

English Fundamentals: English 28 ~ Fall 2013

Course # 0212

CSB 101

T/TH: 8:55-10:20 AM.

Instructor: A. Keshishyan

Office: LRC 219

Office hours: Thursdays 10:30 - 11 a.m. and by appointment

E-Mail: english.lamission@gmail.com

Required Text:

- *English Simplified with MySkillsLab Access Code*
 - ISBN: 9781269411424
 - MLS access code: keshishyan34781
- *Simple, Clear and Correct Paragraphs* by Kelly
 - ISBN: 9780205520855

Required Materials:

- An active E-mail account
 - Access to Internet
 - Folder with 2 pockets
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Course Description (from LAMC catalog):

A course in reading and writing designed to strengthen the student's ability to use basic communication skills, including grammar, punctuation, and mechanics. Instruction will include the assignment of expository and argumentative essays, online grammar and writing exercises, and a research paper.

Student Learning Objectives (SLOs):

- Produce a 35-500 word essay, utilizing standard rhetorical mode and maintaining unity and coherence
- Evaluate the elements of an expository essay in terms of logical fallacies and the judgments and assumptions of the author
- Produce a 1,000 word research paper which supports an argument

A Message:

Welcome to the second part of our journey together this semester: English 28. While my goal with 21 is to better equip you for the demands of 28, my goal for this course is to better prepare you for English 101 and beyond. This class will be both challenging and rewarding, and those who dedicate their time and effort, and have a lot of motivation will be successful. This is not a class for the under-motivated or the intellectually lazy; rather, it is a course that embraces the intellectually curious and the very dedicated student. I'm confident that together we can make this course, coupled with the English 21 section, a huge success and you will leave here at the end of the semester confident and skilled in writing, research, and critical thinking.

Course Requirements:

The following is a list of the assignments required throughout the semester and the amount of points they count toward passing this class. There are **1,000** total points.

You will receive a **zero** for each missing assignment.

- Portfolio (100 points)
- Final Exam (100 points)
- Three essays (100 points each/300 points total)
- My Skills Lab (150 points)
- In-class and HW assignments (200 points)
- Participation (150 points)

Portfolio Requirements:

At the end of the semester, you will be required to submit a portfolio of your work, which will include:

- Cover letter
- One in-class timed essay
- Two revised essay packets

The portfolio should demonstrate your understanding of how to write thesis-driven essays with adequate and relevant support, so choose the best two out of the three essays you write this semester. You will further revise and polish the assignments you choose to include to showcase your progress throughout the semester. We will discuss the portfolio in more detail as the semester's end draws near. Please do not throw any work away, as you will need to include it in the portfolio.

Essays:

Final drafts will be turned in as a packet in the following order:

- Final draft
- Second draft (with Pearson tutor services receipt)
- First draft
- Peer review sheets

Grading Policy for Major Essays:

- Final draft – 70 pts.
- Draft 1 – 10 pts.
- Draft 2 – 10 pts.
- Peer review sheets – 10 pts.

Total: 100 points

LRC:

The LRC tutors are there to help students with their writing process. They are nice people and don't bite, so do not be afraid or intimidated to ask for help. The LRC is located in the LRC building, room 219. Call ahead of time to make an appointment: (818) 364-7754. Services are free for LAMC students.

Revision Policy:

I will not accept revisions on any of the essays as you have plenty of opportunities to progress before you turn in your final drafts. However, the portfolio offers you the chance to show me that you have taken what you have learned throughout the semester and are able to apply them into your writings.

MySkillsLab:

These online assignments are a required part of this course, and by departmental policy, they are worth 15% of your grade. These exercises will give you extra practice on the skills you need to work on, while not having to concentrate on what you already know. If you need technical assistance, contact Pearson: <http://247pearsoned.custhelp.com>

Pearson Tutor Services:

Your subscription to MySkillsLab gives you access to Pearson Tutor Services, including 3 free submissions. Highly qualified online tutors will carefully review your essay drafts and provide you with personalized and detailed feedback with advice on how to improve. You will receive the tutor's response typically within 12 to 48 hours. A receipt confirming the use of this service will be required in your final essay packet.

