

Tohono O'odham Community College



Syllabus: *WRT 101, Writing I*

Course Information	
Course Prefix/Number: WRT 101, Section 1	Credit Hours: 3
Semester: Spring 2017	Course Title: Writing I
Class Days/Times:	Campus: Main Campus
Mondays and Wednesdays,	Building: Gewkdag Son Ki
3:45-5:00 p.m.	Room: GSK-4

Instructor Information: Name: Edison Cassadore, Ph.D.	Phone/Voice Mail: (520) 383-0103 E-mail: ecassadore@tocc.edu Office location: Ha-Mascamdah Ha-Ki building, Room 109 Office hours: Mondays and Wednesdays, 2:30-3:00 p.m.; Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1:00-3:00 p.m.; and, by appointment.
---	---

Course Description:

The course will cover the principles and practices of writing, and it includes writing college-level essays, review of basic writing skills, and written works. Furthermore, Writing 101 will also focus on narrative/descriptive, expository, and persuasive writing. It may be offered in modules.

Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) :

After completion of the course students will be able to:

1. Develop ideas about a topic for the purpose of writing, organizing, selecting, and relating ideas, and develop them in coherent paragraphs and essays.
2. Use a variety of writing styles for different audiences, and improve writing by correcting errors, restricting, and rewriting.
3. Write essays and other works to include drafts, journals, and in-class writing.

Tohono O'odham Community College

- Thus, to do well in this class, you should plan to attend and participate in class on a regular and consistent basis. Academic success means consistently working at your best possible level. In addition, chronic lateness to class will also impinge on your participation since group cohesion will lose its effectiveness. Students are responsible for informing the instructor about all absences in a timely manner.
- Your final grade will be based on Individual and Group Work. It will be calculated using the following percentage scale: **A**=90 to 100%; **B**=80 to 89%, **C**=70 to 79%; **D**=60 to 69%; and **F**=50 to 59%.

Individual and Group Work

- ***All work handed in as individual work must be done individually.*** This means that you need to be careful in writing your own words rather than “borrowing” words, phrases, or ideas from other students with whom you may have discussed an assignment. See the statement on Academic Honesty below.

Key Performance Areas in Individual and Group Work:

a. Readiness Quizzes.....	60 pts.
b. Short Papers.....	300 pts.
c. Journal.....	100 pts.
d. Midterm Examination.....	100 pts.
e. Final Examination.....	100 pts.
f. Personal Review Cover Memo/Portfolio.....	100 pts.
g. Group Work.....	50 pts.
Total	810 pts.

Explanations of Assignments and Grading in each Key Performance Area

- **Readiness Quizzes:**

Several times during the semester, you will be given a short objective quiz over the reading material you were to have prepared for that day.

It is best to take quizzes as scheduled. In the case of unavoidable delay or absence, students must e-mail the instructor immediately with an explanation of the situation in order to make alternative arrangements. Supplemental documentation may be required.

- **Short Papers:**

Three papers (**three to five full-pages in length**) on assigned topics will be due at regular intervals during the semester to give you practice in developing and sustaining a clear thesis statement, an argument or a line of thought and writing other types of essays (e.g., narrative-descriptive, process analysis and persuasion).

Tohono O'odham Community College

- Midterm Examination

The midterm examination will assess your comprehension of the course material from the beginning to the approximate midpoint of the semester. The exam *may be* composed of the following sections: multiple choice; true or false; definitions; and a possible mini-examination essay.

Note: It is best to take an exam as scheduled. In the case of unavoidable delay or absence, students must e-mail the instructor immediately with an explanation of the situation in order to make alternative arrangements. Supplemental documentation may be required.

- Final Examination

The final examination will cover course material from the approximate semester midpoint to the end. The exam *may be* composed of the following sections: multiple choice; true or false; definitions; and a possible mini-examination essay.

Note: It is best to take an exam as scheduled. In the case of unavoidable delay or absence, students must e-mail the instructor immediately with an explanation of the situation in order to make alternative arrangements. Supplemental documentation may be required.

