

Revised: 12/8/2009

Maryville University Course Syllabus  
Spring 2010  
ENGL-104-1S  
COMPOSITION: THE ESSAY  
Alternating Wednesdays, 6:00-8:50pm  
Fenton Campus  
January 13 – April 21, 2010  
3 Credit Hours

**\*\*\*PRE-ASSIGNMENT FOR FIRST CLASS:**

**Read Text: Ch. 1, 3**

**Skim Text: Ch. 20, 21**

COURSE PREREQUISITES: ENGL101

INSTRUCTOR: Margaret A. Smith, JD  
Contact: 314-707-6331 (Cell)

Email: msmith6@maryville.edu  
Office Hours: By appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course furthers the work of ENGL 101, emphasizing the writing and careful editing of argumentative essays and of various types of expository essays. The major course project is a research paper.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. To gather, analyze and synthesize information, and to present what they have learned to their readers.
2. To learn to present observations in an informative essay.
3. To present a critical evaluation of professional and peer writing.
4. To learn to organize information and ideas in a manner that engages and sustains the reader.
5. To learn the argumentative essay format and to present the results in a well-reasoned, well-supported argument.
6. To identify and incorporate rhetoric of the argument and persuasion in an essay format.
7. To learn the academic standards of research and citation, with an emphasis on academic integrity to prevent plagiarism.
8. To produce a research paper incorporating the above elements of research and writing.
9. To prepare and produce an oral presentation of the final research paper.

## **CLASSROOM RULES**

1. All assignments to be handed in on the date due. For every day an assignment is late, ten (10) percent of points will be deducted from the total possible points.
2. All assignments are to be submitted through D2L. Exceptions must be approved prior to the due date.
3. **All take-home assignments are to be formatted for 8.5 x 11 inch white paper, double spaced, one inch margins, 12 pt TNR type. No handwritten assignments will be accepted.**
4. All in-class assignments, quizzes or tests (other than work completed in the computer classroom) shall be neatly handwritten, double-space, on looseleaf , college-ruled paper. It is the student's responsibility to always have looseleaf to write on in class.
5. No cell phones, i-pods, blackberrys, or other personal electronic equipment will be allowed in class. Laptops are allowed. If computers become a distraction, you will be asked to keep them turned off during class.
6. Cheating and/or plagiarism of any form will not be tolerated and will result in your dismissal from this class, along with other appropriate disciplinary action
7. Regular attendance and participation in classroom discussion is required of all students.
8. Unless you are ill, it is impolite to get up and leave during the middle of a class. If you leave, you might not be invited back.

## **ATTENDANCE**

**More than one unexcused absence will result in an AF grade.**

Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class. Arriving late or leaving class early may result in the deduction of 50 points per class. Instructor must be notified of any classes that will be missed for any reason.

## **HANDOUTS**

Handouts may be distributed. When absent from class it is the student's responsibility to obtain copies of any and all handouts from the instructor or a fellow student.

## **HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS**

Assignments may be accepted late with a 10 percent penalty for each day late. All exceptions to the above grading policy must be discussed (by phone or in person) with the instructor prior to the due date.

## **PLAGIARISM STATEMENT**

Any student who deliberately or unintentionally submits as his or her own work which is in any part taken from another person's work without proper acknowledgement is guilty of plagiarism. Punitive action for a student guilty of plagiarism or cheating may include a grade of "F" for the assignment or dismissal from the course with a grade of "F".

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**NOTE:** The assignment schedule may be revised due to class progress and other learning/teaching factors. It is the student's responsibility to follow the class assignments. Some homework assignments will be given to students through the semester. It is the student's responsibility to see that these homework assignments are turned in on time.

**INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS:**

In addition to some handouts distributed throughout the semester, the following textbooks are required for the course:

*The St. Martin's Guide to Writing*, 8<sup>th</sup> Edition, by Rise B. Axelrod and Charles R. Cooper

**TEXT READING ASSIGNMENTS:** Textbook chapters are assigned weekly. Be prepared to complete **in-class writing assignments or quizzes** based on information covered in the chapters.

**ESSAY ASSIGNMENTS:** Essays should follow MLA rules. Essays are to be 3-5 pages in length and submitted through D2L.

**IN-CLASS WRITING ASSIGNMENTS:** All in-class writing assignments shall be in MLA format, completed on computer, if available, and submitted through D2L to the instructor. If hand-written, assignment shall be double-spaced, on college-ruled, loose-leaf paper. No assignments ripped from notebooks will be accepted.

**RESEARCH PAPER INSTRUCTIONS** will be handed out in class and posted on D2L.

**EVALUATION AND GRADING:                      Percentage of final grade**

Essays	100 points each	40%
Class participation	100 points	10%
Research Paper	250 points	25%
Oral Presentation	50 points	5%

Quizzes /Writing Assignments/	combined pts	20%
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**\*\*\*\*There will be an automatic 10% deduction in grade for any paper which does not follow the MLA format.**

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**GRADING SCALE:**

93-100	=	A
90-92	=	A-
87-89	=	B+
83-86	=	B
80-82	=	B-
77-79	=	C+
73-76	=	C
70-72	=	C-
60-69	=	D
60 or less	=	F

***PRE-ASSIGNMENT***

Read Ch.1, 3  
Skim 20, 21

***January 13***

Read Ch. 3, 22

MLA  
Using and Acknowledging Sources

***January 27***

Draft of Concept Essay Due  
Read Ch. 4, 12

Thesis Statements  
Research Checklists  
Time Line

***February 10***

Read Ch. 5, 19

Thesis Statement for Research Paper Due

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### ***February 24***

Concept Essay Due  
Draft of Opposing Positions Essay Due

Read Ch. 6, 13,

### ***March 10***

Read Ch. 7, 16  
Peer Review of Draft

### ***March 24***

Opposing Positions Essay Due  
Draft of Final Paper Due  
Read Ch. 8

### ***April 7***

Read Ch. 9, 10  
Peer Review of Draft

### ***April 21***

Final Paper Due  
Oral Presentations