



Syllabus  
English 21  
Fall 2012

Instructor: E. Kemp

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Ticket #3116 CSB 205

Monday 15:30 - 18:40

### **Course Description**

English 21 is a beginning composition class for students who want to sharpen/strengthen their basic communication skills. This fundamental course concentrates on the review/ acquisition of basic grammar and usage skills, plus conventions (i.e. spelling, punctuation.). The writing focuses on sentences, paragraphs, structure and development (topic sentence, concrete details and commentary). The reading requirement focuses on enhancing comprehension and critical thinking skills.

In addition to concentrating on fundamentals, this course includes an in-depth study of the four domains of writing: sensory/descriptive, practical informative, imaginative/narrative, and analytical expository. Also incorporated into the writing assignments will be the different modes of writing: classification and division, comparison and contrast, process analysis, cause and effect, definition, and argumentation and persuasion.

### **Student Learning Outcomes (SLO)**

Produce an essay of at least 250 words, which has a thesis, an introduction, body, and conclusion. Sentence structure will be diversified.

Self edit and correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation errors in his/her essays.

Differentiate fact from opinion, identify and paraphrase the main ideas and supporting points in a reading, generalize meaning by recognizing and interpreting inferences, and predict meaning of vocabulary through contextual clues in readings.

Use MLA documentation.

## Methods of Assessment

### *Formative Performance-based assessment*

Writing Labs (six-point rubric)  
Peer Editing  
Peer Evaluations (Read-Around Groups)  
Workshops  
Publications ( Reading of compositions on a volunteer basis)  
Homework  
Novel Notes  
Theme Files

### *Summative.*

Semester On-Line Project /[MySkillsLab.Com](http://MySkillsLab.Com) Scores  
Formal testing  
Mid-Term examination  
Final examination

## Credit Status: None

English 21 is a pass/no pass class. However, your scores will be computed. Assignments will be given point values. Grades will be determined by points earned divided by the points possible. Using a point system is a useful way for me to evaluate your work and for you to gauge your progress.

## Grade Computation Factors

Your scores in this class will be effortless to compute; there will be no surprises. You Can tabulate your own grade at any time during the semester by dividing the points you have earned by the total number of points possible up to that assignment.

100 - 90 = A  
89 - 80 = B  
79 - 70 = C  
69 - 60 = D  
59 below = F

**Novel Notes** A novel notes are written responses to a direct quotations from selected chapters of the novel. You are to write a response to each of the selected quotations that you find interesting, insightful, or even puzzling. You must discuss the thought; do not retell the plot. Use comments, observations or even pose questions about each of the passages.

**Themes File** A contrastive analysis correction file for each Writing Lab.

## Late and Make-up Assignments

During the semester no make-ups will be given unless you notify me in writing before the assignment/exam. There is simply no time to allow for in-class workshops to be made up since you will be working on the assigned workshop for that particular session. You may submit one paper late without penalty.

## Extra Credit

Extra Credit comes in the form of the gratification of a job well done.

## Plagiarism

Plagiarism, the use of another's ideas or words as if they were one's own, is unethical and illegal. Plagiarism is considered academic dishonesty and may result in a failure for the report in which it occurs.

## Course Details

Write in BLACK/DARK BLUE ink or type assignments.

Please use the following heading in the upper right corner of your papers:

Last, First Name

English 21

Date

Assignment # (i.e. Writing Lab # 4)

Use 8 1/2 X 11 college-ruled, loose-leaf paper. Papers must be stapled only.

(No paper clips, plastic binders, folders or envelopes)

Save all of your papers (notes, drafts, finished products) in a loose-leaf notebook.

## Course Texts and Materials

Required Text:

YR

Mercury Reader for Composition Cox ISBN 978-0-558-06212-5 Ed 1 2008

English Simplified W/MySkillsLab Ellsworth ISBN 978-0-205-73159-6 Ed 12 2010

The Human Comedy William Saroyan

A Collegiate Dictionary

Two 8 1/2 x 11 Blue Books ( Mid-Term and Final Exams)

## Class Attendance

Attendance and participation-This course is workshop--Be on time and prepared for class. Attendance is critical because all the work you do in this class, including peer editing, Writing Labs, and Writer's Workshops (which targets specific compositions skills and grammar/usage exercises) will be graded . (See Grade Computation Sheet for details.)

Excessive absences (three or more) may be cause for exclusion. If you drop the course, it is your responsibilities to withdraw officially. (See catalog/schedule of classes.)

*Note:* If you have a special request/ concern, please write it in an e-mail to me.

**Office Hours:** Monday 2:45 - 3:20pm Location: Cubicle in the Instructional Building

I invite you to speak to me if you are in need of special assistance or accommodation. Staff members in the DSP&S Office are also available if you need further assistance.

*Note:* The instructor retains the right to make changes, additions, and deletions to the syllabus during the course of the semester.

