Course Description: Composition I is an intensive study of and practice in writing processes, from invention and researching to drafting, revising, and editing, both individually and collaboratively. Emphasis is placed on effective rhetorical choices, including audience, purpose, arrangement, and style. Focus on writing the academic essay as a vehicle for learning, communicating, and critical analysis.

Core Objectives:
• Critical Thinking Skills - to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
• Communication Skills - to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication
• Teamwork – to include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal
• Personal Responsibility Skills – to include the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making

Learning Outcomes
After successful completion of this course the student should 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/Supplies Needed
Merriam-Webster dictionary app (free) or paper copy
Personal Organizer or Calendar (Physical or Digital)

Course Outline
Assignments
You will complete 5 essays in this class. You will complete in class writing assignments. You will edit your classmates' essays. I reserve the right to modify these assignments whenever I suspect that the class is not working up to its potential.

1) Proposal Essay – In Class Essay, 500-word minimum Due Week 3
2) Informative Report Essay: 800-word minimum Due Week 5
3) Argumentative Essay: Focus: 800-word minimum Due Week 8
4) Literary Analysis Essay: Focus: 800-word minimum Due Week 11
5) Cause/Effect Essay: In Class Essay, 500-word minimum Week 14

Final Portfolio: Your final portfolio will contain all of the essays and journals you have written during the semester. It will also include a final Reflection Essay in which you will discuss what you have achieved over the term and how you will apply that to your future goals. Your portfolio will be submitted online. Due Week 15.

Daily Assignments: Each week we will have one or more writing assignments. Some will be homework; others will be in class assignments. Late daily work will not be accepted.

Extra Credit Assignment: You can receive one percentage point of extra credit for attending a poetry reading, fiction reading, or a lecture by a guest speaker on or off campus when you write a 250-word response essay about the event.

Grading:
I will grade you on your essays, peer editing, daily assignments, and portfolio.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Essays</td>
<td>60%</td>
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<td>Daily Work</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Peer Editing</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Portfolio</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Journals</td>
<td>10%</td>
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The grading scale is
A = 90-100%
B = 80-89%
C = 70-79%
D = 60-69%
F = 59% or less
I reserve the right to refuse to grade an assignment that is not turned in using the proper format. All assignments must be in MLA style. This requirement includes but is not limited to the following rules:

- 1 inch margins
- 12 point Times New Roman font
- Double spacing
- Word count in the heading
- No cover page
- Page numbers
- Title: centered, one space away from first line and heading

The following writing errors are not acceptable:

- Run-on sentences [fused sentences or comma splices]
- Sentence fragments
- Spelling errors
- Agreement Errors
- Faulty Predication or mixed constructions
- Verb errors

A paper or homework exhibiting one of these errors will receive a grade of MR (Mandatory Rewrite) and lose 10 points for each day that it takes you to revise. This list may grow as we discuss grammar rules during the semester. If we discuss a rule in class, you may no longer make an error regarding that rule.

Attendance Policy:
Punctual attendance at every class is a necessity. If it is absolutely necessary to miss class, it is your responsibility to find out from the course calendar what you missed and come to the next class fully prepared, with all assignments complete. To clarify, being absent from a prior class is no excuse for not having your assignment on the day you do attend.

Students must begin attendance in all classes of enrollment. No exceptions. Financial Aid will not be granted to students who have been certified as not attending, by the certification date. For this lecture course, your physical participation in class, on or before the certification date will allow you to receive credit for FA purposes. For certification dates, check with the division or FAO for further information. Students who are not certified as beginning class are responsible for any payments due as a result of non-certification, to include the dropping of courses.

Late Work Policy: Late work will lose 10 points per day for three days. After three days, you may not submit late work. In the case of a certified health emergency (Documents must be submitted to verify this), please inform me, and we will arrange a
makeup work plan. Understand that appointments are NOT synonymous with emergencies, as they are planned ahead of time. As such, they are no excuse for late work or absence.

**Makeup Exam Policy:** N/A

**College Sponsored Events:** These activities do merit an “excused” absence, but any assignments due on the date of the event must be submitted on or before that due date. Written responses must be submitted in order to earn points for any participation activities missed.

**Electronic Devices:** Please refrain from using electronic devices for purposes besides coursework during class time.

### Fall Academic Semester 2019

#### Dates for 16-Week Fall Semester

- **August 26 (Monday)**: Classes Begin
- **September 2 (Monday)**: Labor Day Holiday
- **September 3 (Tuesday)**: Classes Resume
- **September 9 (Monday)**: 12th Class Day (Certification Date)
- **November 14 (Thursday)**: Last Day to Withdraw*
- **November 28 (Thursday)**: Thanksgiving Holidays Begin
- **December 2 (Monday)**: Classes Resume
- **December 9-12 (Monday thru Thursday)**: Final Exams
- **December 12 (Thursday)**: Semester Ends

**Academic Dishonesty:**

Plagiarized essays will receive a 0 for the assignment. If you plagiarize any assignment you will receive a 0 on the assignment. Self-plagiarism, also called “reuse” or “recycling-fraud,” will also receive a grade of 0. To read more about that Click Here.

