

**Winter 2015 West Los Angeles College
English 103: Composition and Critical Thinking Section 1017
Monday-Thursday 10:45 am-1: 20 pm Room GC 250**

Welcome to English 103:

I am looking forward to working with each of you this semester. I've taught this course several times and I am always impressed by the quality work my students produce. I am confident that you will also create a strong collection of writings at the end of the semester. Remember, writing is a process and it takes work but being registered for this class is a good step towards becoming a better writer.

Mindset: research shows that students with a growth mindset are more likely to reach their academic goals. We will read more about this for our first essay of the semester, but essentially a person with a growth mindset believes they can learn (even when it's difficult) and that the key to learning is putting in effort. I will do my best to encourage a growth mindset in our class, and I hope you will do the same.

What will I learn?

Course Description and Policies

English 103 Composition and Critical Thinking (3) UC: CSU
Prerequisite: English 101 with a grade of "C" or better. This course is designed to develop critical thinking, reading, and writing skills beyond the level achieved in English 101. The course will focus on the development of logical reasoning, analytical and argumentation writing skills.

Student Learning Objectives for English 103:

The English department has Student Learning Outcomes for students in this class, which describe what successful students should be able to do by the time they pass this class.

This is the Student Learning Outcomes for this class:

Upon exit, English 103 students will be able to: At the end of the course, the successful student will be able to research, evaluate and cite outside sources for use in the student's own writing.

What will I need to be successful?

There are several important tools required to reach your goals in this class:

Instructor Profile

Name: Jennifer Ortiz

Contact Information:

- Email: private message me on Etudes

Office Hours Monday-Wednesday 1:20-1:40

Education: Bachelor's degree from Mills College (major in English); Master's degree in English from Mills College

Teaching Experience:

Part-time teacher at West Los Angeles College Fullerton College

El Camino College Compton Center

Materials:

Everything's an Argument Edition: 6th

Author: Lunsford

ISBN: 9781457606069

Any College Dictionary and *Roget's Thesaurus* (or electronic English /thesaurus). **I will allow you to use an electronic version but if you abuse this privilege by texting or face booking etc. you will be required to bring a printed version.**

Other Materials:

1. Composition paper/notebook, one blue pen, one black pen, highlighter, Two Blue Books, one index card, stapler
2. Time: In college, the expectation for all of your classes is that you will work for two hours outside of class for every hour spent in class. This out-of-class work can be by studying, reading, writing, going to tutoring or office hours, or doing homework assignments, depending on the requirements of the class. This class is three units, so we spend almost three hours a week together in class. That means you need to plan an additional six hours a week for the homework for this class. To help you manage this workload, you should use a calendar to track your responsibilities (class, work, and home). I can also help you plan a schedule to maximize the time you have, especially if you are very busy with work or family responsibilities.
3. All additional readings and handouts are uploaded onto Etudes.

How will my grade be determined?

“Talking to the text,” notes 8 @ 10 points each: 80 points

Reading Quizzes 8 @ 5 points each: 40 points

Synthesis Quizzes 4 @ 15 points each: 60

In-class essay 1: 40 points

In-class essay 2 (Midterm): 60 points

In-class essay 3: 60 points

In-class essay 4 (Final): 100 points

Out-of-class essay 1: 40 points

Out-of-class essay 2: 60 points

Out-of class essay 3: 60 points

Out-of-class essay 4: 100 points

City Council Proposal: 40 points

Portfolio: 300 points (Revised out-of-class essay, revised in-class essay, revised synthesis quiz, and a reflection)

Etudes

You will be required to log into Etudes on a weekly basis for additional readings, assignments, and handouts. This is mandatory and you will not be successful in this class unless you are checking the site regularly.

What is the portfolio?

At the end of the semester, you will hand in your final portfolio: this will consist of one revised in-class essay (one of the first three), one revised out-of-class essay (one of the first three), and one revised synthesis quiz. The portfolio is the single largest assignment of the semester it is worth 300 points.

When you turn in your final drafts of your essays, you will also be turning in your rough drafts, so **be sure to keep all of your writing for the entire semester and save everything you type up on a reliable computer, in your email, or on a thumb drive.** You also need to save all of your graded work until the semester is over and you have received and are satisfied with your final grade. This is something you should do for all of your classes.

What support is available to help me meet my goals?

Below you will find the contact information for both The Writing Center and Tutoring Center. Remember: you will receive extra credit for using either of these free services.

Resource:	What they offer:	Contact information:
The Writing Center	One-on-one tutoring helping with the writing process (prewriting, drafting, revising).	Location: - HLRC heart of campus Center 1stF 2nd Fl
The Learning (Tutoring) Center	One-on-one or group tutoring helping with writing	Learning Center Intake Desk (310) 287-4404 for more information. 1stF Building

What are some policies I'll be expected to follow?

