

English 101: Composition and Rhetoric

Introduction

Welcome to English 101. A big percentage of the classes you'll take at WVU will involve writing, and this course is designed to develop skills you'll need for success throughout your university career. These skills include writing, critical thinking, and collaboration with other students. I'm excited about getting to know you and watching you develop as writers throughout the semester.

Texts

Andrea Lunsford, *Easy Writer: A Pocket Reference*, 3rd ed.

WVU Undergraduate Writing Committee, *Work in Progress: A Guide to English 101 at West Virginia University*.

Policies and Procedures

Policies are standard throughout English 101. Please see *Work in Progress* pp. xxi-xxvi for details. I'm listing below 2 of the most important policies.

Attendance—Attendance is crucial in English 101. Every day, we'll be going over important material, and it's easy to get behind if you miss. The standard English 101 policy for TR courses is that you can miss 2 times without penalty. Beyond that, your final grade drops a letter with each absence, and at 5 absences I have to fail you. Please save your absences for unavoidable emergencies. Also, please talk to me if you are part of an athletic team or other university-sponsored activity that will make it necessary for you to miss more than 2 times.

Social Justice—English 101 supports WVU's commitment to social justice. This class, including the students and me, will work as a group to keep the atmosphere positive, and to make everyone feel welcome to share opinions and ideas. Tell me if you have any suggestions or concerns.

Important Things to Know

Writing Center—The writing center is there to help you during all stages of the writing process, providing you with feedback for prewriting and early and later drafts. It is located in Colson G02 and open Mon. 10-7, Tue 10-7, Wed 10-5, Thu 10-7, and Fri 10-3. Call 293-5788 to make an appointment, or drop by to check if any tutors are available or sign up for a time. Also visit the website—

http://english.wvu.edu/centers_and_projects/wcenter/writing_center_home

Disability Accommodation—Please talk with me if you have a documented learning disability such as dyslexia, hearing or vision problems, or any other special need that might affect your performance or participation in class, and I will do what I can to accommodate you. Also, please be aware of the support services available to you through the Office of Disability Services located in G-30 Mountainlair. Phone: (304) 293-6700 Voice/TDD: (304) 293-7740 Email: access2@mail.wvu.edu

Evaluation

Portfolio—This is a portfolio class, so I definitely grade on improvement. For each paper, you’ll get an in-process grade, which is not final. You’ll revise your papers based on my comments, and turn them in again in the final portfolio, where I’ll give them a final grade.

Short Writes—There will be 9 one-page writing assignments, and I’ll drop your lowest grade. On these you’ll get a check plus (3 pts.), check (2 pts.), check minus (1 pt.), or no credit. Except when I ask you to handwrite a short write in class, these should be typed, 12-point font, and they should come to the bottom of the page. Going over a page is fine—never worry about writing too much.

Reading Posts —Throughout the semester, you’ll read some short stories and essays that will help you understand the assignments and provide you with opportunities to practice critical thinking and discussion. The readings will be either in *Work in Progress* or on ecampus (specified in syllabus schedule of work). You’ll discuss the readings both in class, and on a discussion board on WVU ecampus. When you have a reading post due (see schedule of work), you’ll need to log on to WVU ecampus at <http://ecampus.wvu.edu>. You’ll find a discussion board, where I’ll ask you a specific question about the reading, or just ask you to share your thoughts and opinions about it, showing you read without summarizing the whole thing. If you like, your post can respond to another student’s post, telling if you agree or disagree, but please add thoughts of your own! These posts are due at 10 pm on the days listed on the syllabus. Posts after 10 pm won’t be graded, so email me well before that time if you’re having trouble. Like with short writes, I’ll drop your lowest grade.

Participation

Participation is an easy way to bring up your grade in English 101. It involves coming to class on time, being prepared for class, taking an active part in class activities and peer review, and at least occasionally adding to a class oral discussion. If you’re a quiet person, but you work hard and come to class prepared, don’t worry that your grade will suffer. However, you’ll get the most out of the class and have the most fun if you make an effort to participate orally. Also, please put your cell phone and ipod away before class begins, and if you’re late for class, put them away before opening the door.