- Directions for the Personal Review Cover Memo/Portfolio

The Personal Review Cover Memo for the Portfolio is an opportunity for you to explore your development as a writer and a person throughout the semester. Thus, students will analyze and evaluate their own voice and how it develops. Use quotations from your short papers, the journal, and any other relevant sources that show changes or continuities in your writing style, voice, attitudes, beliefs, and subject matter. This cover memo (see relevant page[s] in Hacker and Sommers text for physical formatting of a memo) will be submitted along with two essays of your choosing and other items like the checklist (see below). This constitutes the **Portfolio** for the semester. Specific instructions will be distributed to students before the assignment is due. Finally, please maintain objectivity by fairly analyzing your experiences that influenced your writing voice and refrain from expressing overly personalized bias.

Mandatory Minimum Requirements:

- I. A specific assignment sheet and/or checklist will be distributed for the Personal Review Cover Memo/Portfolio. The portfolio checklist must be included in the submission per the specific instructions for its placement. Writing Portfolios that do not include the checklist will not be accepted.
- II. The cover memo **must** be word processed. Cover memos handwritten in ink or pencil will not be accepted.
- III. Each subheading (see below) must be answered with a minimum of three sentences.
- IV. As with all writing assignments (e.g., journal entries, essays), please **proofread** the

Tohono O'odham Community College

PLEASE NOTE: *Passing the course requires that you hand in all short papers and tests and other required assignments as well as your active participation in class discussion.*

Himdag Cultural Component:

Students will be asked to write at least four journal entries concerning the “T- So:son” (“Our Core”) values (*T-Wohocudadag*—Our Beliefs, *T-Apedag*—Our Well-Being, *T-Pi:k Elida*—Our Deepest Respect, and *I-We:mta*—Working Together) developed by Tohono O’odham Community College. Journal entries will relate to specific essays and how the stories illustrate and/or do not illustrate the *T- So:son*.

An in-class activity may be planned to further understand the meaning of the T-So:son values.

Policies and Expectations:

- Academic Honesty

I encourage you to talk to each other about the readings and ideas brought up in class. *However, in all assignments to be graded as individual work you are expected to do your own written work.* It is best to express the ideas you use in your own words.

In the case of both individual work, words or ideas that come from someplace or someone else must be cited: “A good rule of thumb is this: Whenever you consciously borrow any important element from someone else, any sentence, any colorful phrase or original term, any plan or idea—say so, either in a footnote, bibliography, or parenthesis” (from “Academic Honesty in the Writing of Essays and Other Papers,” Carleton College, 1990).

Indeed, **plagiarism** is defined as “taking another person’s ideas or work and presenting them as your own” and “is especially intolerable in academic culture. Just as taking someone else’s property constitutes physical theft, taking credit for someone else’s ideas constitutes intellectual theft” (*Your College Experience: Strategies for Success*, 162). Furthermore, as the Tohono O’odham Community College *Student Handbook*, Academic Year 2010-2012, states, “Students must do their own work and submit only their own work on examinations, reports, and projects, unless otherwise permitted by the instructor” (26). Again, certainly, secondary sources used in any of your essays must be cited.

Any instance of plagiarism is unacceptable and is grounds for an automatic failing grade.

Indeed, “Submitting a paper you purchased from an Internet source or from an individual will cause you to miss out on the discovery and skill development that research assignments are meant to teach” (*Your College Experience: Strategies for Success*, 207). Search engines (and other computer software in Turnitin, for example) can easily detect instances of plagiarism in submitted work, so please do not plagiarize.

- Incompletes

Tohono O'odham Community College

absences.

Again, please do not schedule outside appointments that conflict with the class meeting times and days.

If there is, however, an extenuating circumstance(s), please communicate with the course professor about your particular situation as soon as possible.

- **Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Compliance**

Tohono O'odham Community College strives to comply with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. If you have a learning problem, physical disability, or medical illness that requires you to have any special arrangements, *please inform the course professor as soon as possible.*

- **Cultural/Religious Observance & Accommodations**

The college recognizes the importance of the religious and Native American cultural observances and practices of its students unless it will result in undue hardship for college programs. *At least two weeks before the religious observance, students must submit to the course professor a written statement that contains the date of the observance.* Absences for religious and cultural observance and practices do not count in the number of absences allowed by a course professor.

