Los Angeles Mission College
English 28, Section 0216
T and Th 12:15 PM - 1:40 PM
Room: CSB-101
fall 2013

Instructor: Dr. Joseph M. Camhi
Office Hours: T and Th 3:25 PM–4:00 PM or by appointment in the INST Office.
Email: camhijm@lamission.edu

English 28 Student Learning Objectives:

At the end of the course, the student will be able to:		Method of Assessment
SLO#1 Produce a 350-500 word essay, utilizing standard rhetorical modes and maintaining unity and coherence.		Writing Final: The production of an essay in response to a writing prompt
SLO#2	Produce a 1,000 word research paper which supports an argument.	Research Paper

To pass the course, all SLO's must be completed with a grade of at least C-.

Course Description:
English 28 is a course in reading and writing to improve the student's ability to use basic communication skills, including grammar, spelling, punctuation, and sentence construction. Instruction will include the expository and argumentative essays.

Course Texts and Materials Required:
English Simplified & MySkillsLab Pack, 13th Edition by Blanche Ellsworth and John A. Higgins. (Handbook and Web site) My Writing Lab.

Mercury Reader

Their Eyes Were Watching God by Zora Neale Hurston. ISBN: 978-0-06-112006-0 (novel)

Policies:

Attendance:

Class Attendance: Attendance is required. You are allowed TWO unexcused absences. Students may be dropped if they have Three unexcused absences before the drop deadline. If a student has more than two unexcused absences after the drop deadline, 1/3 of a letter grade for each unexcused absense. Two tardies equal one absence.

It is expected that you will actively participate in class activities including both writing and class discussion. Sleeping, engaging in side conversations, doing other homework, playing with your cell phone, or other activities that are disruptive to the class may result in you being asked to leave class (and, thus, being marked absent) and may eventually warrant a referral to the department chair or dean.

All cell phones must be silent and hidden from view while in class. If you need access to your cell phone during class for personal reasons or business, you must let me know as soon as possible. Using a cell phone may result in an absence for the class, which can affect the final grade, and excessive use will result in referral to the department chair or dean.

Essays:

There will be at least two out-of-class papers (not including the research paper), and an in-class final essay.

All work including prewriting, peer review, and essays must be turned in during class time on the date due. Each unexcused class period late brings your grade down by one letter.

All essays and other assignments written outside of the classroom must be typed, and it is best to use a computer or word processor. Research shows that writing on a word processor improves writing skills. Because writing is a process of prewriting, organizing, composing, revising, and editing, traditional methods of typing or handwriting assignments are often time-consuming and ineffective. Certainly, they discourage revision. The computer, on the other hand, makes revision and the writing process more manageable at every stage.

When you turn in an essay, you must turn in all prewriting and drafts (*and printouts/photocopies of sources*, if applicable) as well. You must staple your work together in the top left corner and include the following items in this order, top to bottom: final draft, peer review sheets, peer review drafts, prewriting and notes, printouts/photocopies of sources. Packets must be handed in a manila envelope if you cannot staple the whole thing together. Each item within the manila envelope must be stapled, or the packet will not be accepted. In addition, all quotes and paraphrases must be numbered on the essay and copies of the research. We will go over this in class.

Research Essay: A formal argumentative research paper (1,000 words). The paper must have a minimum of (3) sources (quotes and paraphrases of books and articles) to support your argument. All early drafts, notes, and copies of research must be turned in with the final essay. SKIPPING ANY STEPS IN THE RESEARCH PROCESS WILL RESULT IN YOUR PAPER BEING COUNTED AS A LATE PAPER.

You must make a hard copy and an electronic copy of EVERY out-of-class assignment you turn in to me. If a paper is lost it is your responsibility to have a copy. The electronic copy must be on a portable memory devise such as a disk or a jump drive or you can email it to yourself.

Revisions:
A students who receives a grade lower than a C- on the midterm and small out-of-class essays, will have one week to revise the paper for the passing grade of C-. A student who receives an R on his or her paper must revise, or the R becomes an F in one week. No revision will be accepted after one week unless the student is given an extension by me. In most cases, a revision should be more than a correction of mechanical and stylistic errors in the first version. Rethink your thesis, organization, and argumentative strategy. Submit a rewrite, so labeled, and stapled to the original. No unexcused late papers can be revised.

