

English 101 FINAL Syllabus

College Composition Spring 2009

Vicki Baker 383-5213; Room E-116

vbaker@trcc.commnet.edu

OFFICE HOURS: Classroom, 5:30 to 6:00 on Mondays OR by appointment

ATTENDANCE: You are expected to attend every class. I am obligated to take attendance in order to meet Federal reporting requirements for the institution. More important, your absence will negatively affect your ability to meet the course requirement of participation. Most important, missing class will make it very difficult to passably complete your writing assignments. It is your responsibility to obtain and make up any material missed due to your absence.

CLASS PARTICIPATION: This is a discussion course. You are expected to be an informed participant in every class. In addition to the 3 hours per week you will be in class, you should expect to spend an average of 6-12 hours per week outside of class on your reading and writing assignments. **Class Participation will be worth 10% of your grade.**

DISABILITIES STATEMENT: If you are a student with a disability and believe you will need accommodations for this class, it is your responsibility to contact the Disabilities Counselors. They are Chris Scarborough (892-5751) or Kathleen Gray (885-2328). To avoid any delay in the receipt of accommodations, you should contact them as soon as possible. Please note that I cannot provide accommodations based upon disability until I have received an accommodation letter from a Disabilities Counselor. Your cooperation is appreciated.

WITHDRAWAL (College Policy): A student who finds it necessary to discontinue a course once a class has met should complete the withdrawal form in the Registrar's Office. Students may withdraw at the Registrar's Office for any reason until 11 May 2009. **Please let me know that you are withdrawing from the course.**

CLASS CANCELLATION: In the event that I need to cancel a class, I will attempt to notify all of you by email and/or telephone. In the event that the college is closed, please see the handout on College Closings.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: "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."

TEXTS:

Columbo, Gary, et alia. Rereading America: Cultural Contexts for Critical Thinking and Writing. Seventh ed. New York: Bedford Books of St. Martin's Press, 2007.

Faigley, Lester. The Brief Penguin Handbook. Second or Third ed. New York: Pearson Education, 2006.

College-level Dictionary

ASSIGNMENTS:

Vocabulary Lists—For each set of readings for the three topic areas (Education, Social Class, and Gender), you will create a vocabulary list of words that are new to you from the reading assignments or other sources. Each list will consist of 10 words with which you are unfamiliar, their definitions, and a sentence using each in a meaningful context. There will be a total of 3 lists. **These lists will be graded on correctness and completeness. Together, they will be worth 20% of your grade.**

Reading Journals--Journal entries will consist of a 3-5 paragraph response to each of the assigned readings. Writing is a skill acquired through much practice, and your reading journal is your practice book. I want to see that you are practicing and exercising your writing muscles on a day-to-day basis. **Journal entries will be graded on effort and completeness.** No rewrites are allowed. **Journal assignments will be worth 25% of your grade.**

Minor Essays—Each of the three Minor Essays will be 4 to 6 pages long, based on the reading assignments, class discussions, and other sources as assigned. Rewrites allowed on consultation with me. **The Minor Essays will be worth 30% of your grade (10% each) and will be graded on the following criteria: Organization, 25%; Persuasion, 25%; Fluency, 20% Grammar, 15%; Creativity, 15%.**

Final Essay--The final essay will be 8 to 12 pages long, based on one of your minor essays and expanded with material drawn from your own research. Rewrites only at my discretion. **The Final Essay will be worth 15% of your grade and will be graded on the following criteria: Organization, 25%; Persuasion, 25%; Fluency, 20% Grammar, 15%; Creativity, 15%.**

GRADING: "A clear statement of what is required to earn the letter grades used by Three Rivers Community-Technical College must be specified in each course syllabus. In most cases, that will be a numerical average or total points, but in some courses a narrative description might be more appropriate."

Rewrite Policy: Any essay which receives a grade of C+ or lower may be rewritten until it receives a grade of B- or better.

A = 95; A- = 91; B+ = 87; B = 85; B- = 81; C+ = 77; C = 75; C- = 71;
D+ = 67; D = 65; F = 50.

DG = Deferred Grade—Requires a rewrite; if no rewrite is received, grade is F
No assignment received = 0