

Syllabus
English 100 Reading/Writing Connection
Thursday evening

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

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 two points on this grade. Class activities, including quizzes, cannot be made up except in the case of serious illness requiring hospitalization.
- One short (2-3 pages) research paper (two drafts) and one longer (4-6 pages) research paper (one draft only). The papers must be word-processed; they cannot be passed in hand-written. The papers must be formatted in the MLA style. Sources cited from the Internet must be printed and handed in with the papers. LATE PAPERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED UNLESS THERE ARE SERIOUS EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES. You must be prepared to use a computer with a printer and Internet access. This may mean working at school in a computer lab. Lack of a computer cannot be used as an excuse for not completing the course requirements.
- Successful completion of a final exam. You must receive at least a 74% on the final or I will not pass you, even if your other grades are good.
- Reading assignments and successful completion of a series of four quizzes on the readings. Quizzes cannot be made up. You can miss one quiz without your grade being affected; more than one will result in a grade of zero on each subsequent one that is missed.
- 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.

Grading:

The final grade will be based on the following:

Short paper:	20 percent
Long paper:	20 percent
Average of quizzes:	20 percent
Activity grade:	20 percent
Final 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

SPRING 2009 SCHOOL CALENDAR

Jan. 19 Martin Luther King Day - **College Closed**

Jan. 20 New Student Orientation

Last Day for Full Tuition Refund

Jan. 21 **Classes Begin**/Late Registration Begins

Add/Drop Period Begins

First 7-Week Modules Begin

Jan. 27 Instructor Signature Required to Add Classes

Feb. 3 Last Day of Add/Drop and Partial Tuition Refund

Feb. 9 Lincoln's Birthday Observed - **Classes In Session**

Feb. 16 Washington's Birthday Observed - **College Closed**

Feb. 17 Last Day to Select Audit Option

Mar. 11 First 7-Week Modules End

Mar. 12 Second 7-Week Modules Begin

Mar. 15-22 Spring Break - **Classes Not in Session**

Apr. 1 Last Day to Select Pass/Fail Option

Last Day to Submit Incomplete Work from Fall '08 Semester

Apr. 8 – 9 Make-up/Reading Days

Apr. 10 – 12 **Spring Recess – College Closed**

Apr. 15 Last Day to apply for Summer (August '09) Graduation

Apr. 24 Faculty System Professional Day – **Classes In Session**

May 11 Last Day to Withdraw from Classes

May 13 Second 7-Week Modules End

May 18 Last Day of Classes

May 19-20 Class/lab, makeup/supplemental sessions or final exam week

May 25 Memorial Day - **College Closed**

May 28 Final grades available on Web

May 31 **Commencement**

June 15 Last day to apply for Fall Graduation (December '09)

Basic Schedule:

First hour – Lecture and Worksheet

Second hour – Quiz and/or group discussion

Third hour – Sentence of the week; educational puzzles

Day to Day Schedule

January 22 through February 19 – THESIS REVIEW

Class date THURS, January 22

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.

Third hour:

Analyze the sentence of the week; do a word puzzle.

Homework

In the Penguin Handbook, read Section 1, Chapter 2.

Class date THURS, January 29

Assignments due on this day

In the Penguin Handbook, read Section 1, Chapter 2.

Activities planned for this day

First hour:

Review the thesis type essay. Read sample essays and identify the parts.

Second hour:

Working with your group, read an essay 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.

Third hour:

Analyze the sentence of the week; do a word puzzle.

Homework

In the Penguin Handbook, read Section 1, Chapter 3. QUIZ NEXT WEEK ON CHAPTERS 1, 2, 3.

Class date THURS, February 5

Assignments due on this day

In the Penguin Handbook, read Section 1, Chapter 3.

Activities planned for this day

First hour:

Do a worksheet on writing thesis statements and write one for your first research paper.

Second hour:

QUIZ on Penguin Chapters 1, 2, and 3.

Third hour:

Analyze the sentence of the week; do a word puzzle.

Homework

In the Penguin Handbook, read Section 6, MLA Tab, pp 258-260 and 272-280. Get started on your first research paper. DUE THURSDAY, FEB. 19. REMEMBER, SOURCES FROM THE INTERNET MUST BE PRINTED AND HANDED IN WITH THE PAPER.

Class date THURS, February 12

Assignments due on this day

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. Discussion and practice regarding writing in the 3rd person.

Second hour:

Working with your group, make a list of all the aspects of an essay that are included in the word 'format;' for example, 'font.'

Third hour:

Analyze the sentence of the week; do a word puzzle.

Homework

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

Class date THURS, February 19

Assignments due on this day

FIRST RESEARCH PAPER DRAFT 1 DUE. Also, you should have read the Penguin Handbook, Section 6, MLA Tab, pp 282-296.

Activities planned for this day

First hour:

Develop a thesis statement for your next research paper.

Second hour:

Working with your group, create a spelling test of ten words, using words from Chapters 1, 2, and 3 of the Penguin Handbook.

Third hour:

Spelling tests; word puzzle.

Homework

Work on your next research paper, DUE MARCH 26, ONE DRAFT ONLY, MLA FORMAT REQUIRED.

