

30175 English K100 – M01: Reading - Writing Connection

Fall 2008
Monday & Wednesday
2:30pm - 3:45pm
Room: MO 306

Instructor: M. Burch
Office hours: M & W 1:20 - 2:20pm
 T & R 2:00am - 3:20pm
Room: Shop Wing, space 8
E-mail: mburch@trcc.commnet.edu
Phone: (860) 892-5780

Required Readings:

McWhorter, Kathleen. *The Writer's Selections: Shaping Our Lives*. 5th ed. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 2009.
Faigley, Lester. *The Brief Penguin Handbook*. 3rd ed. New York: Pearson/Longman, 2009.
Dictionary.

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 this course, 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
- utilize 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

Grading:

The final grade will be a letter grade, A - F.

Students must get a “C” or better

And pass an Exit Exam to pass this course.

Grading is based on:

Class Participation.....20%

Participation is extremely important because we learn from each other.

Participation includes:

- attending all classes
- participating in class discussions,
- small and large group work,
- in class reading and writing,
- coming to class prepared by doing the required reading and assignments on time.

Quizzes & Writing Assignments.....40%

- cannot be made up,
- demonstrates knowledge and critical thinking skills.

Tests.....10%

Essays.....30%

Exit Exam.....passing exam does not effect your grade / failing exam can result in failing the course.

A = 93 -100

A - = 90 - 92

B + = 87 - 89

B = 83 - 86

B - = 80 - 82

C + = 77 - 79

C = 73 - 76

C - = 70 - 72

D + = 67 - 69

D = 63 - 66

D - = 60 - 62

Attendance:

- Students are expected to attend all classes. If a student misses classes it will reflect in a lower final grade, regardless of when these absences occur and the reason(s) for which they occur, including illness.
- Class begins promptly, don't be late or leave early, it will affect your grade. If a student will be absent, late or have to leave early, she/he must tell me in advance.
- It is the student's responsibility to find out and do the assignment for any missed class.
- Quizzes and Writing Assignments cannot be made up.

Late Work:

Work is due on the dates stated in the course outline or by instructor.
Late work (anytime after the end of class) will receive a grade penalty.

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is the unacknowledged use of another person's words or ideas in your writing. If you use any ideas, thoughts, writing, quotes, or even paraphrase some other writer's thinking, you must acknowledge that person. Whether conscious or unconscious, plagiarism is a serious academic offence. Consequences for plagiarism can range from failing the assignment to failing the course.

Disabilities:

To receive accommodations in class a student must make an appointment with the Counseling and Advising Center (860) 383-5217. I will be glad to speak with a student regarding this or any special medical needs.

Tutoring/Writing Center:

Tutoring Academic Success Center (860) 892-5745.
Writing Center call (860) 892-5773 or 892-5769
or e-mail TRWritingcenter@trcc.commnet.edu.

Technology:

Turn off your cell phone, pager, or other electronic equipment.

College Withdrawal Policy:

A student who finds it necessary to discontinue a course once class has met must provide notice to the Registrar. Withdrawal forms are available at the Registrar's office in both the campuses and at the office at the Sub-base. Non punitive "W" grades are assigned to withdrawal requests. An instructor's signature is required after the deadline has passed. No withdrawals are permitted after the last class preceding the final exam. Students who do not obtain an official withdrawal, but simply stop attending classes, run the risk of receiving an "F" grade for the course.

Weather Cancellations:

Call (860) 886-0177 or go online to: www.trcc.commnet.edu.
TV Channels 3 & 8.
Radio Stations: WCTY, Q105, WICH, WNLC.

Note on Reading and Writing:

Reading and writing are important means of communication. Just as there are different skill levels in any sport, reading and writing have different skill levels and achievement as well. This course will help you to understand different kinds of text and writing and help you to appreciate the importance of improving these communication skills. When you read and think critically you will write better. This course will connect critical reading and writing skills to help you produce interesting, thoughtful and well constructed papers. By working together, we can accomplish our goals.

Course Outline
(Subject to Change)

Week 1 September 3

Wed. Introduction and syllabus review.
In Class Writing/ Discussion.

Week 2 September 8

Mon. Reading: *The Writer's Selections*, Preface, pp. xii-xv.
Reading Success Strategies, Strategy 1 - 4.
"Essential Reading and Writing Skills", pp. 1 - 6
Reading Quiz # 1.

September 10

Wed. Reading: *The Brief Penguin Handbook*, Chapter 1: Think as a
Writer, pp. 1 - 6 & Chapter 5: Read and View with a Critical Eye,
pp. 47- 55.
Writing Assignment # 1, *The Writer's Selections*, "I Want
Constantine's Murderer to Die", pp. 61 - 64.