Homework Assignments:

Homework assignments are due at the BEGINNING of class. If you are late, you will receive a zero on that assignment. Assignments that require Internet responses must be submitted at or before the time allotted. Anything posted after this time will not be counted.

Participation:

Your participation in class discussions, attendance, peer review, and teacher conferencing are all a part of your participation grade.

- *Class discussions* – everyone's opinions and ideas are valued and respected in this class. We will be discussing current events, controversial issues, and sensitive topics, so be prepared to hear opinions that might differ from your own. We must be respectful and professional at all times.
- *Attendance* – your attendance is crucial to the productivity and value of this course. If you aren't here, you aren't participating. Period.
- *Peer reviews* – As part of the focus on writing in English 28, you will have the opportunity to write (several) drafts of your writing assignments. This process includes meeting in small groups with 3 or 4 colleagues. The idea is to help you rethink ideas and revise your papers. It is imperative that you turn in your drafts on time for the success of these group reviews. You will receive a zero on the peer review section of the final draft if you are not present on the day we meet in groups.

- *Conferences* – Having a one-on-one meeting with your instructor can be helpful to you in a variety of ways. You will be encouraged to meet with me during my office hours **at least once** during this semester to discuss one of your three essays. Of course, you are welcome to meet with me more than once. During our meeting, we will discuss your essay and other issues/questions/concerns you might have about the class and your progress.
- *Cell Phones and electronic devices* – The use of cell phones and/or other electronic devices during class time will lower your overall grade in the class. Please turn off your cell phones. If I see you texting, facebooking, twittering, emailing, watching iFunnies, playing games, or doing anything else that is not relevant to class, your participation grade will be lowered. Repeat offenders may lose all of their participation points.

Academic Dishonesty:

Plagiarism is intentionally or knowingly representing the words, ideas, or work of another as one's own in any academic exercise. We will discuss plagiarism as we learn about MLA. Instances of plagiarism thereafter will be reported to administration handling academic dishonesty, and you will receive a zero on that assignment.

If you are not clear about what constitutes plagiarism, ask!

Late Policy:

All written work is due at the beginning of class on the assigned day. If you know ahead of time that you will not be able to be in class on the day a paper is due, you must hand it in earlier. In case of medical or family emergencies, I might make an exception, but written documentation will be required. Otherwise, LATE PAPERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Also, I do not accept papers via Email.

Getting Help:

Feel free to ask for assistance at any time. It is your responsibility to make sure you are on top of things. There are plenty of ways to get help when you need it: (1) Email a classmate. (2) Ask me! If you are absent and need to know what you missed, contact a classmate. If you have other questions or concerns about the class, you may contact me in person or via Email. I respond to Email fairly quickly.

Emergency Procedure:

If a campus emergency that poses risk to students occurs, please be prepared to immediately follow the instructions of your Instructor. Do not exit the classroom until instructed to do so. If building evacuation is required, you will be asked to leave all of your non-essential personal belongings in the classroom and quickly, yet orderly and safely, exit the classroom and the building, preferably through the main doors on the north end of Building 29. Proceed to a safe location near the walkway intersection. As the last person to exit, I will lock the classroom door behind me and meet you outside of the building in order to account for your presence and safety.

Tentative Schedule ~ Fall 2013

*** This schedule is tentative. Depending on a number of different factors, readings, due dates, and homework assignments will most likely change. Thus, it is important to attend every class.**

Week 1

8/27 Introductions/Syllabus
8/29 MySkillsLab
Diagnostic Essay

Week 2

9/3 Writing Tips PPT
9/5 Essay #1 Prompt

Week 3

9/10 1st Drafts Due – Peer Review (bring 3 copies + Thesis Statement)
9/12 MLA

Week 4

9/17 2nd Drafts Due – Peer Review (bring 3 copies + Intro)
9/19 MLA

Week 5

9/24 **Final Drafts of Essay #1 Due**
9/26 Essay #2 Prompt

Week 6

10/1 1st Drafts Due – Peer Review (bring 3 copies + Thesis Statement)
10/3 Ethos, Pathos, Logos

