

**Three Rivers Community College  
Norwich, CT**

**English K101: Composition**

**Section: M10**

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Office hours: Tue & Thu 12:30-1:30; Fri 12-1

**Required Texts:**

Faigley, Lester. *The Penguin Handbook*. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. New York: Longman, 2006.  
ISBN: 0321273761

Hoffman, Catherine A. & Andrew J. Hoffman. *The Main Event: Readings for Writing  
And Critical Thinking*. Upper Saddle River: Pearson, 2005.  
ISBN: 0130486582

**Other requirements:**

A college dictionary

Consistent access to a working computer and the Internet

A working e-mail address, either a personal one or through the Access BCC

**Catalog Description:**

*Prerequisite: Placement test score indicating ENG\* K101 or successful completion of  
ENG\* K100 with a "C" grade or better.*

College Composition engages students in critical observation, reading, and writing. The course prepares the student for the exposition, analysis, and argument required in college writing, and for meeting the conventions of college English. Writing assignments require that students develop their own points of view and demonstrate understanding of complex ideas and issues. Methods for research, including use of the library, appropriate documentation, and incorporation of sources in original papers will be taught through assigned writings. A placement test is required prior to enrollment.

**Course Objectives:**

Students in ENG K101 will be able to:

1. Write using a tone appropriate to audience and purpose
2. Formulate a clearly focused thesis statement that provides essay unity
3. Create a logical order of ideas
4. Write a well-reasoned, well-supported coherently organized argument using research
5. Write an effective analysis using appropriate criteria for evaluation
6. Quote, summarize, paraphrase and document according to MLA guidelines
7. Write demonstrating mastery of the rules that govern Standard Written English
8. Write demonstrating sophistication of ideas and expression.
9. Develop a greater sense of confidence in your ability to express your ideas through writing

**WebCT component:**

I will be utilizing the WebCT feature for this class. This class will be “virtually paperless,” which means that I will not be distributing paper copies of most of your assignments. Here you will find your assignments, except for any in-class assignments that I opt to give, for the semester as well as an assortment of handouts. If you miss class for any reason, you will be able to download the assignments from here. Also, if you wish to get a head start on any assignment, you will be able to do so. *I do accept early assignments.*

**Evaluation and grading:****Writing Assignments (45%)**

Essay #1: Illustration Essay

Essay #2: *Star Wars* Evaluation

Essay #3: Fairytale Comparison

Essay #4: Appeals Analysis

**Writing Assignment Expectations:**

All drafts of formal essays must be typed and double-spaced. You should use 12 or 14 point Times New Roman or Arial font. Each assignment will be due in stages; you must complete all stages in order to receive full credit. Any missed stage will result in a 10 point reduction of your grade for the assignment. All essays carry the same weight.

1. *Peer editing day:* On this day, you will need to have a completed rough draft of your essay: introduction, multi-paragraph body, and conclusion, and a rough outline of your essay thus far. We will do a peer editing activity with the rough drafts. While you complete the activity, I will look over your outlines to see if you are correctly focused on the assignment. I will not be looking at the rough drafts unless you bring them to me during my office hours.
2. *Final drafts:* When you submit the finished product, you will need to submit the original rough outline that I looked over, the peer editing worksheet that you received on peer editing day, your rough draft, and any other drafts that you completed. All essays require a Works Cited page. All of these items must be submitted together, not e-mailed separately or left in my mailbox because you “forgot” to include them.
3. *Revisions of assignments:* You may revise any essay assignment as many times as you like during the semester. I will average your grades for each draft at the end of the semester to give you a single grade for the assignment. Please submit your previous draft of the assignment with the revised copy. Note: you must do more than fix grammar and spelling when you revise your essay. It is expected that you will thoroughly revise the content of the essay for development. If I sense that minimal effort was put in to revising an essay, I will return it to you ungraded and require you to schedule a conference with me so that we can discuss ways for you to be a more effective reviser.

The last day that I will accept revisions of an essay will be **11/30**. All revisions after this date should be for your portfolio. *Note: You may only submit one revised essay at a time. Please do not attempt to give me multiple revised essays at once.*

4. *U grades:* Rather than give you a bad grade on an essay, I will be assigning grades of “U” if your essay is not appropriate to task, poorly written, and/or contains numerous grammar errors. These essays **must** be revised. In addition, you will be **required** to work with a tutor at the Writing Center or meet with me. I will **not** accept a revision of a “U” unless you have visited the Writing Center or met with me for the revision. These revisions are due within one week from the date that they are returned to you. Once you have successfully revised the essay, the “U” goes away and your grade on the revised draft replaces it. If you fail to meet this deadline, the “U” will become a **50** in my gradebook. Revisions will still be accepted, but they will now be averaged in with the **50**.

