

English 28  
Intermediate Reading and Composition  
Course Syllabus

Instructor:

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Class Meetings:TTH 9:35am-11am

GC Room 230

Office hours are directly after class

### **Texts**

#### Required

Hacker, Diana, *A Pocket Style Manual*, Bedford/St. Martin's, 2012

Cooper, J. California, *The Future Has a Past: Stories*, Knopf Doubleday Publishing Group, 2001

#### **Additional essays and articles will be provided as hand-outs**

Please also utilize the online resource: <http://owl.english.purdue.edu> for information on grammar, word choices, research tactics, proper citation, etc.

### **Course Description**

PREREQUISITE: English 21

DESCRIPTION: This course meets the AA reading and writing requirement. English 28 gives students practice in paragraph construction and essay writing with an emphasis on critical thinking. This course will nurture and develop analytical skills through thought-provoking literature, discussions and subsequent writing assignments.

### **Course Goals**

Upon completion of this course, students will have strengthened skills in the following areas:

1. Reading: Students will read college-level texts and develop critical thinking skills in observation of writing styles, themes, and relevance.
2. Writing: Students will plan and write well-focused, well-presented, thoroughly developed thesis-driven college level essays.
3. Writing process: Students will develop effective essay outlines, revision/editing skills, perfect the art of proof-reading, and successfully articulate and execute critical essays.

4. Grammar and Vocabulary: Students will expand their vocabularies. They will develop an improved knowledge of creative, literal, metaphorical and academic word use.
5. Citation: Students will properly cite sources and learn to effectively use quotes in their essays.

### **What to Expect**

The purpose of this class is to strengthen writing, reading and critical thinking skills. This class is designed to help students find their voices as academic writers and become comfortable with the reading and writing process.

### **Assignments**

In addition to the in-class midterm and final exams, there will be four essay assignments. All assignments must be in Times New Roman font size 12, double spaced, and include a cover page with essay title, name, date, and class. All assignments must be turned in on time.

### **Grading**

1st Essay 10%  
2nd Essay 10%  
3rd Essay 15%  
4th Essay 15%  
Midterm: 20%  
Final Exam 20%  
Class participation and attendance 10%

### **Attendance**

Students are expected to attend all classes. Please arrive on time.

In the event that you are absent, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed and make sure you stay on track with assignments. I suggest you exchange contact info with at least two other students in the class. If you miss more than two weeks of classes, you may be dropped from the class.

### **Drop Deadline**

The deadline to drop without a W is the last day of the second week of class.

For specific calendar dates, go to: <http://www.wlac.edu/Academic/Academic-Calendar.aspx>

### **Academic Integrity**

Any form of plagiarism will result in an **F** on the assignment in question, and eventually a dismissal from class if this is repeated. Using properly cited quotes and referencing the work of others is fine, but this class is very much about finding your *own* style and voice in academic writing.

## Semester Schedule

### **1st week**

Tues. Feb. 10th: Course Introduction (Review Syllabus)

Thurs. Feb 12th: How to write a thesis-driven essay. Small group exercise with news articles. What is the thesis? Is it presented and supported well?

### **2nd week**

Tues. Feb 17th: Viewing of videos on writing styles and techniques. Clarity: Hacker p. 2-8.

Thurs. Feb. 19th: Essay #1 assigned. How to write an autobiographical essay. Partner brainstorm & essay outline exercise. Clarity: Hacker p. 8- 16

### **3rd week**

Tues. Feb. 24th: Grammar: Hacker p. 20-27. *The Future Has a Past* p. 1-24.

Thurs. Feb 26th: Essay #1 DUE. Grammar: Hacker p. 28- 37. *The Future Has a Past* p. 25- 50.

### **4th week**

Tues. March 3rd: Grammar: Hacker p. 38-45. *The Future Has a Past* p. 51- 101.

Thurs. March 5th: Grammar: Hacker p. 45-53. *The Future Has a Past* p. 102- 136.

### **5th week**

Tues. March 10th: Punctuation: Hacker p. 55- 61. *The Future Has a Past* p. 137- 165.

Thurs. March 12th: Essay #2 assigned. Punctuation: Hacker p. 62-74. *The Future Has a Past* p. 166- 210.

### **6th week**

Tues. March 17th: Mechanics: Hacker p.76- 86. *The Future Has a Past* p.166- 188.

Thurs. March 19th: Essay #2 DUE. *The Future Has a Past* p. 189-210.

### **7th week**

Tues. March 24th: Helen Keller quote exercise. *The Future Has a Past* p. 211-240.

Thurs. March 26th: Essay #3 assigned. *The Future Has a Past* p. 241-265. Cesar Chavez small group quote exercise. Midterm prep.

### **8th week**

Tues. March 31st: NO CLASS (Cesar Chavez Day)

Thurs. April 2nd: Essay #3 DUE. MIDTERM EXAM

### **9th week**

Tues. April 7th: NO CLASS (Spring Break)

Thurs. April 9th: NO CLASS (Spring Break)

### **10th week**

Tues. April 14th: Documentary: Simply Raw: Reversing Diabetes in 30 Days

Thurs April 16th: Documentary: Simply Raw: Reversing Diabetes in 30 Days

### **11th week**

Tues. April 21st: Discussion and Film review exercise, review news articles on nutrition (compare and contrast)

Thurs. April 23rd: Prose writing styles: “Every Little Hurricane” by Sherman Alexie

### **12th week**

Tues. April 28th: Documentary: Marley

Thurs. April 30th: Documentary: Marley

### **13th week**

Tues. May 5th: Discussion and Film review exercise

Thurs. May 7th: Essay #4 assigned. Small groups assigned. Viewing of videos of contemporary poets.

### **14th week**

Tues May 12th: Small group meetings

Thurs. May 14th: Small group meetings

### **15th week**

Tues May 19th: Student presentations. Essay #4 DUE

Thurs. May 21st: Student presentations

### **16th week**

Tues. May 26th: Student presentations

Thurs. May 28th: Final Exam Review

### **17th week**

Tues. June 2nd: **Final Exam**

Thurs. June 4th: **End of Semester salon:** share your work or the work of your favorite writer or artist.

**Note: Items on the syllabus may be altered at the discretion of the instructor.**