Peer Review:
We will be peer reviewing rough drafts. The rough draft must be present in class on the day that it is due, and the author must participate in peer review. The rough draft can be one page less than the minim page count required for the paper. All papers that are not peer-reviewed in class on the day assigned will be counted as one class period late, and must be peer reviewed by two classmates or two tutors or one classmate and one tutor before it is handed in.

My Skills Lab:
Students must do all the My Skills Lab assignments and obtain at least 80% proficiency to pass the class.

MLA:
Students must attend three Information Competency Sessions and one MLA session offered at the library this semester.

Quizzes:
There may be announced an unannounced pop quizzes on the reading assignments. There will be no make-up quizzes or other in-class work for unexcused absences or lateness. If you know in advance that you will be absent on a certain day, please make arrangements with me before the absence to turn in the necessary work. If you have a good reason for coming in late, let me know when you come in before we go over the quiz.

Plagiarism and Cheating will result in failure of the assignment and may result in failure of the whole class.

An essential rule in any English class is that all writing which students submit should be entirely their own or properly cited. If not, the students are guilty of plagiarism, which is not tolerated at LA Mission.

There are two major types of plagiarism:

1. Word-for-word copying of the language of another writer without acknowledging the writer. Obviously, having another person write or dictate all or part of one's composition is

plagiarism of this kind and is clearly forbidden. In addition, a writer should copy no printed passage, no matter how brief, without acknowledging its source and either placing it in quotation marks or setting it aside as blocked quotation. This applies to even the briefest of phrases if they are truly individual and distinctive.

2. The unacknowledged paraphrasing or summarizing of another writer's ideas. A writer should no more take credit for another writer's thoughts than for the language of another writer. Any distinctively original idea taken from another writer should be credited to its author. If the student does not know whether another writer's idea is distinctively original, the student should assume that it is; no fault is attached to over-acknowledgment, but under-acknowledgment is plagiarism.

Grading:

2 out-of-class essays	40%
Final in-class paper	20%
Research paper	30%
Quizzes, Participation, and Homework	10%

You must take the midterm and final and write the research paper to pass the course.

Final drafts of formal essays will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- Content and development: Controlling idea, specific support, and coherence
- Expression: Sentence structure and variety, precise word choices
- Organization: Clear and meaningful thesis, transitions, and overall unity
- Grammar, mechanics, MLA, and usage: Standard written English, punctuation, spelling, meaningful title, and identification of sources. Format and citations must be MLA.

A (excellent): This paper demonstrates strength in all of the evaluation criteria listed above. It has a compelling, original, and thoughtful main point that is supported by accurate details, examples, and explanations. The paper is easy to follow because it is clearly organized and has transitional markers. In addition, precise and lively word choices are combined into balanced, clear sentences. There are few, if any, deviations from standard usage, grammar, mechanics, and MLA style.

B (good): This paper is strong in all of the evaluation criteria, but is weaker than the A paper in the quality of the main point, development diction, and sentence variety. It has few, if any, errors of usage, grammar, and mechanics.

C (adequate): This paper is clearly organized around a main idea but may not be as fully developed as an A or B essay. Typically, expression is clear and sentences are correct but may lack variety. Errors in grammar, usage, and mechanics are infrequent.

D (inadequate): This essay does not meet the criteria listed for the assignment. Usually, no organizational pattern is evident or the main point and development are too general to be effective. Sentence-level problems (comma splices, run-ons, fragments), incorrect word choices, or serious punctuation, usage, spelling or mechanical errors lower the grade.

F (failing): This paper is unacceptable. It is off the topic, plagiarized, or unintelligible.

Students must have a legitimate excuse to make up the final, in-class essay, or any other work missed.

Please fill this out, sign it, detach it, and hand it in to me.

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Name_____

I will make and keep at least one hard copy and one digital copy of every essay I turn in this semester.

Student's signature_____

Date_____

Student's phone #: _____

Students email: _____