

Syllabus
English 100 Reading/Writing Connection Section 30393
Wednesday evening

Instructor: Joyce Back
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Texts: Faigley, *The Brief Penguin Handbook, Third Edition*
Barclay Barrios, *Emerging*

Course requirements:

- Regular attendance. *Students who miss more than two classes will MOST LIKELY not be given a passing grade.* In the case of serious illness or other situation that makes it impossible for a student to attend class over a period of time, allowances will be made on a case-by-case basis. You will be given an ACTIVITY GRADE at the end of the semester. This grade is based on participation in assigned activities. Every time you miss an activity assigned in class, you will lose four points on this grade. Class activities, including quizzes, cannot be made up except in the case of serious illness requiring hospitalization.
- One research paper (3-5 pages). You will do two drafts of the paper, and the second draft will be graded. Both drafts of the paper must be word-processed; they cannot be passed in hand-written. The paper must be formatted in the MLA style. LATE PAPERS WILL BE DOWNGRADED AT THE INSTRUCTOR'S DISCRETION. You must be prepared to use a computer with a printer and Internet access. This may mean working at school in the library or a computer lab. Lack of a computer cannot be used as an excuse for not completing the course requirements.
- We will be doing worksheets in class. Although these will not be graded, you must make a good effort to complete them correctly. Lack of effort will affect your activity grade.
- Successful completion of tests and exams. These tests and exams are:

Four tests on material covered in class or read for homework. These tests cannot be made up. You can miss one test without your grade being affected, but more than one will result in a grade of zero on each subsequent one that is missed.

Final exam. You must receive at least a 74% on the final or I will most likely not pass you, even if your other grades are good.

English Department exit exam. This exam will be given a pass or fail grade by another instructor, but the numerical grade will be assigned by me.

Grading:

The final grade will be based on the following:

Research paper:	20 percent
Average of tests:	20 percent
Activity grade:	20 percent
Final exam:	20 percent
Exit exam:	20 percent

Note: Feel free to contact me if you need to. Please let me know right away if you have any special problems or concerns.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course emphasizes the close relationship between reading, writing, and critical thinking. Compositions will be assigned in response to reading non-fiction prose. This course is preparation for ENG 101 and other college-level courses.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of these courses, students should be able to:

Read and think critically

- understand the connections between the reading and writing processes
- recognize different genres of non-fiction, such as editorials, speeches, and essays
- recognize common organizational patterns in reading and writing
- comprehend and summarize college-level reading material to develop their own ideas
- identify and defend logical inferences based on textual evidence

Write critically and analytically

- demonstrate an understanding of the organizational skills required for academic writing, such as pre-writing activities, outlining, paragraph development, revising, and the ability to thoroughly edit
- demonstrate in reading and writing an understanding of the rhetorical concepts of audience, invention, style, organization, and delivery
- apply various writing processes in composing unified, coherent and fully developed paragraphs and short essays
- use an effective thesis or assertion in order to develop more complex essays
- demonstrate an understanding of the positive and negative impact of word choice
- choose appropriate language for a given context

Demonstrate information literacy

- evaluate sources for accuracy, validity, and academic relevance
- use information to support and develop their assertions through paraphrasing, quoting, and summarizing
- cite sources using MLA citation style
- learn and employ strategies to avoid plagiarism

Apply the foundations of strong academic skills

- develop and use academic reading and speaking vocabularies
- use tools appropriately related to reading and writing, such as dictionaries, thesaurus, and writing handbooks
- use word processing programs, including proofreading software, in the writing process
- produce documents according to MLA formatting conventions
- employ strategies for effective editing, including attention to grammar, mechanics, usage, and the conventions of standard American English
- collaborate with others in developing points of views and analyzing writing
- employ effective annotation skills
- use writing and reading for inquiry, learning, thinking, and communicating in a college setting
- formulate appropriate questions and hypotheses

Basic Schedule:

First hour – Lecture and Worksheet

Second hour – Various activities

Third hour – Educational puzzles

*Note: On test days, the test will be the only activity.***Day to Day Schedule****Sept. 1 through Sept. 29 – THESIS REVIEW AND MLA FORMAT**Class date WED, Sept. 1

Assignments due on this day None.

Activities planned for this day

First hour: Discuss the syllabus, this schedule, and the two textbooks; group activities.

Second hour: In the Penguin Handbook, read Section 1, Chapter 1 (pp 1-6). Discuss. Review the thesis type essay. Read sample essays and identify the parts.

Third hour: Do a word puzzle.