Make up exam:

No make-up exams will be given unless documentation is provided substantiating a dire emergency. You are expected to notify me and make arrangements for a make up exam. You will not be reminded. No assignments will be dropped or ignored. If you decide to drop the course, this is your responsibility. I will not automatically drop you if you stop coming to class.

Late Policy:

Essays are due on the due date and the beginning of class. **They must be turned in by the start of class on the due date.**

- 1 late paper is accepted per student, per term, not to exceed two class periods. One letter grade is subtracted for each class period late.

- If you will be absent from class, you may email your take home assignment (responses and journals) before the start of class for credit. If I do not receive them before this time, you will receive no credit for the response/journal.

Attendance:

Class participation is mandatory to this course. I will expect you to have completed all your assignments and be prepared to participate in class discussions. If you miss four (4) class periods a semester, I will drop you from the class, or you will receive a NP if the drop deadline has passed. In case of emergencies, such as a death in the family or medical issues, please let me know and you will be excused. If I see no course activity for two weeks in a row or more, I reserve the right to drop you.

Remember to be on time since excessive tardiness will affect your grade. All quizzes, class updates, and changes will be made at the beginning of class. Make sure to follow-up with your classmates about anything you missed after class.

Study Partner List: *Contact students for homework/notes.*

Names	Email	Phone #
1)		
2)		
3)		
4)		
5)		

If you choose to drop the class, please be aware that it is your responsibility to drop yourself. The last day to withdraw from class without a W 1/7. The last day to withdraw from class with a W is 1/30.

Talking to the text (4T):

In this class, we will practice an active reading strategy known as “Talking to Text” (4T). It involves actively engaging with the assigned readings to better understand them. You will be required to write in your book or on a separate sheet of paper and to show those notes to me at the beginning of class when reading has been assigned (the days that the notes are due are listed in your syllabus). Don’t worry we will continue practicing this exercise through out the semester!

Reading Quizzes:

After I verify your 4T notes, we will discuss the assigned readings. Sometimes at the beginning of class you will be quizzed on these readings. The quizzes are open books, open notes but closed for neighbors.

Synthesis Quizzes:

There will be four synthesis quizzes. These are much like the reading quiz but tougher, since you will be asked to identify and analyze connections between different essays. You will be given more time to complete them and you will be able to use your books and any notes.

Turnitin.com:

I require all students to use Turnitin.com to check for similarities between student submissions and the Internet, various research databases, and the Turnitin.com database of previous student submissions. All assignments submitted to Turnitin.com will become part of their database and will be used for plagiarism prevention and detection. Student papers, however, will remain the intellectual property of the author.

Class ID: **9241473**

Password: **English103**

You will be required to submit all out of class essays onto turnitin.com before the start of class **on the due day. You will lose 5 points for everyday its late. You will also need to submit a hard copy in order to receive credit.**

What are some West Los Angeles College policies?

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Statement:

West LA College is committed to providing educational accommodations for students with disabilities upon the timely request by the student to the instructor. Verification of the disability must also be provided. The Disability Support Services office functions as a resource for students and faculty in the determination and provision of education accommodations.

Disabilities are not a reflection of who you are, but of how your brain works. Maybe eventually we won't even call them "disabilities" anymore. Understanding how you learn is the first step to success. If you know or think that you have any learning or physical disabilities, please contact the Disabled Student Programs and Services Office at (310) 287-4450. The DSPS will then contact your instructors to notify them of needed accommodations, such as additional testing time, note taker, etc.

<http://www.wlac.edu/dsps/index.html>

Wait Time for Late Instructors:

If, due to unforeseen emergencies, the instructor does not arrive at the scheduled start time for class, students are to wait for fifteen minutes (unless otherwise notified by the division). If they do not receive notification to wait for their instructor to arrive, after fifteen minutes the students may leave with no penalty for absence or assigned work due for that class meeting.

If it is possible, I will also email the class using the email address you've provided on Etudes if class must be cancelled, so check on a regular basis.

Policy on Academic Honesty

Students are expected to abide by ethical standards in preparing and presenting material which demonstrates their level of knowledge and which is used to determine grades. Such standards are founded on the basic concepts of integrity and honesty. These include, but are not limited to, the following areas:

1. Students shall not plagiarize, which is defined as:
 - A. stealing or passing off as one's own the ideas or words of another, or
 - B. using a creative production without crediting the source.

The following cases constitute plagiarism:

Paraphrasing published material without acknowledging the source, making significant use of an idea or a particular arrangement of ideas, e.g., outlines, writing a paper after consultation with persons who provide suitable ideas and incorporating these ideas into the paper without acknowledgement, or submitting under one's own name term papers or other reports which have been prepared by others.

2. Students shall not cheat, which is defined as:
 - A. using notes, aids, or the help of other students on tests or exams in ways other than those expressly permitted by the instructor, or
 - B. misreporting or altering the data in laboratory or research projects involving the collection of data.
3. Students shall not furnish materials or information in order to enable another student to plagiarize or cheat.

