ENG 101: First-Year Composition   Fall 2013

Instructor: Ryan Shepherd
Class Location: Online
Office: LL317
Office Hours: Wednesday and Fridays 1:30-2:30 PM
                      Office hours held on Google Hangouts
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Course Site: https://www.schoology.com/course/50178347/materials
Writing Program: http://english.clas.asu.edu/writingprograms

Required Textbooks:
Mauk, J., & Metz, J. (2013). The composition of everyday life: A guide to writing
     (brief 4th ed.). Boston: Wadsworth.

Additional Requirements:
- A Schoology account
- An ASURITE ID and password to access MyASU
- Access to Google Docs in MyASU
- An email account linked to MyASU and Schoology that is checked regularly
- Daily access to a computer and the internet

Course Description:
English 101, First-Year Composition, is a course that aims to increase students' ability to develop ideas, to express ideas effectively, and to engage with multiple literacies. The course gives special attention to expository and analytical writing. Critical reading of articles, speeches, and other non-literary texts helps students to understand the rhetorical processes, to analyze audience and its cultural contexts, and to foresee audience responses. A substantial amount of writing is required. This course is based on the ideas that writing is a social activity, that writing should emphasize process, and that writing for various discourse communities requires various rhetorical conventions.

Course Goals:
Through this course, students will:
- synthesize and analyze multiple points of view
- articulate and support one's own position regarding various issues
- adjust writing to multiple audiences, purposes, and conventions
- become conscientious and responsible writers, both for college and beyond

- learn to access and become involved with the discourses of the university community
- develop questioning abilities that move them beyond the passive acceptance of new materials to thinkers who can hold those materials up to genuinely informed scrutiny

Course and Writing Requirements

Attendance :

I expect you to engage actively in all class activities. Because this is an online course, "attendance" will be taking part in class activities online. You will be counted absent if you do not take part in any of the activities for a given day. If you are absent more than four classes, you will fail the class—this is Writing Programs policy.

You will also be asked to occasionally set up times to meet with me one-on-one for conferences. If you do now show up at your conference time, you will be counted absent.

Classroom Environment:

Please note that some course content may be sensitive. As we conduct scholarly investigation and engage in critical thinking about class topics, we will often entertain many different opinions about a topic or text or perspective; please be considerate of others' contributions and viewpoints. An environment of respect will allow all of us the opportunity to participate and learn.

Homework:

Homework includes all work done in the class aside from the final drafts of the major writing projects. Homework includes first and revised drafts of the major writing projects, peer revision workshops, discussion board posts and responses, and other activities.

I do not accept make-up work for any homework. All homework is due at the time designated on the schedule—generally 11:59 on Monday, Wednesday, or Friday. Late homework will not be accepted and will receive no points. Absence, computer problems, or other issues are not an excuse for late or incomplete homework.

Writing Projects:

There are three writing projects in ENG 101. **You must submit all three writing projects to pass the course**. All drafts will be submitted electronically through the Digication. All projects must be submitted to the site by the due date listed on the syllabus. Late writing projects will lose full letter grade one minute after it is due and another letter grade every 24 hours thereafter. Writing projects more than 5 days late will receive no credit but must still be submitted. <u>Computer problems are not valid excuses for late work</u>.

<u>Writing Project 1: Reflecting on Who You are as a Writer</u> allows students to think back on past writing experiences and come up with a claim about who they are as writers. Students will be required to demonstrate their claim through evidence from past writing.

<u>Writing Project 2: Observing a New Space</u> allows students to engage with a new space as an ethnographer. Students will chose a space that they have no experience with and learn about the space through careful observation. Students must then draw a claim about what the space values using their observations as evidence.

<u>Writing Project 3: Analyzing a Visual Text</u> allows students to break down a visual text that is part of a series (such as a series of advertisements or a meme). Students will carefully analyze what the creator of the text intended. Then, students will be asked to create a new version in the series of texts that stays true to the originals.

Grading:

The course grade will be determined by the following:

Writing Project 1	20%
Writing Project 2	25%
Writing Project 3	25%
Homework (including drafts and peer review)	30%

Grading Scale:

All grades in the class (including final grades) will be calculated on the following scale:

A: 95-100
A-:   90-94.99
B+:   87-89.99

B: 83-86.99
B-:   80-82.99
C+:   76-79.99
C: 70-75.99
D: 60-69.99
E: 0-59.99

Please note that a C (70%) is the lowest passing grade in Writing Programs classes.

NOTE: This syllabus is subject to change. In the event that a portion of the syllabus is changed, students will be notified on the class site, and a new version of the syllabus will be made available through Digication.

