

Los Angeles Mission College, fall 2012
English 101: College Reading and Composition
Instructor: David J. Selsby; Sec. 3129; Room: CSB 101, T 3:30-6:40 pm
Office Hours: Instruction Building, English Offices: Tues. 3:30-4:35
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Students will develop critical thinking by writing strong arguments based on poetry, drama and fiction, as subject matter. Students will learn to identify premises and conclusions and recognize patterns of faulty logic in developing arguments. They will learn to distinguish between deductive and inductive reasoning and will demonstrate this and utilizing research strategies.

SLO English 101:

- #1: Produce a unified essay of 1,000 words that shows a mastery of critical thinking, logical organization, and mechanics.
- #2: Analyze and evaluate academic articles and literature.
- #3: Produce a 2,500 word research paper which utilizes library research materials and documents evidence.

Required Texts:

Literature: An Introduction to Fiction, Poetry, Drama, and Writing. Compact Interactive Edition, Sixth Edition. Authors: X.J. Kennedy and Dana Gioia.
Orwell, George. Nineteen Eighty-Four, Centennial Edition w/ new foreword by Pynchon

Other Related Materials:

A two-pocket folder to hold all written assignments, including in-class writing exercises, essays, quizzes, and short writing assignments. You must always have paper and a writing utensil when you arrive in class.

Your Responsibilities:

1. Attendance: Attending class is required. You may miss two classes—no questions asked. After that, each unexcused missed class will have consequences towards your final grade. Being more than 15 minutes late constitutes an unexcused absence, as does leaving 15 minutes before class is dismissed.
2. Participation: The more you give to the atmosphere of the classroom, the more we will all get out of the class. Your participation will be reflected in your final grade.
3. Homework, essays, tests: All assignments must be double-spaced and printed on a computer, unless otherwise instructed. If you have an extraordinary reason why you cannot type your paper, your writing must be in cursive, double-spaced and legible.
4. Late work: Papers turned in more than one class session late will be deducted a half letter grade.
5. Students are responsible for material missed during an absence.

Disability Accommodation: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, all qualified students enrolled in this course are entitled to reasonable accommodations upon request. Please notify me of any special needs during the first week of classes.

Grading Policy:

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, transition, and overall unity
- *Grammar, mechanics, and usage: Standard written English punctuation, spelling, meaningful titles, and identifying 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 they 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 errors of punctuation, usage, spelling, and mechanics lower the grade.

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

Daily Work:

Check plus (/+): work completed thoroughly and thought fully

Check (/): work completed although sketchy in places

Check (/ -): work attempted but not completed

Grade Breakdown:

Essays (80%)

Essay 1: 10%,

Essay 2 (in-class): 15%

Essay 3: 15%

Essay 4 (in-class): 20%

Research Paper: 20%

Other: 20%

Attendance

Attendance and on-time arrival is critical in a class where the workload is consistent. Miss a class, or arrive late, and material you need to fully understand and complete important work essential to your success might be missing as well. It is up to the individual to obtain class notes for missed classes from other students, and to complete the process for dropping the class if necessary.

You are on-time and counted as present only if you are in your seat at precisely the moment the class starts.

Attendance and punctuality is graded by tallying absences and late arrivals:

-0-2 absences= 100%, 3 absences=75%, 4 absences=60%, 5 absences= 50%; more than 5 absences= 0% and referred to administration for possible further action.

-3 late arrivals (of any length) = one absence.

Late Arrivals

You are absent unless you come to the instructor after class and inform him that you were late. There is no "visual check" for late arrivals: if you are not IN your seat as class begins, you are counted as absent, and in order to have a late arrival recorded as a "present" you must see the instructor after class. There are no changes to a recorded absence for late arrivals after that.

Contact with Other Students in the Class

It is highly suggested that you exchange email addresses with three other students in the class to obtain missing class notes. Clearly print their names and email addresses in the spaces below, and copy them for your email address book at home. Before you might need to contact another student by email, perform a test run: contact them the day you have their email addresses and request return emails.

Name email address

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Make-up Policy

All assignment due dates are listed below and will be announced in class. Late essay final drafts will be accepted up to one week later and will lose 10% of the possible points; this equals the loss of one full grade. After an assignment other than an essay is returned or corrected in class, late assignments will not be accepted. Note: all writing assignments must be completed to pass the course. If one quiz is missed, the student's lowest quiz grade will be used; if two or more quizzes are missed, those grades will be zeroes. No makeup for the final exam or final essay is offered.

Plagiarism and Academic Integrity

Plagiarism is the presentation of the writing, organization, or ideas of someone else as if they were your own. Such conduct is both unethical and illegal unless complete acknowledgment and documentation is clearly indicated. Plagiarism cannot be tolerated in a college community where everyone is expected to be presenting the achievements of his or her own effort and application. Students may receive failing grades on plagiarized work, may fail the class, and may be liable for sanctions from the college. This class will follow the guidelines of the college in this matter.

Appropriate Classroom Behavior

A college is a community of individuals pursuing a common goal of education. Behavior that interferes with the class pursuit of those goals is not acceptable. Such behaviors include, but are not limited to, talking during discussion or other distracting behavior, engaging in activities not related to the class, using cell phones, text messaging, tape, CD players, or other similar devices--remove earphones,

whether or not you are using them, before you enter the classroom--sleeping or eating in class, or failing to adhere to the normal expectations of personal conduct. Do not use any electronic device once you are in the classroom, whether or not class has begun: the classroom is a learning environment.

Email Procedure Email:

Because of spam, viruses, and email addresses which do not correspond to student names, it is important that you clearly identify yourself in the subject line by using your name (as registered in the class) and the class. Do not use nicknames or any names other than those under which you are enrolled, or the email will not be opened.

Example (of subject line with a registered name of William Broyles):

William Broyles E400

Example of an email subject line which will not be opened:

Junior Broyles English class