Composition I

This is a Texas Common Course Number. This is a DCCCD Core Curriculum Course.

Prerequisite: One of the following must be met: (1) DREA 0093 AND DWRI 0093; (2) English as a Second Language (ESOL) 0044 AND 0054; or (3) have met Texas Success Initiative (TSI) Reading and Writing standards AND DCCCD Writing score prerequisite requirement.

Course Description: This course focuses on student writing. It emphasizes reading and analytical thinking and introduces research skills. Students practice writing for a variety of audiences and purposes. (3 Lec.)

Student Learning Outcomes (SLO): (updated Spring 2013 ACGM)
At the end of the course, the successful student will be able to

1. Demonstrate knowledge of individual and collaborative writing processes.
2. Develop ideas with appropriate support and attribution.
3. Write in a style appropriate to audience and purpose.
4. Read, reflect, and respond critically to a variety of texts.
5. Use Edited American English in academic essays.

Course Materials:

The Norton Field Guide to Writing, with Readings and Handbook
Norton, 3rd ed. 2013
Bullock and Goddin
978-0-393-91959-2
(This is a new edition! Old editions will not be the same.)

Other readings, as determined by instructor, may be placed on e-Campus.

A student of El Centro College is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from a college-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer. THECB TAC Rule 4.218 (c)
Major Course Units: (subject to change)

Unit 1: Preparing to write (topics reviewed throughout the semester) (SLOs 2, 5)
  - Grammar & punctuation review
  - MLA documentation
  - Identifying plagiarism

Unit 2: Summary and response to reading (SLO 1, 2, 3, 5)

  Paper due:

Unit 3: Exploratory writing: making personal connection with ideas in texts (SLO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)

  Paper due:

Unit 4: Rhetorical analysis of an image (using one outside source) (SLO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)

  Paper due:

Midterm exam essay:

Unit 5: Formal research essay on human behavior (using multiple scholarly sources) (SLO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)

  Paper due:

Unit 6: Brief introduction to literature (SLO 4)

Unit 7: Critical Thinking activity (QEP)

Final exam essay: TBA, according to published final exam schedule

Assignments:

5 closely-graded written assignments (at least one should be in-class and unassisted)
Exercises/quizzes as determined by the teacher
Tests as determined by the teacher.
At least one graded research paper of 3-5 pages, incorporating 3-5 outside sources.

Disclaimer:

The provisions contained in this syllabus do not constitute a contract between the student and El Centro College. These provisions may be changed at the discretion of the Coordinator/Instructor. When necessary, appropriate notice of such changes will be given to the student.

The instructor-of-record may provide additional information to enhance the course to meet the needs of the enrolled students, provided that the enhancements do not conflict with the official course syllabus.

Institutional Policies: General institutional policies
Course related policies: Course-related institutional policies
Department policies:

1. Attendance Policy: Regular attendance is imperative because this course involves a good deal more than simply reading a text; further, you cannot receive credit for a class you have not regularly attended. Not being in class, regardless of the reason, is an absence. Those who miss too many classes (more than 6 in fall/spring, more than 2 in summer) and do not drop the course will receive an “F” or “N” for the course. If you come to class completely unprepared for the class activity that day, such as not having a rough draft on a peer edit day, you will be counted absent.

2. Academic honesty: Papers should reflect YOUR knowledge and understanding. Don't let others do your thinking and writing for you. Information that is copied, quoted in part, paraphrased, or summarized without credit to the author is plagiarism. Instances of plagiarism have dire consequences: F on the paper, F in the class, and/or expulsion from school. Review specific Academic Honesty Statement posted on e-Campus.

3. Cell phones: Your cell phone must be turned off during class and put in your bag, not on your desk. Put your bags and purses on the floor and leave them there. If you expect several family emergencies, then you should give the campus police phone number to your family, and campus police can come get you in case of true emergency. This shows respect for the learning environment and helps you build professional habits.

Student Handbook:
http://www.elcentrocollege.edu/admissions/docs/ECCStudentHandbook2012_w.pdf