Standard Writing Programs Policies

1. Policy on class attendance

Students are expected to attend all class sessions. Because Writing Programs courses incorporate frequent small- and large-group activities into lessons, students who are absent affect not only their own learning, but that of their fellow students. Therefore, only *two weeks'* **worth of absences (see below) will be allowed for the semester,** *regardless of reason, including documented illness or emergency***. Students who exceed two weeks' worth of classes will fail the course, unless they withdraw (see <u>http://students.asu.edu/withdrawal</u>).**

- **Online classes**: More than four (4) absences will result in failure.
  - o Definition of attendance in online classes: A student who fails to post an acceptable assignment to the class website during the assigned "window" of time will be counted absent for that class day.
  - o Technical problems online: While these do occur either at home or from an on-campus connection, they are usually not valid reasons for failing to fulfill the requirements for attendance on that day. Students are responsible for allocating enough time to complete online assignments, and they should include the possibility of technical "glitches." Thus students need to allow enough time to try again later or to travel to a campus computer lab or alternative location to complete the assignment and therefore avoid an absence for the missed deadline. Exceptions may be made by the instructor in the event of widespread computer viruses or some other large-scale event affecting ASU's computer network, but exceptions will <u>not</u> be made for routine computer problems.
- **Note:** Students who participate in **university-sanctioned activities** and/or who will be unable to meet the attendance requirements for a particular section should move to another section where their activity schedules will not interfere with their classroom obligations (students can freely switch sections during the <u>first week</u> of the semester). To accommodate students who participate in university-sanctioned activities, ASU Writing Programs offers sections of many courses online and at various times of the day and week. We have asked advisors across campus to help students enroll in appropriate sections. If you think that this course may conflict with a university-sanctioned activity in which you are involved—athletics or the debate team or another—please see me immediately.
- **Note:** Writing Programs is sensitive to the religious practices of the various religious faiths represented in the student body of the university community. Writing Programs' standard attendance policy listed here provides reasonable accommodation for individual religious practices. Students who anticipate absences due to religious reasons should plan their absences in the course accordingly. To accommodate students' religious practices, ASU Writing Programs offers sections of many courses online and at various times of the day and week. We have asked advisors across campus to help students enroll in appropriate sections. If you think this course may conflict with your religious practices, please see me immediately.

2. Attendance: first week of classes

According to university policy, students who are registered but do not attend any of the first week of classes may be dropped.

- Students enrolled in **hybrid/online courses** must make every reasonable attempt to attend class or contact the instructor during the first week. After the first week those who do not show up either in person or by calling or e-mailing the instructor may be dropped.

3. Grading

Grading is based on specific assignment criteria, and will follow English Department standards for content, organization, expression, and mechanics. To compute final course grades, the following values are assigned to the standard letter grades of A through E:

- A = 4.0
- A- = 3.7
- B+ = 3.3
- B = 3.0
- B- = 2.7
- C+ = 2.3
- C = 2.0
- D = 1.0
- E = 0.3
- No paper = 0.0

4. The public nature of writing and discussions

Please consider every piece of writing you do for this class to be "public property." Remember that you will often be expected to share your writing with others, so avoid writing about things that you may not be prepared to subject to public scrutiny, or things you feel so strongly about that you are unwilling to listen to perspectives other than your own. This does not mean that you are not entitled to an opinion but that you adopt positions responsibly, contemplating the possible effect on others. This course may contain content (assigned readings, in-class discussions, etc.) deemed offensive by some students. If you have concerns about any course content, please bring these concerns to the attention of your instructor.

5. Late Writing Projects

Late writing projects will lose full letter grade one minute after it is due and another letter grade every 24 hours thereafter. Writing projects more than 5 days late will receive no credit but must still be submitted. Computer problems are not valid excuses for late work.

6. All writing for this class must be written for this class

To pass this class all major writing assignments must be submitted, and note that all writing for this class must be written for this class. Resubmitting a paper from another class or elsewhere constitutes academic dishonesty. If you wish to further pursue a project begun in another class or develop ideas you have written about in another class, please discuss your plans with me first.

7. Academic Dishonesty
Students are expected to write and submit original work in Writing Programs classes, and to incorporate others' words, images, or ideas into their writing using standard attribution practices. Academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated, and students are expected to be familiar with all relevant university policies. The Academic Integrity Policy is located at https://provost.asu.edu/index.php?q=academicintegrity.

10. Disruptive, Threatening, or Violent Behavior
Students, faculty, staff, and other individuals do not have an unqualified right of access to university grounds, property, or services. Interfering with the peaceful conduct of university-related business or activities or remaining on campus grounds after a request to leave may be considered a crime. A disruptive student may be withdrawn from a course with a mark of "W" or "E" when the student's behavior disrupts the educational process. Disruptive classroom behavior for this purpose is defined by the instructor. Disruptive behavior in any form will not be tolerated, and students are expected to be familiar with all relevant university policies. ASU Student Rights and Responsibilities are located at https://eoss.asu.edu/dos/srr/codeofconduct.

11. Accommodations for Students with Disabilities
Qualified students with disabilities may be eligible to receive academic support services and accommodations. Eligibility is based on qualifying disability documentation and assessment of individual need. If students wish to request accommodation for a disability, they must be registered with the Disability Resource Center (DRC) and submit appropriate documentation from the DRC in advance of the request. Additional information can be found at the DRC website.

12. End-of-Semester Portfolio Collection
All students will submit a portfolio of their work to the Writing Programs Portfolio Archive at the end the semester. This portfolio will consist of the final drafts of **all** major writing projects. This portfolio will be submitted digitally as a single PDF containing the major project final drafts in chronological order. Additional information and instructions for submission will be provided before the end of the semester.

13. Disposition of Papers/Grade Appeals
Students should keep *all* graded assignments for this course until the term is officially over and final grades are posted. If students believe their final grade is inaccurate or unfair, they must present all graded work in order for the grievance committee to review their case. Students should not solely rely on the documents remaining electronically available on Blackboard, if submitted there, but should also maintain their own digital copies.