Instructors may deal with academic dishonesty in one or more of the following ways: 1. Assign an appropriate academic penalty such as an oral reprimand or point reduction. 2. Assign an "F" on all or part of a particular paper, project, or exam. 3. Report to the appropriate administrators, with notification of it to the student (s), for disciplinary action by the College. Such a report will be accompanied by supporting evidence and documentation

Classroom Behavior:

This class will abide by West Los Angeles College Code of Conduct. You can find this on the West LA Website.

- Come to class on time, every time, and plan to stay the entire time. We will take a break about 40 minutes into the class. Please use the break to use the restroom, make phone calls, text, or eat, and avoid those activities during class time. Do not leave the class during instruction or group activities except for emergencies.
- Do not use your cell phone or iPods during class time, especially during group activities. Please turn your ringer off and remove ear buds when you come into class. Two exceptions: I will allow you to use your phone as a dictionary and to listen to music with earphones whenever we have an in class test. If I need to talk to you about turning the music down you will lose that privilege. You may NOT use your phone to take notes, download the assigned reading, or look things up from our Etudes page.
- Be respectful to those who are talking by listening attentively. When others are talking, it is inappropriate to text, talk with a neighbor, or leave the class.
- Come to every class ready to work. Bring your textbooks, a notebook, the syllabus and course outline, paper, and a pen or pencil every day. Have your homework completed by the start of class.
- Upload each of your take-home essays before the beginning of class. You will have to also turn in a hard copy in order to receive a grade.

Emergency Response Statement:

Take note of the safety features in around the classroom. Also, please study the posted evacuation routes. The most direct route of egress may not be the safest. Running out of the building during earthquakes may be dangerous. During strong earthquakes, it is recommended to duck, cover, and hold until the quaking stops. Follow the guidance of your instructor. Your cooperation during emergencies can minimize the possibility of injury to yourself and others.

Course Schedule and Assignments

This schedule might change throughout the semester

Date	In-class Activities	Homework (due the next class)
Monday 1/5	Review syllabus, set class norms, “Brainology”, Talking to the text note taking Review 4T notes, Review grading rubric and portfolio prompt Tedtalks: vulnerabilities How do you structure arguments? Assign Essay 1	Typed assessment: what type of learner are you? Re-read “Brainology” Read and annotate Analyze 2004 DNC speech for structure and appeals Sign Syllabus Create Turnitin.com account
Tuesday 1/6	4T Notes on Brainology and transcript Review Oral and Visual Arguments Reasoning Hand-out Review President Barack Obama speech 2004 DNC, Ethos, Pathos Logos, anaphora	
Wednesday 1/7	3 round Peer Review (incase we are delayed), Who is your audience? In-class brainstorm on Campaign Slogans (Present to the class 1/8), Review “How to Analyze Images”	Research Assigned Slogans CE 225 12-1
Thursday 1/8	Slogan Presentations	

	In class quiz (MLK contrast image) Assign City Council group proposal/in class brainstorm Peer Review	
Monday 1/12	Synthesis Quiz on Slogans, workshop City Council Proposals (Draft due: your group will meet with me individually to get approval) Portfolio Review Essay 1 Due, Assign Essay 2	CE 225 12-1
Tuesday 1/13	In-class presentations on “Proposals”	
Wednesday 1/14	In-Class presentation on “Proposals”	
Thursday 1/15	Review 4T, Intro. to Op Eds In-class analysis Edward Said Op Ed. and assumptions Peer Review	
Monday 1/19	NO CLASS	
Tuesday 1/20	Review 4T notes, Reading Quiz, Looking at Style Synthesis Quiz, OP Ed Group Assignment In-class essay Essay 2 Due Assign Essay 3	
Wednesday 1/21	No draft day/evaluate thesis statements and T.S. Review 2 Sources and Selected Op. Ed. Review 4T notes Go Over Sample Essay for Essay 3	
Thursday 1/22	Library Day In-class essay “Case Analysis” Review guidelines for visual arguments, Bring image to class, Review title 7, case,	LIBRARY 12-1:20
Monday 1/26	TBD Peer Review	
Tuesday 1/27	Review 4T notes, Reading	

	Quiz “Op Ed. Review or Political Make Up”-share with the class, 3 Round Peer Review	
Wednesday 1/28	TBD	
Thursday 1/29	Student Conferences, No Draft Day/ Evaluate Thesis Statement and T.S., Assign Essay 4	CE 225 12-1
Monday 2/2	TBD	Research and study Court’s Political Make up
Tuesday 2/3	Synthesis Quiz “Op Ed. Marketing”, Go over sample Essay 4 Review Feminist Theory Review Orientalism	
Wednesday 2/4	TBD Synthesis “Camel” image	
Thursday 2/5	Student Conferences Essay 4 Due	