Week 3 September 15

Mon. Reading: *The Writer's Selections*, Writing Success Strategy 1 - 3,
strategy 5 - 8.
"Essential Reading and Writing Skills", pp. 6 - 12.
Reading Quiz # 2.

September 17

Wed. Reading: *The Brief Penguin Handbook*, Chapter 6: Write to
Analyze, pp. 55 - 67 & Chapter 2: Plan and Draft, 6 - 21.
The Writer's Selections, "Essential Reading and Writing Skills", pp.
13 - 20.
Writing Assignment #2 - *The Writer's Selections*, "Hold the Fries.
Hey, Not All of Them!", pp. 50 - 53.

Week 4

September 22

Mon. Reading: *The Brief Penguin Handbook*, Chapter 3: Composing Paragraphs, pp. 21 - 37.

Reading Quiz # 3.

September 24

Mon. Reading: *The Brief Penguin Handbook*, Chapter 4: Rewrite, Edit and Proofread, pp. 37 - 46.

The Writer's Selections, "RFID Tags: Big Brother in Small Packages", pp. 268 - 273.

Writing Assignment # 3 - Argument Essay Introduction.

Week 5

September 29

Mon. Reading: *The Brief Penguin Handbook*, Chapter 9: Write Arguments, pp. 85 - 100.

Writing Assignment # 4 - Argument Essay Draft.

October 1

Wed. Reading: *The Brief Penguin Handbook*, Chapter 27: Write with Power, pp. 359 - 365.

Peer Draft Workshop.

Writing Assignment # 5 - Bring 2 copies of Argument Essay draft.

Week 6

October 6

Mon. Reading: *The Brief Penguin Handbook*, Chapter 28: Write Concisely, pp. 365 - 371.

Argument Essay # 1.

October 9

Wed. Reading: *The Brief Penguin Handbook*, Chapter 29: Write with Emphasis, pp. 371 - 378.

Reading Quiz # 4.

Week 7 **October 13**
Mon. **No Class – Columbus Day!**

October 15
Wed. Reading: *The Brief Penguin Handbook*, Chapter 30: Find the Right Words, pp. 379 - 386.
Writing Assignment # 6 - Revised Essay # 1.

Week 8 **October 20**
Mon. Reading: *The Writer's Selections*, "Naked Terror", pp. 83 - 86.
Writing Assignment # 7 - Answer questions pp. 85 - 86,
(Examining the Reading & Writing About the Reading - a Paragraph # 1).

October 22
Wed. Reading: *The Brief Penguin Handbook*, Chapter 21: Incorporate Sources and Avoid Plagiarism, pp. 213 - 224.
Reading Quiz # 5.

Week 9 **October 27**
Mon. Reading: *The Writer's Selections*, "Whether to Vote: A Citizen's First Choice", pp. 33 - 39.
Writing Assignment # 7 - Answer questions pp. 37 - 38,
(Examining the Reading & Writing About the Reading - A Paragraph, # 2).

October 29
Wed. Writing Assignment # 8 - Argument Essay # 2 - Pre-writing & Introduction using *The Writer's Selections*, "Whether to Vote: A Citizen's First Choice", pp. 33 - 39.
Quiz # 6.

Week 10 **November 3**
Mon. Writing Assignment # 9 - Argument Essay # 2 - Body.
Test # 1.

November 5
Wed. Writing Assignment # 10 - Argument Essay # 2 - Conclusion.

Week 11 **November 10**
Mon. Peer Draft Workshop - Bring 3 copies of draft of Argument Essay # 2 (one for instructor).

November 12
Wed. Scheduled Conferences for Argument Essay # 2
Bring draft of Essay # 2.
No Class.

Week 12 **November 17**
Mon. Reading: Student essay choice from *The Writer's Selections*, (essay for Argument Essay # 3).
Argument Essay # 2.
Quiz # 7.

November 19
Wed. Writing Assignment # 7 - Answer questions following student essay choice (Examining the Reading & Writing About the Reading - A Paragraph, # is student choice).

Week 13 **November 24**
Mon. Test # 2.

November 26
No Class – Thanksgiving Break – Happy Thanksgiving!

Week 14 **December 1**
Wed. Peer Draft Workshop - Bring 3 copies of essay draft (one for the instructor).

December 3
Wed. Scheduled Conferences for Argument Essay # 3 - Bring copy of essay draft.
No Class.

Week 15 **December 8**
Wed. Review writing process.
Argument Essay # 3.
Quiz # 8.

December 10
Wed. Exit Exam.