February 26 through April 9 – READING AND RESPONDING

<u>Class date</u>	<u>THURS, February 26</u>
Assignments due on this day	None.
Activities planned for this day:	Word puzzles. 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 FIRST research paper, DUE MARCH 5. REMEMBER, BESIDES EDITING AND REVISING, YOU MUST PUT YOUR DRAFT IN THE MLA FORMAT IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY DONE SO.

<u>Class date</u>	<u>THURS, March 5</u>
Assignments due on this day	DRAFT 2 OF THE FIRST RESEARCH PAPER DUE TODAY.
Activities planned for this day	
First hour:	In <i>75 Readings</i> , read 'Lifeboat Ethics: The Case Against Helping the Poor,' pp 303-310.
Second hour:	Working with your group, identify the thesis presented in 'Lifeboat Ethics. Poll the group to see who agrees and who doesn't. Write a list of statements identifying the group members' reactions to the essay.
Third hour:	Sentence of the week; word puzzle.
Homework	In <i>75 Readings</i> , read 'The Details of Life,' pp 310-318. QUIZ NEXT WEEK ON 'Lifeboat' AND 'Details.'

<u>Class date</u>	<u>THURS, March 12</u>
Assignments due on this day	In <i>75 Readings</i> , read 'The Details of Life,' pp 310-318.
Activities planned for this day	
First hour:	Discussion of 'Lifeboat Ethics' and 'The Details of Life.' Read an article about Garrett Hardin.
Second hour:	QUIZ on the two essays.
Third hour:	Sentence of the week; word puzzle.
Homework:	Finish your second essay; DUE MARCH 26 WHEN WE GET BACK FROM BREAK.

<u>Class date</u>	<u>March 19</u>
<u>SPRING BREAK, NO CLASSES ALL WEEK, BUT THE COLLEGE IS OPEN</u>	

<u>Class date</u>	<u>THURS, March 26</u>
Assignments due on this day	SECOND RESEARCH PAPER DUE
Activities planned for this day	
First hour:	Discussion of Narration type essays.
Second hour:	In <i>75 Readings</i> , read '37 Who Saw Murder Didn't Call the Police,' pp 24-28. Discuss.
Third hour:	Sentence of the week; word puzzle.
Homework	In <i>75 Readings</i> , read 'Grandmother's Victory,' pp 11-16. QUIZ NEXT THURS. ON 'GRANDMOTHER'S VICTORY' AND '37 WHO SAW MURDER.'

<u>Class date</u>	<u>THURS, April 2</u>
Assignments due on this day	In <i>75 Readings</i> , read 'Grandmother's Victory,' pp 11-16.
Activities planned for this day	
First hour:	Discuss the Grandmother and Murder essays. In <i>75 Readings</i> , read 'What Is Poverty?,' pp 94-98. Discuss.
Second hour:	QUIZ on Grandmother and Murder essays. Working with your group, discuss the essay 'What Is Poverty?.' Develop a list of suggestions that might help the family in the essay improve their lives.
Third hour:	Sentence of the week; word puzzle.
Homework	In <i>75 Readings</i> , read 'A Partial Remembrance of a Puerto Rican Childhood,' pp 42-47.

<u>Class date</u>	<u>THURS, April 9</u>
Assignments due on this day	In <i>75 Readings</i> , read ‘A Partial Remembrance of a Puerto Rican Childhood,’ pp 42-47.
Activities planned for this day	
First hour:	Discussion of Description and Process Analysis types of essay. In <i>75 Readings</i> , read ‘Why Leaves Turn Color in the Fall,’ pp 59-62.
Second hour:	Write a one-page Narration type essay concerning some aspect of your childhood. Be prepared to read your essay aloud to the rest of the class.
Third hour:	Sentence of the week; word puzzle.
Homework	In the Penguin Handbook, read Section 8, Chapters 32 and 33. QUIZ NEXT WEEK ON THESE CHAPTERS.

April 16 through April 23 – EDITING PRACTICE

<u>Class date</u>	<u>THURS, April 16</u>
Assignments due on this day	In the Penguin Handbook, read Section 8, Chapters 32 and 33.
Activities planned for this day	
First hour:	Worksheets on grammar and punctuation.
Second hour:	QUIZ on Penguin Chapters 32 and 33.
Third hour:	Sentence of the week; word puzzle.
Homework	None.

<u>Class date</u>	<u>THURS, April 23</u>
Assignments due on this day	None.
First hour:	Worksheets on grammar and punctuation.
Second hour:	Sentence of the week; word puzzle.
Third hour:	Early dismissal.
Homework	In the Penguin Handbook, read Chapter 38.

April 30 – SKILL REVIEW

<u>Class date</u>	<u>THURS, April 30</u>
Assignments due on this day	In the Penguin Handbook, read Chapter 38.
Activities planned for this day	Review for final exam, TO BE GIVEN MAY 7.
Homework	Study for final exam. Instructor will provide some guidance as to what will be covered on the exam.

May 7 – FINAL EXAM

May 13 – FINAL EXAMS RETURNED; INDIVIDUAL GRADE CONFERENCES