ENG 100: Introduction to College Reading and Writing

COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2014
Instructor: Kevin Janak
ENG 100-02L meets MWF 11:00-11:50 AM, HL201
ENG 100-03L meets MWF 1:00-1:50 PM, HL201

Office Location: HL126
Office Hours: Wed 2:00pm - 4:00pm, Friday 9:00am - 11:00am
Office Phone: (903) 468.8725
Office Fax: (903) 886.5980
University Email Address: kjanak@leomail.tamuc.edu

PLEASE NOTE: This is a common syllabus used by all graduate students teaching sections of this course.

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings:

Textbook(s) Required:


Course Description:

This course is designed to support you in successfully completing your ENG 1301 class. You’ll work with your small groups and ENG 100 instructor to strengthen your drafts for ENG 1301, better understand your writing process, and work individually on the challenges you may face when writing academic texts. You will also work on your reading skills in this class.

Student Learning Outcomes- From THECB:
Students will be able to:

1. Locate explicit textual information, draw complex inferences, and analyze and evaluate the information within and across multiple texts of varying lengths.
2. Comprehend and use vocabulary effectively in speaking, reading, and writing.

3. Identify and analyze the audience, purpose, and message across a variety of texts.

4. Describe and apply insights gained from reading and writing a variety of texts.

5. Compose a variety of texts that demonstrate reading comprehension, clear focus, logical development of ideas, and use of appropriate language that advance the writer’s purpose.

6. Determine and use effective approaches and rhetorical strategies for given reading and writing situations.

7. Generate ideas and gather information relevant to the topic and purpose, incorporating the ideas and words of other writers in student writing using established strategies.

8. Evaluate relevance and quality of ideas and information in recognizing, formulating, and developing a claim.

9. Develop and use effective reading and revision strategies to strengthen the writer’s ability to compose college-level writing assignments.

10. Recognize and apply the conventions of standard English in reading and writing.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Instructional / Methods / Activities Assessments

Feedback Sessions:

Be prepared to talk about your own writing and the writing of others in the group as we workshop papers. You will share drafts of your writing with other readers, and they will respond. We will frequently workshop your papers and you should always be prepared to participate by contributing enthusiastically, knowledgably, and productively to all discussions. The purpose for the workshop sessions is to help you develop habits of reflection and effective ways to “see” others’ work in order to help them revise it, even as you learn to revise your own work with the same strategies. You will respond regularly, respectfully, and diplomatically, to the work of other members of your group through workshopping papers. You will need to make hardcopies of any writing assignments that are given to you and be responsible to bring them to class on the instructed due dates.

Journals:

All students will be responsible to write journals about what they have read (A Memoir of the Craft) with personal feedback on the readings. These journals can be revised and be put together to make the final paper for the semester. The students will reflect on their writing and the history of their writing.
Conferences:

These conferences are one-on-one conferences scheduled between the instructor and student. ENG 100 instructors are required to hold conferences at least three times during the semester: once early in the semester (by the end of week 3), around midterm, and near the end of the semester.

Writing Memoir:

In this class, you read Stephen King’s memoir of his writing. For the final project of this class, you will write your own writing memoir. Obviously you will be very creative in this document while also utilizing strategies you have learned in this class and ENG 1301, but there are also some required elements of this text. You must include a section that talks about your writing process this semester and what steps you took to improve your papers for ENG 1301. You should use a lot of detail (like King does) and describe your process as thoroughly as possible. Quote the feedback you received for your ENG 1301 and 100 teachers, feedback from peers, feedback from the Writing Center, and other resources you employed to become a better writer this semester. This paper challenges you to examine your improvement as a writer this semester, but also to look back at past experiences with writing to see how those experiences shaped who you are as a writer today. Be sure to critically examine the way you are describing yourself in this memoir—Bronwyn Williams’ article will help you critically analyze the metaphors you create in this text.

Homework: The reading assignments. Students are responsible to read On Writing: A Memoir of the Craft by Stephen King. All students are to read about 10 pages before every class meeting so that we can have little discussions in class. You will also be notified to read certain pages from The Academic Writer: A Brief Guide, and your quiz will also be based on this reading.

Grade Calculation:

Your lab grade will be calculated using the following criteria:
10 journals: 40%
Class participation: 10%
Pop-quizzes: 10% (I will drop the lowest four scored quizzes)
Final paper: 30%
Attendance: 10%

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

You will need:

• A valid, working email address that you check often (everyday)
• Regular internet access (additional readings available online)

• Access to a computer with a word processing program and a printer (assignments must be typed and printed, and you will print approximately 100 pages for this class.)