Late Work—There’s a lot of writing involved in English 101, so it’s difficult to catch up if you get behind. Please try to get your work done on time, and if you have an unavoidable problem that will cause your work to be late, email me in enough time that I can reasonably read your email and reply before class. Also, if you know you’ll need to miss class on a due date, please turn in your work early or arrange to have another student turn it in for you. Short writes (homework assignments) have to be turned in during the class they are due, or they will be docked a point. Papers will be docked a permanent letter grade (lasting into the final portfolio) if they are late. Because I know things happen—PRT breaking down, printers breaking, etc.—you have a grace period until noon on the day the paper is due. Get the paper into my mailbox in the English office in Colson Hall by that time, and I won’t count your paper late. Please note that the grace period does not apply to short writes, just papers.

Final Portfolio	60%
Short Writes	20%
Reading Postings	10%
Participation	10%

Schedule of Work

**Subject to change according to progress and class needs.

AUGUST	
Tuesday	Thursday
<p>19 Discuss syllabus. Introductions. Timeline. Letter to a friend.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Homework: Write one page, double spaced, telling about a time you communicated effectively with others. Bring 2 copies.</p>	<p>21: (<i>Last Day to Register is August 22</i>) Assign Multi-Genre Personal Narrative. Multi-genre activity (SW 1). Map. Reading like a writer. Due Today: communication paper</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Homework: Read “The Ferry” by Brazaitis (on ecampus). Reading post 1 on ecampus due Monday at 10 pm. Write one page paper plan giving overview of story and genres you plan to use (SW 2).</p>
<p>28 Freewrite—goals for course. Discuss “The Ferry.” Read comics. Make own comics and share (SW 3). Share paper plans. Discuss preface. Conf. signups. Due Today: RP 1 (Mon. at 10 pm) and paper plan.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Homework: Bring at least 3 completed genres to conferences.</p>	<p>30 CLASS CANCELLED FOR CONFERENCES. Meet individually with Prof. Joyce in or right outside Eliza’s on fourth floor of library. Bring genres and any questions, anything you’d like to show me.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Homework: Finish preface and genres. Bring them in for peer review.</p>
SEPTEMBER	
<p>2 (<i>Labor Day Recess September 1st</i>) Peer review. In-class revisions. Timeline.</p>	<p>4 Reflective writing. Share favorite genre (new or historical). Assign Text in Context Essay. Protest song activity and outline. Brainstorm texts. Sample papers. Due Today: Multi-Genre Personal Narrative “Final For Now”</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Homework: Read A.O. Scott’s “How the Western Was Won.,” (WiP 155). RP 2 due Mon. night at 10 pm.</p>
<p>9 <i>Computer lab G-18</i> Discuss “How the Western Was Won.” Analysis activity in groups. Discuss descriptive outlines for papers. Practice with databases and online research. Due Today: RP 2 (Mon. at 10 pm)</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Homework: Descriptive outline, 1 pg. typed (SW 4) Bring sources and <i>Easy Writer</i>.</p>	<p>11 Share descriptive outlines. Evaluate sources. Begin drafting paper. Go over MLA. Conf. signups. Due Today: Descriptive outline and bring sources. Bring Easy Writer.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Homework: first draft (at least half of each section), prepare for conferences.</p>
<p>16 CLASS CANCELLED FOR CONFERENCES. Meet individually with Prof. Joyce in or right outside Eliza’s on fourth floor of library. Bring draft.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Homework: Finish Text in Context Essay for peer review. Bring sources and 2 copies of essay. Bring Easy Writer.</p>	<p>18 Peer review. MLA.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Homework: Read “Bird by Bird” by Ann Lamott (WiP 121), RP 3 due Monday at 10 pm. Revise Text in Context essay, due Sept. 30</p>

