

Syllabus
English 100 Reading/Writing Connection
Tuesday/Thursday

Instructor: Joyce Back
Home email joyceback@att.net
TRCC email jback@trcc.commnet.edu
Home phone 860-572-2977
TRCC phone 860-892-5755

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 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. LATE PAPERS WILL BE DOWNGRADED AT THE RATE OF 10 POINTS PER CLASS. 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 five 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

Basic Week Schedule:

Tuesdays – Lecture and Worksheets

Thursdays – Quiz and/or group discussion; sentence of the week; educational puzzles

Day to Day Schedule**August 27 through October 8 – THESIS REVIEW**

<u>Class date</u>	<u>THURS, August 27</u>
Assignments due on this day	None.
Activities planned for this day	Discuss the syllabus, this schedule, and the two textbooks; group activities; vocabulary game; sentence of the week.
Homework	In the Penguin Handbook, read Section 1, Chapter 1 (pp 1-6).
<u>Class date</u>	<u>TUES, September 1</u>
Assignments due on this day	In the Penguin Handbook, read Section 1, Chapter 1 (pp 1-6).
Activities planned for this day	Review the thesis type essay. Read sample essays and identify the parts.
Homework	In the Penguin Handbook, read Section 1, Chapter 2, pp 6-12.
<u>Class date</u>	<u>THURS, September 3</u>
Assignments due on this day	In the Penguin Handbook, read Section 1, Chapter 2, pp 6-12.
Activities planned for this day	Sentence analysis; educational puzzle.
Homework	In the Penguin Handbook, read Section 1, Chapter 2, pp 12-21.
<u>Class date</u>	<u>TUES, September 8</u>
Assignments due on this day	In the Penguin Handbook, read Section 1, Chapter 2, pp 12-21.
Activities planned for this day	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.
Homework	In the Penguin Handbook, read Section 1, Chapter 3, pp 21-30.
<u>Class date</u>	<u>THURS, September 10</u>
Assignments due on this day	In the Penguin Handbook, read Section 1, Chapter 3, pp 21-30. Discuss.
Activities planned for this day	Sentence analysis; educational puzzle.
Homework	In the Penguin Handbook, read Section 1, Chapter 3, pp 31-37.
<u>Class date</u>	<u>TUES, September 15</u>
Assignments due on this day	In the Penguin Handbook, read Section 1, Chapter 3, pp 31-37.
Activities planned for this day	Do a worksheet on writing thesis statements and write one for your first research paper.
Homework	Get started on your first research paper. DUE TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29. OPEN BOOK QUIZ THURSDAY ON PENGUIN CHAPTERS 1, 2, 3.
<u>Class date</u>	<u>THURS, September 17</u>
Assignments due on this day	None.
Activities planned for this day	OPEN-BOOK QUIZ ON PENGUIN CHAPTERS 1, 2, and 3.
Homework	Work on your first research paper.
<u>Class date</u>	<u>TUES, September 22</u>
Assignments due on this day	None.
Activities planned for this day	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 3 rd person.
Homework	In the Penguin Handbook, read Section 6, MLA Tab, pp 258-260 and 272-280.
<u>Class date</u>	<u>THURS, September 24</u>
Assignments due on this day	Penguin Handbook, Section 6, MLA Tab, pp 258-260 and 272-280.
Activities planned for this day	Sentence analysis; educational puzzle.
Homework	In the Penguin Handbook, read Section 6, MLA Tab, pp 282-296.
<u>Class date</u>	<u>TUES, September 29</u>
Assignments due on this day	DRAFT 1 OF YOUR FIRST RESEARCH PAPER. Also, you should have read the In the Penguin Handbook, Section 6, MLA Tab, pp 282-296.
Activities planned for this day	Read an essay and determine the topic, themes, and thesis.
Homework	None.

<u>Class date</u>	<u>THURS, October 1</u>
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.
Homework	Work on draft 2 of your research paper, DUE TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6. 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>TUES, October 6</u>
Assignments due on this day	DRAFT 2 OF YOUR FIRST RESEARCH PAPER.
Activities planned for this day	Develop a thesis statement for your next research paper, DUE OCTOBER 27, ONE DRAFT ONLY, MLA FORMAT.
Homework	Get started on your second (longer) research paper.

<u>Class date</u>	<u>THURS, October 8</u>
Assignments due on this day	None.
Activities planned for this day	Discuss essay questions and strategies for answering them effectively; sentence analysis; educational puzzle.
Homework	Continue working on your second (longer) research paper.