• Some instructors of ENG 100 may choose to utilize an eCollege course shell.

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

Some texts for this course may exist exclusively online, so you must have Internet access to read and/or view these texts.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Interaction with Instructor Statement:

Please contact your instructor with any questions you may have. Your instructor’s communication preference is e-mail, and his/her address is: kjanak@leomail.tamuc.edu. Also, each instructor in the department of literature and languages is required to keep at least three office hours per course per week.

Grievance Procedure:
If you have concerns about the class or about me as an instructor, please speak to me about those concerns. If you are not satisfied with the outcome of our conversation, the next person in the chain of command is the Director of the Writing Program, Dr. Tabetha Adkins. Her e-mail address is Tabetha.Adkins@tamuc.edu (Tabetha dot Adkins at tamuc dot edu). Please see this site for more information on the grievance procedures: http://web.tamuc.edu/academics/colleges/humanitiesSocialSciencesArts/departments/literatureLanguages/firstYearWriting/informationForStudents.aspx

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures:

Attendance Policy

Attendance will be checked for every class meeting. There will be unannounced quizzes at the beginning of the class. The quizzes will be based on what you have read and your general knowledge about writing. Taking the quiz and attending classes itself can make a huge difference in your grade. These are some easy points you can get just by coming to class!

Typically, teachers use the following policy:

For classes that meet twice/week, students may miss up to four times without penalty.
After the fifth absence, the student’s final grade will drop by one letter. After the seventh absence, the student cannot pass the course.

Other policies you may want to include:

There is no such thing as “partial attendance”—students are either present for the entire course or they are absent. Excessive tardiness can be penalized as an absence. The university has no policy for “excused absences” except for university sanctioned events, so please save your absences for illness, court appearances, child care arrangements, and other situations when you must miss class.

Academic Honesty

The official departmental policy: “Instructors in the Department of Literature and Languages do not tolerate plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonestly. Instructors uphold and support the highest academic standards, and students are expected to do likewise. Penalties for students guilty of academic dishonesty include disciplinary probation, suspension, and expulsion. (Texas A&M University-Commerce Code of Student Conduct 5.b [1,2,3])

If you ever have any questions about a particular use of a source, always ask your instructor. They want you to avoid plagiarism, too, so they will help you do so whenever and wherever they can. Do what you can to take advantage of this support—to look innocent in addition to being innocent when it comes to charges of plagiarism.

Students guilty of academic dishonesty of plagiarism can expect to fail the assignment in question or the entire course depending on the nature of the incident.

On University-Sanctioned Activities

To accommodate students who participate in university-sanctioned activities, the First-Year Composition Program offers sections of this course at various times of the day and week. If you think that this course may conflict with a university-sanctioned activity in which you are involved--athletics, etc.--please see your instructor after class on the first day.

University Specific Procedures:
On Behalf of Students with Disabilities:
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services
Texas A&M University-Commerce
All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See Code of Student Conduct from Student Guide Handbook)

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Weekly Schedule:

The instructor reserves the right to adjust this schedule throughout the semester to accommodate for class needs, unexpected weather, etc.

Week one: Introduction
On Writing: A Memoir of the Craft discussion
Journal #1

Week two:  Mon. 01/20 – NO CLASS (Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday)
On Writing: A Memoir of the Craft discussion
Journal #2, WA 1 (gathering ideas and brainstorming)
The Academic Writer: A Brief Guide discussion

Week three: On Writing: A Memoir of the Craft discussion
Journal #3
WA 1 (proof reading and revising)
Conferences

Week four: On Writing: A Memoir of the Craft discussion
In class writing. Narrative
WA 1 (work on your final draft)
The Academic Writer: A Brief Guide discussion

Week five: On Writing: A Memoir of the Craft discussion
Journal #4

Week six: On Writing: A Memoir of the Craft discussion
Journal #5, WA 2
The Academic Writer: A Brief Guide discussion

Week seven: On Writing: A Memoir of the Craft discussion
Journal #6, WA 2
The Academic Writer: A Brief Guide discussion

Week eight: On Writing: A Memoir of the Craft discussion
Journal #7 WA 2 (work on the final draft)
Conferences

Week nine: Spring Break! Enjoy your week!

Week ten: On Writing: A Memoir of the Craft discussion
Journal #8

Week eleven: On Writing: A Memoir of the Craft discussion
Journal #9

Week twelve: On Writing: A Memoir of the Craft discussion
Journal #10, WA 3
The Academic Writer: A Brief Guide discussion

Week thirteen: On Writing: A Memoir of the Craft discussion
WA 3
draft of Memoir Due

Week fourteen: Conferences

Week fifteen: Discussion
Memoir Due