

Syllabus
English 100 Reading/Writing Connection
Section 11619 T/R 9:30-10:45

Instructor: Joyce Back
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Texts: Faigley, *The Brief Penguin Handbook, Third Edition*
Buscemi and Smith, *75 Readings, Eleventh Edition*

Course requirements:

- Regular attendance. *Students who miss more than four 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 tests, cannot be made up except in the case of serious illness requiring hospitalization.
- One research paper (4-6 pages). You will do two drafts of the paper, and the second draft will be graded. The paper must be word-processed; it 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.
- Participation in class activities. We will be doing worksheets and other practice exercises 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:

Five 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:

Tuesday – Lecture and Worksheets

Thursday – Various activities including educational games and puzzles. If we're having a test, it will be given on a Thursday.

Day to Day Schedule**January 21 through February 25 – THESIS REVIEW AND MLA FORMAT**

<u>Class date</u>	<u>THURS, January 21</u>
Assignments due on this day	None.
Activities planned for this day	Discuss the syllabus, this schedule, and the two textbooks; group activities. In the Penguin Handbook, read Section 1, Chapter 1 (pp 1-6). Discuss. Review the thesis type essay.
Homework	In the Penguin Handbook, read Section 1, Chapters 2 and 3 (TEST NEXT THURS)
<u>Class date</u>	<u>TUES, January 26</u>
Assignments due on this day	Penguin Handbook, read Section 1, Chapters 2 and 3.
Activities planned for this day	Read sample thesis essays and identify the parts. Analyze the sentence of the week. Do a word puzzle.
Homework	In the Penguin Handbook, review Section 1, Chapters 1, 2, and 3 (TEST THURS)
<u>Class date</u>	<u>THURS, January 28</u>
Test 1 – Open-book test on Penguin chapters 1, 2, and 3. You will need your Penguin book and your notes from last week's discussion.	
Homework	None.
<u>Class date</u>	<u>TUES, February 2</u>
Activities planned for this day	Working with your group, read some essays and find the introduction, thesis statement, body, and conclusion. Discuss some current events and make a list of five current issues that would be good subjects for a research paper.
Homework	In the Penguin Handbook, read Section 6, MLA Tab, pp 258-260 and 272-280.
<u>Class date</u>	<u>THURS, February 4</u>
NO CLASS	
<u>Class date</u>	<u>TUES, February 9</u>
Assignments due on this day	Read Penguin Handbook, Section 6, MLA Tab, pp 258-260 and 272-280.
Activities planned for this day	Do a worksheet on writing thesis statements and write one for your research paper. Analyze the sentence of the week; do a word puzzle.
Homework	Get started on the first draft of your research paper, DUE MARCH 2.
<u>Class date</u>	<u>THURS, February 11</u>
Assignments due on this day	None.
Activities planned for this day	Tour of the library.
Homework	In the Penguin Handbook, read Section 6, MLA Tab, pp 282-296.
<u>Class date</u>	<u>TUES, February 16</u>
Assignments due on this day	Penguin Handbook, read Section 6, MLA Tab, pp 282-296.
Activities planned for this day	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.
Homework	Study for the test on MLA. It is NOT open-book.

Class date THURS, February 18

Test 2 – Closed book test on the MLA format.

Homework None.

Class date TUES, February 23

Assignments due on this day None.

Activities planned for this day Worksheets on various writing strategies.

Homework Work on your research paper. Draft 1 is due MARCH 2.

Class date THURS, February 25

Assignments due on this day None.

Activities planned for this day Instruction and practice in answering essay questions. Educational puzzle.

Homework Work on your research paper. Draft 1 is due MARCH 2.

March 2 through April 15 – READING AND RESPONDING

Class date TUES, March 2

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

Activities planned for this day Instruction and practice in writing short thesis essays.

Homework In *75 Readings*, read 'Lifeboat Ethics: The Case Against Helping the Poor' and 'The Details of Life.'

Class date THURS, March 4

Assignments due on this day In *75 Readings*, read 'Lifeboat Ethics: The Case Against Helping the Poor' and 'The Details of Life.'