Week 7

10/8 2nd Drafts Due – Peer Review (bring 3 copies + Intro)
10/10 Ethos, Pathos, Logos

Week 8

10/15 Logical Fallacies
10/17 Logical Fallacies

Week 9

10/22 **Final Drafts of Essay #2 Due**
10/24 TBA

Week 10

10/29 Essay #3 Prompt
10/31 “Yellow Wallpaper” Group Work

Week 11

11/5 1st Drafts Due – Peer Review (bring 3 copies + Thesis Statement)
11/7 Group Work

Week 12

11/12 2nd Drafts Due – Peer Review (bring 3 copies + Intro)
11/14 Presentations

Week 13

11/19 Final Drafts Due
Presentations Cont.
11/21 Portfolio Talk

Week 14

11/26 Cover Letter Drafts Due
11/28 Thanksgiving Holiday – Campus Closed

Week 15

12/3 Break-Up Letter Dramatic Reading/Revision
12/5 **Portfolios Due**

Week 16

12/10 **Final Exam** 10AM-12PM

December 10-15 Final
Final Examinations!
Good Luck ☺

Addendum:

This course supports the LAMC Institutional Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs).

PLEASE NOTE: You will be surveyed towards the end of the semester to garner how well we have met these outcomes.

As a result of the English or Speech course that should be able to:

a) Research information

b) Evaluate information

**c) Solve problems and use logical reasoning
(critical thinking) and to develop strategies for
solutions**

**d) Analyze global issues from multiple
perspectives**

**e) Communicate the merits of works of art,
music, or literature**

f) Make value judgments and ethical decisions

Here are the PLOs and how your courses meet these PLOs.

Institutional PLOs	How English addresses these PLOs
<p>Written and Oral Communication Students will demonstrate the interactive nature of communication involving speaking, writing, listening and reading. Evidence will be the student's ability to make a clear, well-organized verbal presentation employing appropriate evidence to support the arguments or conclusions and to write a clear, well-organized paper using documentation and quantitative tools when appropriate.</p>	<p>PLO 1: Analyze written text to identify underlying logic and point of view Develop a well-organized paper which develops cogent main ideas stated in a thesis and which has adequate support for statements made.</p>
<p>Information Competency Students will demonstrate information competency by combining aspects of library literacy, research methods and technological literacy. It includes consideration of ethical and legal implications of information and requires the application of both critical thinking and communication skills. Evidence will be the ability to find, evaluate, use, and communicate information in all its various formats.</p>	<p>PLO 2: Utilize diverse sources of information, to research a topic. Attribute quotes and other information gleaned from print and electronic sources, according to MLA style</p>
<p>Problem Solving Students will demonstrate the ability to solve problems by examining, selecting, using and evaluating various approaches to developing solutions. Evidence will be the ability to observe and draw reasonable inferences from observations, distinguish between relevant and irrelevant data, define problems, analyze the structure of discipline or profession-based problem solving frameworks and to use such frameworks and strategies to develop solutions.</p>	<p>PLO 3: Evaluate arguments for validity, objectivity and soundness Argue a point after having gathered and synthesized relevant information, data and evidence.</p>
<p>Aesthetic Responsiveness Students will demonstrate aesthetic responsiveness by taking a position on and communicating the merits of specific works of art, music and literature and how those works reflect human values. Evidence will be written or oral communications that articulate a personal response to works of art, explain how personal and formal factors shape that response and connect works of art to broader contexts.</p>	<p>PLO 4: Critique text in terms of style and relate a text to the period in which it was written.</p>
<p>Ethics and Values applied to decision-making: Students will demonstrate facility in making value judgments and ethical decisions by analyzing and formulating the value foundation/framework of a specific area of knowledge in its theory and practice or in a professional context. Evidence will be the ability to identify own values, infer and analyze values in artistic and humanistic works as well as scientific and technological developments and to engage in values-inflected and ethical decision-making in multiple contexts.</p>	<p>PLO 5: Distinguish fallacies in arguments and be able to recognize the validity or lack of validity of various points of view.</p>