



Los Angeles Mission College
 English 101 Section 0230
 Spring 2014

Instructor: Susan Caggiano

Meeting Day, Time & Location: Mondays 12:15 -1:40PM, CSB 205

Office Hours: Wednesdays 11:30- 12:00pm, and by appointment

Office: TBA

Email: caggias@lamission.edu (best way to reach me)

Required Texts and Materials:

- *COMPOSE: Gearing Up for Writing in the 21st Century*, Preliminary edition, Caggiano and Turnmeyer
- *A Writer's Reference*, 7th Ed., with Literature, ed. Diana Hacker, Nancy Sommers (WR)
- *Nineteen Eighty-Four*, Centennial Edition, George Orwell, May 2003
- Two pocket folder to hold all of your work; **DO NOT THROW ANYTHING AWAY!**
- One blue book required for mid-term assignment
- Disc or drive media to store your work
- Email account and internet access
- **Strongly** recommended: A college thesaurus and a college dictionary.

Course Description/Objectives:

This course is designed to help you improve your writing skills in order to prepare you for the type of reading and writing that you will need for your college career. You will explore ideas, convey information and think critically about the ideas found in the readings we examine over the course of the semester. This class is meant to help you use logical reasoning to formulate arguments that are convincing using adequate factual support, and adopt a thoughtful position on substantive topics. You will also develop skills in organizing an essay, developing a logical thesis, and expressing your ideas clearly by choosing appropriate language and adopting an appropriate tone for academic writing. Beyond this, this class will also assist you in developing a degree of grace and style, which will make your writing interesting and readable.

Student Learning Outcomes for English 101:

At the end of the course, the student will be able to:		Domain of Learning which is addressed (Bloom's Taxonomy)	Method of Assessment
SLO#1	Produce a unified essay of 1,000 words that shows a mastery of critical thinking, logical organization and mechanics.	Behavioral: Produce & Apply Knowledge	Writing Final: The production of an essay in response to a writing prompt
SLO#2	Analyze and evaluate academic articles and literature.	Cognitive: Analyze & Evaluate	In class exercise
SLO#3	Produce a 2,500-word research paper, which utilizes library research materials and documents evidence.	Cognitive: Analyze & Evaluate Behavioral: Produce & Apply knowledge	Research Paper

Course Requirements/ Grading:

- **Journals and Short Assignments:** You will keep a journal that analytically responds to passages in material assigned. These entries will be 1-2 pages, typed on standard-sized paper, with your name and class information in MLA format. These journals will frequently serve as the basis of class discussions, and are due on the day we discuss the associated readings. Additionally, occasional short assignments following classroom activities will be assigned, and expected to be turned in on the day requested.

NO LATE JOURNALS WILL BE ACCEPTED!

- **One Formal Essay:** 4-6 pages in length and will be in response to a specific prompt, reading and discussions in class. You will be submitting a draft of this paper before you submit the final polished essay and are required to submit all drafts with your final version in a packet.
- **One Mid-semester in-class essay/exam**
- **Group Oral Argument Project**
- **Research Paper and Requirements:** A formal argumentative research paper (2000-3000 words, or 8-12 pages of text) will be based on reference sources and is due on the last day we meet. Though the topic is one of your choice, it will be pre-approved via submission of a research proposal (see schedule for due date). It should use a minimum of ten (7) secondary sources (portions of books and articles) to support your argument. At least five (4) sources must be from printed works; others may be from electronic sources (CD ROM, Web, and films). I may ask to see samples of bibliography cards, note cards, formal outlines, and Works Cited pages through the second half of the semester. All early drafts and outlines must be turned in with the final essay.
- **Participation** in all class work and assignments is required. This will include attendance, quizzes, journal writing, in-class participation, on-time submission of assignments and conferences.
- **Attendance:** You will not be able to make up absences or obtain notes from your classmates. Therefore attendance is required. One unexcused absence is permitted; but students may not be able to keep up or pass the class after three unexcused absences. Three late arrivals or early departures are the equivalent of one absence. If you drop this class, it is your responsibility to notify admissions. Any student who does not attend and who does not notify admissions may be given a final grade of "F."

N.B. This class is not simply a lecture class. It is designed as a workshop where you can explore ideas and get feedback on your writing. Therefore, you will need to come to class regularly and on time, prepared with the readings and assignments completed **BEFORE** class begins.

Grading Policy:

Formal Essay and In-Class Essay (35%)

Each formal essay will include all drafts; **the grade will be reduced if drafts are not included.**

Journals and Short Assignments: (20%)

Group Oral Presentation (15%)

Research Paper (30%)

See description above

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

- Content and development: Controlling idea specific support, coherence

- Expression: Sentence structure and variety, precise word choices
- Organization: Clear and meaningful thesis, transitions, and overall unity
- Grammar, mechanics and usage: Standard written English, punctuation, spelling, meaningful title, and use of proper citation of sources.

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 and mechanics.

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, and fragments), incorrect word choices, or serious punctuation, usage, spelling or mechanical errors lower the grade.

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

Conferences:

Even if things are going smoothly, conferences are a good way of getting one to one feedback on your writing. Therefore at least one conference is **highly recommended**. You are welcome to schedule a conference with me at any time during the semester, or just drop in to see me during my office hours. I am here to help and I encourage you to see me at any time especially if you need guidance in specific writing areas or clarification with an assignment.

Academic Dishonesty:

This is otherwise known as **plagiarism**. Plagiarism is the act of intentionally or knowingly representing the words, ideas, or work of another's as one's own in any academic exercise. (This includes taking pre-written papers from the Internet, or having your roommate or your girl/boyfriend write them for you). Plagiarizing will result in a failing grade on the plagiarized assignment and possible disciplinary action by the College. I strongly urge you to meet with me if you are unsure if your writing could be construed as plagiarism.