Students who are caught *deliberately* plagiarizing an assignment will be subject to an “F” in the course and possible expulsion from the college. Academic honesty is expected, and integrity is valued in the Dallas County Community Colleges. Scholastic dishonesty is a violation of the Code of Student Conduct. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism, and collusion. As a college student, you are considered a responsible adult. Your enrollment indicates acceptance of the DCCCD Code of Student Conduct published in the DCCCD Catalog. For more information, Click Here.
Institution Policies: Click Here for a complete list of institutional policies (Stop Before You Drop; Withdrawal Policy; Repeating a Course; Financial Aid; Academic Dishonesty; Americans with Disabilities Act Statement; Religious Holidays; and Campus Emergency Operation Plan and Contingency Plan).

Classroom Etiquette

Please treat each other and the instructor with respect. Be aware of the written and/or verbal policies the instructor includes in the syllabus or says in class. As you would wish to be treated, so treat others. In other words, by following the rules outlined below, you will be more successful and less frustrated with your instructor and fellow students (and better prepared for university and/or business life).

a. Practice open and honest communication. Communicate, politely, with your instructor if you have a problem. Nothing can be solved if you approach your instructor in an offensive manner, or demand the instructor solve your problems. Also, nothing can be accomplished if you don’t talk to your instructor at all! Remember the golden rule above: if you treat your instructor with respect, your instructor will treat you with respect. This works for your fellow students, too!

b. Avoid asking for special treatment without good reason. Requests for special consideration from the instructor (such as late papers, excused absences, etc.) are just that, requests. You are asking the instructor for a favor. Your instructor must be fair to all students and may not grant your request or may grant it only with adequate documentation/evidence. Be aware of this and respect the instructor’s decision.

c. Be prepared. Come to class prepared to write, discuss, work in groups, and ready to cooperate. Being prepared and able to work with a team are the two most valued skills in the business world! Have your reading done, drafts prepared, topics considered before you come to class. This, above all else, demonstrates respect for yourself!

d. Listen! Listen to your instructor and your fellow students. Take notes when needed. Most problems occur because deep and open listening has not been practiced. Considering what has been said before reacting shows respect for the other person, as well as yourself.

e. Finally, respect other students and the instructor by coming to class on time and making sure you turn off cell phones and other devices. Disrupting class is never respectful in anyone’s eyes!
## Class Meeting Outline

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Schedule</th>
<th>Homework</th>
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| Week 1 | 8/25/19 - 8/31/19 | Course Intro; Hero’s Journey  
Unit 1 Proposals  
Proposal Structure  
Brainstorming  
This I Believe | Read Heroic Journey PDF  
Write Journal 1 |
| Week 2 | 9/1/19 - 9/7/19 | Shaping and Drafting; Proposals  
This I Believe  
Proposals; Proposal Examples; Pre-Writing | Write Journal 2 |
| Week 3 | 9/8/19 - 9/14/19 | This I Believe Presentations  
Peer Edit and Revise Proposal | Begin writing Narrative rough draft Essay 1 Proposals Due by Sunday 9/15/19 |
| Week 4 | 9/15/19 - 9/21/19 | Unit 2 Informative/Exemplification  
Exemplification/PPT exercises  
This American Life | Journal 3 |
| Week 5 | 9/22/19 - 9/28/19 | This American Life,  
Discuss essay examples  
This Mountain View Life Project work | Read example essays  
Journal 4  
Write rough draft of Exemplification Essay |
| Week 6 | 9/29/19 - 10/5/19 | This MVC Life Presentations  
Peer Edit Essay 2 | Peer editing. Revise essay. Essay 2 Due Sunday 10/6/19 |
| Week 7 | 10/6/19 - 10/12/19 | Research  
Argument  
Intelligence Squared | Read selected arguments  
Journal 5 |
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<tr>
<th>Week 8</th>
<th>10/13/19 - 10/19/19</th>
<th>Intelligence Squared, Fallacies, Debate Preparation</th>
<th>Journal 6 Write rough draft of Argument essay</th>
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<tr>
<td>Week 9</td>
<td>10/20/19 - 10/26/19</td>
<td>MVC Intelligence Squared Debates, Peer Editing of Essay 3 Argument</td>
<td>Revise Essay 3 Essay 3 Argument Due Sunday 10/27/19</td>
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<td>Week 10</td>
<td>10/27/19 - 11/2/19</td>
<td>Visual analysis, Discuss visual analysis examples</td>
<td>Journal 7</td>
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<td>Week 11</td>
<td>11/3/19 - 11/9/19</td>
<td>Style and Grammar, Discuss Selected Analyses; Prewriting</td>
<td>Journal 8 Read selected Write Essay 4 Rough Draft</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 12</td>
<td>11/10/19 - 11/16/19</td>
<td>Presentations of analysis, Peer edit Essay 4</td>
<td>Revise Essay 4 Essay 4 Analysis Due Sunday 11/17/19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 13</td>
<td>11/17/19 - 11/23/19</td>
<td>Causal Analysis, CNN Heroes, Causal Analysis examples</td>
<td>Journal 9 Read/review models and selected examples</td>
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</table>
| Week 14 | 11/14/19 - 11/30/19 | Discuss examples and Models  
In class project work  
Peer Edit/ Project Work | Journal 10  
Draft final essay and project |
|---------|----------------------|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Week 15 | 12/1/19 - 12/7/19   | Hero Presentations  
Peer Edit | Revise final essay and project  
Essay 5 Causal Analysis  
Due Sunday 12/8/19 |
| Week 16 | FINALS WEEK 12/8/19 - 12/14/19 | Final Exam Day: Portfolio presentations | Last class day and last day to turn anything in 12/12/19 |