Homework In the Penguin Handbook, read Section 1, Chapters 2 and 3.

Class date WED, Sept. 8

Test 1 – Open book test on Penguin readings and thesis essays. You will need your Penguin book and your notes from last week's discussion.

Class date WED, Sept. 15

Assignments due on this day None.

Activities planned for this day

First hour: Working with your group, read an essay and find the introduction, thesis statement, body, and conclusion. Worksheets.

Second hour: Do a worksheet on writing thesis statements and write one for your research paper.

Third hour: Do a word puzzle.

Homework In the Penguin Handbook, read Section 6, MLA Tab, pp 258-260 and 272-280. Get started on your research paper, DUE OCT 6.

Class date WED, Sept. 22

Assignments due on this day Read Penguin Handbook, Section 6, MLA Tab, pp 258-260 and 272-280.

Activities planned for this day

First hour: Discussion of the MLA format. Instructor will pass out a quick guide and we will review it together. We will examine a sample short essay in MLA format.

Second hour: Comma rules worksheets

Third hour: Do a word puzzle.

Homework In the Penguin Handbook, read Section 6, MLA Tab, pp 282-296.

Class date WED, Sept. 29

Test 2 – Closed book test on the MLA format.

BE SURE TO FINISH YOUR RESEARCH PAPER; DRAFT 1 IS DUE NEXT WEEK.

Oct. 6 through Nov. 10 – READING AND RESPONDINGClass date WED, Oct. 6

Assignments due on this day DRAFT 1 OF YOUR RESEARCH PAPER IS DUE.

Activities planned for this day

First hour: Discussion of the first essay you'll read in *Emerging*.

Second hour: Instruction and practice in answering essay questions.

Third hour: Word puzzle.

Homework In *Emerging*, read 'Attention Deficit: The Brain Syndrome of Our Era,' page 331.Class date WED, Oct. 13

Assignments due on this day You should have read 'Attention Deficit: The Brain Syndrome of Our Era.'

Activities planned for this day: Draft 1 of the research paper will be returned, and each student will confer individually with the instructor.

Homework Work on draft 2 of your research paper, DUE OCTOBER 27. REMEMBER, BESIDES EDITING AND REVISING, YOU MUST PUT YOUR DRAFT IN THE MLA FORMAT IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY DONE SO.

Class date WED, Oct. 20

Test 3 – Open-book essay questions on 'Attention Deficit: The Brain Syndrome of Our Era.' Be sure to bring your essay book to class and notes from previous discussions.

BE SURE TO FINISH DRAFT 2 OF YOUR RESEARCH PAPER, DUE NEXT WEEK.

Class date WED, Oct. 27

Assignments due on this day SECOND DRAFT OF YOUR RESEARCH PAPER IS DUE. THIS DRAFT WILL BE GRADED.

Activities planned for this day

First hour: Discussion of the next essay to be read.

Second hour: Worksheets.

Third hour: Sentence of the week; word puzzle.

Homework In *Emerging*, read 'The Cadaver Who Joined the Army,' page 347. TEST NEXT WEEK ON THE ESSAY.

Class date WED, Nov. 3

Test 4 – Open-book essay questions on 'The Cadaver Who Joined the Army.' Be sure to bring your essay book to class and notes from previous discussions.

Homework In *Emerging*, read 'Before and After: Class and Body Transformations', page 391.

Class date WED, Nov. 10

Assignments due on this day In *Emerging*, read 'Before and After: Class and Body Transformations', page 391.

Activities planned for this day

First hour: Discussion of the essay.

Second hour: Write a one-page essay concerning some aspect of your life that was difficult or frightening.

Those who wish may read their essay aloud to the rest of the class.

Third hour: Word puzzle.

Homework None.

April 21 through May 12 – PRACTICE EXAMS AND EXAMS

Class date WED, Nov. 17

English Dept. exit exam instruction and practice.

Class date WED, Nov. 24

NO CLASS

Class date WED, Dec. 1

Final exam practice test.

Class date WED, Dec. 8

Final exam.

Class date WED, Dec. 15

English Dept. exit exam.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Sept. 8 – TEST 1

Sept. 29 – TEST 2

Oct. 6 – DRAFT 1 OF RESEARCH PAPER DUE

Oct. 20 – TEST 3

Oct. 22 – DRAFT 2 OF RESEARCH PAPER DUE

Nov. 3 – TEST 4

Dec. 8 – FINAL EXAM

Dec. 15 – ENGLISH DEPT. EXIT EXAM