<p>23 Assign Midterm Memo and Portfolio. Discuss “Bird by Bird.” Share goals on board. Draft Midterm Memo, review guidelines. Due Today: RP 3 (Mon. at 10 pm) ----- Homework: Finish and type up midterm memo for peer review. Bring <i>Easy Writer</i></p>	<p>25 Peer review. Grammar activity. Due Today: bring in typed midterm memo and <i>Easy Writer</i>. ----- Homework: Finish midterm memo and Text in Context essay. Put together midterm portfolio.</p>
<p>SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER</p>	
<p>Tuesday</p>	<p>Thursday</p>
<p>30 Reflective writing. Assign Feature Article. Brainstorm possibilities. Interview me, types of questions, working in quotes, paraphrase. Due Today: Text in Context “Final For Now” (as part of Midterm Portfolio); Midterm Memo (SW 5 & 6) ----- Homework: Read “Badlands” by O’Connor (WiP 161). RP 4 due Wed. night at 10 pm.</p>	<p>2 (<i>Mid-Semester is October 3</i>) Discuss O’Connor Essay. Analysis of feature articles—audience, structure, quotes. Superhero Convention activity (SW 7). Due Today: RP 4 (Wed. 10 pm) ----- Homework: Find a Q&A interview and bring it to class.</p>
<p>7 Sharing Convention activity. Practice working in quotes and observations. Due Today: Bring Q&A interview. ----- Homework: Read Casey’s “Our Oceans are Turning into Plastic. Are We?” (on ecampus). RP 5 due Wed. at 10 pm.</p>	<p>9 (<i>Mid-Semester Reports Due</i>) Discuss Casey. Talk about pictures and charts. Practice observation and opening with memory. Due Today: RP 5 (Wed. 10 pm) ----- Homework: Type up interview and observation notes (SW 8). Find outside research materials and bring to class. TIP: look in LEXIS-NEXIS for articles.</p>
<p>14 write description of person/people. Write paragraph with quotes. Work in outside info. Conf. signups. Due Today: Interview and observation notes, bring outside research ----- Homework: Draft at least onto top of 3rd page for conferences. Be ready to explain rest of paper.</p>	<p>16 CLASS CANCELLED FOR CONFERENCES. Meet individually with Prof. Joyce in or right outside Eliza’s on fourth floor of library. Bring draft and ideas for finishing. ----- Homework: Finish full first draft for peer review. Bring two copies on Tuesday.</p>
<p>21 <i>Computer lab G-18</i> Peer review. Revision stations. Due Today: Bring 2 copies for peer review/revision. ----- Homework: Finish Feature Article for Thursday.</p>	<p>23 (<i>Last Day to Drop is October 24</i>) In-class reflective writing. Assign Multi-perspective research paper. Multi-perspective activity (SW 9). Brainstorm topics and POVs. Due Today: Feature Article “Final For Now” Due ----- Homework: RP 6: “Dry September” by Faulkner (on ecampus). Due Mon. at 10 pm.</p>

<p>28 Computer lab G-18 Class Activities: Discuss Faulkner. Letters to the editor, practice writing in 3rd person. In-class research. Due Today: RP 6 (Mon. at 10 pm) ----- Homework: RP 7: find two sources in an online database and post citation and 2 sentence summary and POVs on ecampus by Wed.at 10 pm. Bring printed out sources you have so far to class Thu.</p>	<p>30 Computer lab G-18 Work with sources, begin drafting paper. Due Today: RP 7 (Wed. 10 pm). Bring in sources. ----- Homework: RP 8: Find 1 more source and post on ecampus by Wed. at 10 pm with 2 sentence summary and POVs. Work on paper. Bring in all printed out sources and paper in print and file (emailed to yourself fine) on Thu.</p>
<p>NOVEMBER</p>	
<p>4 <i>Election Day</i> <i>No Class</i></p>	<p>6 Computer lab G-18 Source evaluation, work on paper. Due today: RP 8 (Wed. 10 pm). Bring in sources and paper so far. ----- Homework: Complete at least 3 full pages for conferences.</p>
<p>11 CLASS CANCELLED FOR CONFERENCES. Meet individually with Prof. Joyce in or right outside Eliza’s on fourth floor of library. ----- Homework: Finish first draft for peer review. Bring in 2 copies.</p>	<p>13 Computer lab G-18 Due Today: Bring in 2 copies of paper for peer review/revision. ----- Homework: Finish Multi-perspective research paper. Bring in graded drafts and new printouts of first 3 papers.</p>
<p>18 Reflective writing. Discuss Final Portfolios. Revision activities. Signup for optional conferences. Discuss preface. Due Today: Multi-perspective “Final For Now” Due. ----- Homework: Bring any questions, new revisions, or old comments to be explained to conferences. Portfolio revisions.</p>	<p>20 CLASS CANCELLED FOR OPTIONAL CONFERENCES. Meet individually with Prof. Joyce in or right outside Eliza’s on fourth floor of library. ----- Homework: Write preface and bring after break. Bring in old drafts and whatever you have of new revisions to class after break.</p>
<p>25 <i>Thanksgiving Break—No Class</i></p>	<p>27 <i>Thanksgiving Break—No Class</i></p>
<p>DECEMBER</p>	
<p>2 Revision activities. Sharing from portfolios. Due Today: draft of preface. Bring in old papers and revisions so far. ----- Homework: Portfolio due Thursday</p>	<p>4 (<i>December 5TH is Last Day of Classes</i>) Due Today: Final Portfolio Due in my office</p>

*Portfolios Returned By Final Exam Time Slot