October 13 through November 19 – READING AND RESPONDING

<u>Class date</u>	<u>TUES, October 13</u>
Assignments due on this day	None.
Activities planned for this day	Read a brief essay and answer a few essay questions for practice.
Homework	In <i>75 Readings</i> , read 'Lifeboat Ethics: The Case Against Helping the Poor,' page 310. Work on your research paper.

<u>Class date</u>	<u>THURS, October 15</u>
Assignments due on this day	In <i>75 Readings</i> , read 'Lifeboat Ethics: The Case Against Helping the Poor.'
Activities planned for this day	Working with your group, identify the thesis presented in 'Lifeboat Ethics. Write a list of five statements that sum up Hardin's main concerns. Sentence analysis; educational puzzle.
Homework	In <i>75 Readings</i> , read 'The Details of Life,' page 317.

<u>Class date</u>	<u>TUES, October 20</u>
Assignments due on this day	In <i>75 Readings</i> , read 'The Details of Life.'
Activities planned for this day	Read an article about Garret Hardin. Answer an essay question for practice. Discuss the Hardin and Kozol essays. QUIZ THURSDAY ON THE TWO ESSAYS.

<u>Class date</u>	<u>THURS, October 22</u>
Activities planned for this day	QUIZ ON THE HARDIN AND KOZOL ESSAYS.
Homework	FINISH YOUR RESEARCH PAPER; DUE NEXT TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27.

<u>Class date</u>	<u>TUES, October 27</u>
Assignments due on this day	RESEARCH PAPER DUE TODAY.
Activities planned for this day	Discussion of Narration type essays.
Homework	In <i>75 Readings</i> , read '37 Who Saw Murder Didn't Call the Police,' page 19.

<u>Class date</u>	<u>THURS, October 29</u>
Assignments due on this day	In <i>75 Readings</i> , read '37 Who Saw Murder Didn't Call the Police.'
Activities planned for this day	Discuss the essay; sentence practice; educational puzzle.
Homework	In <i>75 Readings</i> , read 'Grandmother's Victory,' page 11.

<u>Class date</u>	<u>TUES, November 3</u>
Assignments due on this day	In <i>75 Readings</i> , read 'Grandmother's Victory.'
Activities planned for this day	Discuss 'Grandmother's Victory.' Essay question practice.
Homework	Review '37 Who Saw Murder' and 'Grandmother's Victory. QUIZ THURSDAY.

<u>Class date</u>	<u>THURS, November 5</u>
Assignments due on this day	None.
Activities planned for this day	QUIZ ON MURDER AND VICTORY.
Homework	None.

Class date TUES, November 10
Assignments due on this day None.
Activities planned for this day Discussion of Description and Process Analysis types of essay.
Homework In *75 Readings*, read 'A Partial Remembrance of a Puerto Rican Childhood,' page 52.

Class date THURS, November 12
Assignments due on this day In *75 Readings*, read 'A Partial Remembrance of a Puerto Rican Childhood.'
Activities planned for this day Working with your group, identify the details in the essay that make it fit the category of Description. How is it different from the Narration essays we read? Sentence analysis and educational puzzle.
Homework In *75 Readings*, read 'Why Leaves Turn Color in the Fall,' page 68.

Class date TUES, November 17
Assignments due on this day In *75 Readings*, read 'Why Leaves Turn Color in the Fall.'
Activities planned for this day Write a Process Analysis essay explaining the process of doing a crossword puzzle.
Homework REVIEW THE ESSAYS; QUIZ THURSDAY ON THE ESSAYS WE READ AND ESSAY TYPES IN GENERAL.

Class date THURS, November 19
Assignments due on this day None.
Activities planned for this day QUIZ ON THE ESSAYS WE READ AND ESSAY TYPES IN GENERAL.
Homework None.

Class date TUES, November 24
THANKSGIVING BREAK; NO CLASS.

Class date THURS, November 26
THANKSGIVING BREAK; NO CLASS.

December 1-December 3 – EDITING PRACTICE

Class date TUES, December 1
Assignments due on this day None.
Activities planned for this day Comma rules and editing practice.
Homework In the Penguin Handbook, read Section 8, Chapter 32, pp 399-404. QUIZ WEDNESDAY ON PENGUIN SECTION 8, CHAPTER 32.

Class date THURS, December 3
Assignments due on this day Make sure you have studied Penguin Chapter 32.
Activities planned for this day QUIZ ON CHAPTER 32.
Homework Review all your materials for the exams next week.

Tuesday, December 8 – FINAL EXAM PRACTICE TEST

Thursday, December 10 – FINAL EXAM

Tuesday, December 15 – FINAL EXAMS RETURNED; ATTENDANCE NOT MANDATORY.