, it is important to keep your papers accessible and safe from harm. Be sure to save your digital computer files in at least two separate places, on a memory key, computer, and/or in an email.

**Attendance Policy:**

Timely attendance is required by the college and is vital to the successful completion of this course. Come to class on time and make a backup plan for transportation. Presume your usual means of transport will fail and make arrangements for use of public transport or a ride. This is important because late students often disrupt learning for others; frequently late students regularly miss announcements, inspiring start-up activities, and paper returns, and, as such, routinely acquire an insufferable case of course confusion. Therefore, if you are more than five minutes late for class, you may be marked tardy or encounter a locked door.

Appear late for five classes and you will earn an unexcused absence. Excess absences may result in a lowered grade or failure. Do not schedule other activities during class time. If you are ill or have an emergency—email me before class begins. It is my policy that a student who has earned five absences by midterm, or five absences in the second half of the course, will earn a final course grade deduction of 5%. This policy is important because a student's lack of participation and subsequent return to class becomes a distraction to the instructor and the broader learning community. An additional 5% deduction will be applied for each additional day of excused or unexcused absence. Students who accumulate more than nine total absences are not eligible to earn a passing grade in the course.

**Make-up Work:**

If you must be absent from class, you are obliged to complete the assignments and bring them to class the day after your return. No make-up quizzes will be allowed—except in the case of an excused absence. An excused absence is defined as a legitimate, documented absence such as an illness or Southern University function, accompanied by a note from the appropriate official (doctor, SU official, etc). Late journals will be accepted up to two days after the assigned due date. However, the word count requirement will change. Journals submitted even one minute after the due date must include 100 additional words. Quizzes cannot be re-administered, but documented attendance at a Writing Center workshop or SU lecture might be accepted for quiz credit. You may be quizzed on the topic of the event or workshop.
Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, the students should be able to:

A. Demonstrate an understanding of each mode of writing – description, narration, illustration, process analysis, and definition – by structuring multi-paragraph essays.

B. Demonstrate knowledge of the writing process by prewriting, drafting, revising, and editing essays.

C. Demonstrate the ability to construct specific and clear thesis statements which give the topic, claim, direction and tone by writing various essay modes.

D. Demonstrate the ability to write essays by supporting the thesis statement with well-developed body paragraphs consisting of examples, facts, reasons, incidents, and specific details.

E. Demonstrate the ability to determine the purpose and audience and adapt tone and content to suit both by presenting an oral presentation.

F. Demonstrate the ability to write introductions for essays by utilizing a variety of lead-ins.

G. Demonstrate the ability to write conclusions for essays by utilizing variety of endings.

H. Demonstrate the ability to write varied, coherent sentences by using subordination and coordination, inverting sentences, and beginning sentences with participles, adverbs, and adjectives.

I. Demonstrate competence in grammar, punctuation, and mechanics by editing their essays.

J. Demonstrate the ability to use computer technology by obtaining assignments, participating in course activities, editing essays, managing course information, submitting word processed final drafts, and using tutor assisted software.
**Grace:** We all sometimes have difficulty keeping up with our work. Two essay assignments will be accepted forty-eight hours (two days) after their online due date. Once before midterm, and once after the midterm exam—students may submit a request to submit their work late using a Grace Ticket which may be found on the website. The signed request must be attached to the late work, in the electronic file or printed out and placed in the submission folder. Otherwise, no other late submissions will be accepted; the assignment will be scored zero points. If a student misses class, excused or unexcused they must complete 1 hour of Plato/Lab grammar exercises and compose one make-up journal response assignment for each class period missed. Make-up work will not be accepted on or after the last day of class for this course.

**Students with Disabilities:**

Baton Rouge Community College seeks to meet the needs of its students in many ways. It is the policy of BRCC to afford equal opportunity in education to all qualified students. Therefore, a student who has a disability that inhibits him/her from meeting a course requirement and who desires accommodations must contact the instructor and the Office of Special Services within the first three class meetings of the semester. The goal is to develop a timely accommodation plan and to file an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Accommodation Form. Course requirements will not be waived, but accommodations will be made to allow each student to meet course requirements. Students requiring such services should identify themselves within the first three class meeting. If a disability is identified later in the semester, a non-retroactive accommodation will be developed.

**Interim Evaluation:**

Anytime you want to know what your grade would be before the final folder is due, make an appointment for a private conference. Bring your folder with everything you have written for the course. It must be labeled and in order. I will gladly go over it with you, to let you know your grade if I had to give you one at that time.

**Contacts:**

You will be required to communicate with me through my email account and Blackboard. Please check your email prior to class meetings for assignments or notices. I recommend that you write down the names, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses of two classmates. Call or write them if you need help with matters pertaining to this class, especially when I am not immediately available to assist you.

**Disclaimer:**

This syllabus may well change to reflect my sense of your needs. I will not make changes that are potentially harmful to you, however, without negotiating.
English Course Contract

I have read and understand the syllabus for Dr. Porche’s Fall 2015 English course. I have had the opportunity to ask questions about the requirements and policies of this course, and have had those questions answered to my satisfaction. Additionally, I agree to abide by the terms set forth in the syllabus for this course, including all course requirements and policies.

Student name – PRINTED

Student signature

Date of signature