Activities planned for this day Working with your group, identify the thesis presented in each of the essays. Write a list of statements expressing Hardin's and Kozol's main ideas as presented in the essays.

Homework None.

Class date TUES, March 9

SPRING BREAK, NO CLASS.

Class date THURS, March 11

SPRING BREAK, NO CLASS.

Class date TUES, March 16

Assignments due on this day None.

Activities planned for this day: Draft 1 of the research paper will be returned, and each student will confer individually with the instructor. You will read an article about Hardin and Kozol.

Homework Work on draft 2 of your research paper, DUE MARCH 30. REMEMBER, BESIDES EDITING AND REVISING, YOU MUST PUT YOUR DRAFT IN THE MLA FORMAT IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY DONE SO. Review the Hardin and Kozol essays; open-book test Thursday.

Class date THURS, March 18

Test 3 – Open-book essay questions on 'Lifeboat Ethics' and 'The Details of Life.' Be sure to bring your essay book to class and notes from previous discussions.

Homework Work on draft 2 of your research paper.

Class date TUES, March 23
Assignments due on this day None.
Activities planned for this day Discussion of Narrative type essays. In *75 Readings*, read '37 Who Saw Murder Didn't Call the Police.' Discuss. Worksheets.
Homework In *75 Readings*, read 'Grandmother's Victory.' TEST THURSDAY ON 'GRANDMOTHER'S VICTORY' AND '37 WHO SAW MURDER.'

Class date THURS, March 25
Test 4 – Open-book essay questions on '37 Who Saw Murder' and 'Grandmother's Victory.' Be sure to bring your essay book to class and notes from previous discussions.
Homework FINISH YOUR RESEARCH PAPER AND MAKE IT GOOD!

Class date TUES, March 30
Assignments due on this day Draft 2 of your research paper is due. This draft will be graded. Early dismissal.

Class date THURS, April 1
Assignments due on this day None.
Activities planned for this day Discussion of Descriptive type essays. Practice in writing detailed stories. Sentence of the week; word puzzle.
Homework In *75 Readings*, read 'A Partial Remembrance of a Puerto Rican Childhood.'

Class date TUES, April 6
Assignments due on this day In *75 Readings*, read 'A Partial Remembrance of a Puerto Rican Childhood.'
Activities planned for this day Worksheets. Discussion of the essays we read and their types, also the homework essay.
Homework Read 'Why Leaves Turn Color in the Fall' and review your notes for a test on essay types.

Class date THURS, April 8
Test 5 – Closed-book questions on the characteristics of essay types.
Homework Write a one-page Narrative type essay concerning some aspect of your childhood. Be prepared to read your essay aloud to the rest of the class.

Class date TUES, April 13
Assignments due on this day Narrative essay.
Activities planned for this day We will read our Narrative essays aloud. Worksheets.
Homework None.

Class date THURS, April 15
Assignments due on this day None.
Activities planned for this day Editing practice and puzzle.
Homework None.

April 20 through May 11 – PRACTICE EXAMS AND EXAMS

Class date TUES, April 20
English Dept. exit exam instruction and practice.

Class date _____ THURS, April 22
Worksheets and puzzle.

Class date _____ TUES, April 27
English Dept. exit exam instruction and practice.

Class date _____ THURS, April 29
Worksheets and puzzle.

Class date _____ TUES, May 4
Final exam practice.

Class date _____ THURS, May 6
Final exam.

Class date _____ TUES, May 11
English Dept. exit exam.

DATES TO REMEMBER

January 28 – TEST 1

February 18 – TEST 2

March 2 – DRAFT 1 OF RESEARCH PAPER DUE

March 9 – SPRING BREAK, NO CLASS

March 11 – SPRING BREAK, NO CLASS

March 18 – TEST 3

March 25 – TEST 4

March 30 – DRAFT 2 OF RESEARCH PAPER DUE

April 8 – TEST 5

May 6 – FINAL EXAM

May 11 – ENGLISH DEPT. EXIT EXAM