5. *Late assignments:* These will receive an automatic grade of **50**. You may apply for a one time, one class extension on any assignment. This must be done in a formal e-mail to me that explains in detail why you need an extension for the assignment. I will notify you by e-mail whether or not the extension has been granted. *Applications for extensions must be received **before** the due date of the final draft.*

*Completing assignments:* AKA “The Marzilli Rule”. You must submit all essay assignments for the class. If you are having difficulty with a particular assignment, give it your best shot. *Failure to submit any essay assignment will disqualify you from participating in the portfolio assessment and will result in failure of the class.*

### **Portfolio (40%)**

This component allows you to demonstrate and to showcase your writing skills and to reflect upon how those skills have improved during the course of the semester. Portfolios are standard projects in composition classes. This component substitutes for a final exam. Your portfolio will contain the following pieces of writing:

1. A persuasive cover letter
2. A revised writing assignment of the instructor’s choice
3. A revised writing assignment of the student’s choice
4. A previously ungraded essay assignment

*Note: You will receive a separate assignment sheet with specific submission requirements for this component of your grade.*

### **Attendance and class participation: (15% of your grade)**

Participation and daily attendance are required. After 3 **absences**, you will face a grade reduction of *1 letter grade off your final average for the class*. Excessive and persistent absenteeism will result in failure for the course.

To earn an “A” for this component of your grade, you will need to:

1. Attend every class on time and actively participate in all class discussions.
2. Be prepared for each class by having all reading and writing assignments completed.
3. Bring drafts of your essays to the Writing Center
4. Meet with me during my office hours
5. Maintain a consistent, positive attitude throughout the entire semester.
6. Remain respectful of me and your fellow students.

Things that will reduce this component of your grade:

1. Never participating in class discussions and/or chronic lateness.
2. Getting up to throw things out in the middle of an activity or lecture
3. Falling asleep during class.
4. Paying more attention to the clock than to the discussions.
5. Doodling instead of taking notes: *This is not an art class.*
6. Having your cell phone go off during a discussion; they must be *shut off*.

Please remove all hats, hoods, bandanas, and sunglasses when you are in class. Please do not bring I-Pods or walkmans to class. Do not text message anyone during class. Please do not bring full course meals to be consumed during class time. You may be dismissed from class for the day and marked absent if you violate these rules.

### **Plagiarism:**

Plagiarism is the copying of an author’s exact words or ideas without giving him or her the proper credit. It is adopting someone else’s ideas and pretending that they are your own. This also includes downloading essays off of the Internet and submitting them with your name on them. Plagiarism of any variety will not be tolerated and may result in failure for the class. Depending upon the severity of the offense, you may not get a second chance in the class if you plagiarize any part of an essay. I may dismiss you from the class for the remainder of the semester. Instances of plagiarism may be referred to the Dean’s Office. *If you plagiarize, I will catch you. Many have tried to plagiarize before and many have failed my class as a result of it. Do your own work, and when in doubt, cite the source that you use.*

### **Tentative Schedule for the Course:**

Fri 8/31: Intro to the class; writing process

Related Readings: *Main* p. 24-32; *Penguin* Ch. 3, 4, and 5

Fri 9/7: Quotation vs Paraphrase; MLA format; Sample Illustration Essay

Related Readings: *Penguin* Ch. 21; *WebCT*: “Fathers and Sons”

Assigned: Essay #1

Fri 9/14: Intro to peer review; peer review workshop

Related Readings: *WebCT*: “Intro to Peer Review”

Due: Completed rough draft and outline of Essay #1

Fri 9/21: Film and Television; Making Evaluations

Related Readings: *Main* p. 32-75

Due: Final draft of Essay #1

Fri 9/28: In-class viewing: *Star Wars*; Film discussion

Assigned: Essay #2

Fri 10/5: Film discussion continued; Peer review workshop

Due: Completed rough draft and outline of Essay #2

Fri 10/12: Interpreting Fiction & Fairytales

Related Readings: *Main* p. 530-591

Due: Final draft of Essay #2

Fri 10/19: Fairytales continued; Comparison & Contrast

Related Readings: *Main* p. 85-88

Assigned: Essay #3

Fri 10/26: Peer review workshop; Intro to Argument; Examining Logos

Related Readings: *Main*: p. 433-444; *Penguin*: Ch. 10

Due: Completed rough draft and outline of Essay #3

Fri 11/2: Examining Logos continued; Examining Pathos; Examining Ethos

Related Readings: *Penguin* p. 17-19; *Penguin* Ch. 29

Assigned: Essay #4

Due: Completed final draft of Essay #3

Fri 11/9: Jobs in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century; Intro to Research; Plagiarism

Related Readings: *Penguin* Ch. 15, 19; *Main* p. 673-736

Fri 11/16: Peer review workshop; Jobs in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century continued

Due: Completed rough draft and outline of Essay #4

Assigned: Essay #5

### **Thanksgiving Break – No Classes!**

Fri 11/30: Library Research Workshop; Portfolios

Related Readings: *Penguin* Ch. 16, 17, 20

Assigned: Final Portfolio

Due: Final draft of Essay #4

Fri 12/7: In-Class Portfolio Workshop and Conferences

Related Readings: *Penguin* Ch. 8

Assigned: Portfolio Cover Letter

Fri 12/14: Portfolios due