

SYLLABUS

ENGLISH 101: College Reading and Composition I
Fall 2013 – Section 7717 Online
J. Pilaro, Adjunct Assistant Professor, Language Arts

Instructor's email address: pilaroj@wlac.edu
Office Hours: Sundays 5pm-7pm
3 Units

PREREQUISITE: Completion of English 28 or ESL 8 with a grade of 'C' or better or appropriate placement level demonstrated through the English assessment process.

DESCRIPTION: English 101 is the composition course that transfers to four-year colleges and universities. Accordingly, the assignments in essay writing, rhetorical analysis and critical reading are rigorous. This course teaches students to write college-level essays in response to reading and analyzing college-level texts.

Course starts 9/23/2013; you must access the course by 9/29/2013 or you will be dropped. (See section below on required attendance.)

PLEASE NOTE: ATTENDANCE IS BASED ON TIMELY SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN AND DISCUSSION ASSIGNMENTS.

Student Learning Outcomes:

The student learning outcomes of this course are to...

- Identify, differentiate and evaluate the different stages in writing an academic essay;
- Argue a close reading of a text with organized cited evidence;
- Locate research from a variety of sources to test differing opinions;
- Write essays (some requiring citations and some research) that are organized, logical, and relatively free of errors in grammar, syntax, and spelling;
- Formulate clear and engaging arguments that are supported by specific details, evidence and examples;
- Engage in discussions and participate in various assessments, including quizzes and group projects.

WAYS to achieve our goals

- Collect and organize research data, using credible sources to write a convincing/persuasive document.
- Analyze, synthesize and evaluate information to assess the validity and usefulness of an argument.

Required Texts

- **Various Texts Available Online**
In Course Shell
- **Online Writing Lab (Purdue)**
Online
- **A Pocket Style Manual (optional)**
Diana Hacker
Online

Also required: a **personal college dictionary** -- do not rely on spell check to catch spelling mistakes.

In addition to the technical requirements in order to use ETUDES (See www.yourcompteacher.org/Et_tech.html), you must also have basic computer proficiency, including knowledge of sending and opening attachments. Essays should be in a software that's compatible to Microsoft Word.

Hours: This course will be taught entirely online, no on-campus visits are required.

You should devote three or more hours per week to the class.

Office Hours: Sundays 5-7pm, as well as online throughout the week and by appt.

*The best way to contact me is through **Private Messages** in the course site.*

Assignments:

There will be four types of course assignments:

1. Writing Essays
2. Required Reading
3. Completing 2 Timed Writing Tests
4. Participating in Discussion Questions

Grading Policy:

There will be three "out-of-class" writing assignments (1000-1500 words), many will include some aspect of research and citing sources using current MLA style, including one revision. You will also write two timed writing exams (a Mid-term and Final). For the exams, you will not know the questions in advanced. These essays will count as formal writing assignments. The grades on these essay assignments will be primary in determining your final grade.

Writing Assignments (Essays and Writing Exams): 80%

Weekly Assignments and attendance (Discussions, quizzes, etc.): 20%

- A 90-100
- B 80-89
- C 70-79
- D 60-69
- F 0-59

Plagiarism will result in a failure grade for the assignment. Plagiarism is using someone else's writing as your own. This includes cutting and pasting together from a collection of sources. Finally, it even includes improper documentation of outside sources. We will go over this in more detail as the course continues.

Learning Disability: If you have a physical, psychological, medical, or learning disability that may impact your ability to carry out assigned coursework, please contact The Center for Students with Disabilities. They will review your concerns and determine with you what accommodations are necessary and appropriate. All information and documentation is confidential.

West Los Angeles College Webpage: www.wlac.edu
(check here for information concerning dropping or withdrawing from the class)

SCHEDULE OF ASSIGNMENTS
English 101 – Sections 7717 – Fall 2013

- Tuesday, Oct 9:** Discussion posting due
Reading due: Module 1: “California’s Name, Early History, and Missions,” “Days of Gold and Mining Stories,” “The Railroad and Farming,” and “The Orange and the Lemon”
- Tuesday, Oct 16:** Discussion posting due
Reading due: Module 2: Selections by John Muir
- Tuesday, Oct 23:** **Essay 1 due**
- Tuesday, Oct 30:** Discussion posting due
Reading due: Module 3: Courtney Moreno “Help is on the way”
- Tuesday, Nov 6:** Discussion posting due
Reading due: Module 4: George Saunders “Tent City”
- Tuesday, Nov 13:** **Essay 2 due**
- Tuesday, Nov 13 - Friday, Nov 16: Mid-term Exam (Essay 3)**
- Tuesday, Nov 20:** Discussion posting due
Reading due: Module 5: bell hooks “Inspired Eccentricity”
- Tuesday, Nov 27:** Discussion posting due
Reading due: Module 6: Eric Schollosser “Why McDonald’s Fries Taste So Good”
- Tuesday, Dec 4:** Discussion posting due
Reading/viewing due: Sebas + Clim “Tiny Stories,” Todd Alcott “Television,” and Brent Barson “The Senses Video”
- Tuesday, Dec 11:** **Essay 4 due**
- Tuesday, Dec 11 – Friday, Dec 14: Final Exam (Essay 5)**