- **General Classroom Behavior**

In the spirit of *T-Pi:k Elida* ("Our Deepest Respect"), students should behave and speak in a mutually respectful, mature, and courteous manner when addressing each other as well as the course professor. Indeed, the classroom experience and environment should encourage positive feelings and thoughts for academic success. Because of this, any disruption of the lecture and usual classroom activities will not be tolerated.

In addition, during class lecture and other activities, *students must turn off cellular telephones and other electronic devices. Text messaging is forbidden during the entire class meeting time.*

Note: Computer laptops, computer tablets, MP3 players, iPads, and iPods are not to be used during the entire class meeting time. Please do not listen to music while class is in session. Again, all electronic devices are not permitted during the entire allotted class meeting time.

- **Email College Account and Communication:**

Please strive daily to check your Tohono O'odham Community College (TOCC) assigned email account. The college conducts most of its business through email communication. Indeed, important information, announcements, weather-related college closure announcements, grade progress reports throughout the semester, etc., are communicated through your college-assigned email account. If you are having difficulty accessing your email account, please contact the appropriate TOCC staff member to support your obtaining email account access.

Tohono O'odham Community College

NOTICE OF DISCLAIMER: This syllabus is designed to evolve and change throughout the semester based on class progress and interests. You will be notified of any changes as they occur.

WRT 101 Course Assignments and Important Dates
Spring Semester 2017

Tohono O'odham Community College

January 23 & 25 Thinking, Thinking Critically
about Visual Images
(continuation)

<p>Week III:</p> <p>January 30 & February 1</p>	<p>The Writing Process</p>	<p>Chapter 2 (<i>BBR</i>).</p> <p>Recommended: Hacker and Sommers' <i>Rules for Writers</i>, pp. 2-25.</p>
<p>Week IV:</p> <p>February 6 & 8</p>	<p>Narration: Telling a Story</p>	<p>Chapter 3 (<i>BBR</i>).</p> <p>Tan's "Fish Cheeks," and Alexie's "Indian Education" (handout).</p>
<p>Week V:</p> <p>February 13 & 15</p>	<p>Description: Writing with Your Senses</p>	<p>Chapter 4 (<i>BBR</i>).</p> <p>Manning's "Arm Wrestling with My Father," and Momaday's "The Way to Rainy Mountain."</p>
<p>Week VI:</p> <p>February 22</p> <p>Due 2/22: Short Paper #1 (Narration-Description).</p>	<p>President's Day Holiday, no class meeting on February 20</p> <p>Example: Pointing to Instances</p>	<p>Chapter 5 (<i>BBR</i>).</p> <p>Staples' "Black Men and Public Space," and Rae's "The Struggle."</p>

Class Meeting/ Due Dates	Conceptual Topic/Activity, Etc.	Assigned Reading/Homework
<p>Week VII:</p> <p>February 27 &</p>	<p>Comparison and Contrast: Setting Things Side by Side</p>	<p>Chapter 6 (<i>BBR</i>).</p> <p>Sedaris' "Remembering My Childhood on the Continent"</p>

Tohono O'odham Community College

Due 4/5:
Short Paper #2
(Process Analysis).

Starve,” and Javdani’s
“Plata o Plomo: Silver or
Lead.”

Week XII: April 10 & 12	Finding and Documenting Sources Recommended: “Reading and writing arguments” in Hacker	Appendix (<i>BBR</i>). Recommended: Hacker and Sommers’ <i>Rules for Writers</i> , pp. 91-117.
Week XIII: April 17 & 19	Argument and Persuasion: Stating Opinions and Proposals	Chapter 12 (<i>BBR</i>). Should Colleges Adopt Trigger Warnings? Richson and Overton.
Week XIV: April 24 & 26	Argument and Persuasion: Stating Opinions and Proposals (continuation)	Chapter 12 (<i>BBR</i>). Who Needs Privacy? Carr, Harper, and Andrews.

Class Meeting/ Due Dates	Conceptual Topic/Activity, Etc.	Assigned Reading/Homework
Week XV: May 1 & 3	Argument and Persuasion: Stating Opinions and Proposals (continuation)	Chapter 12 (<i>BBR</i>). Who Needs Privacy?