ENGL 1301.69700 - Composition I
Spring 2020 Flex I

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Class Meeting Times: MTWR 6:00-7:20 PM
Credit Hours: Three (3)

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 is 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

Student 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:
USB Drive (required)
MLA/Writing Handbook (recommended)
Evaluation Procedures:

- Essay 1 – 25%
- Essay 2 – 25%
- Essay 3 – 30%
- Group Presentation – 10%
- Observation Report – 5%
- In-Class Assignments – 5%

Grading Scale:

- 90-100 = A
- 80-89 = B
- 70-79 = C
- 60-69 = D (does not transfer to most universities)
- 0-59 = F

Evaluation Standards for Written Papers:

The evaluation of essays will reflect a grade that matches the following descriptors:

- The “A” paper states and develops its central ideas with originality. Its ideas are clear, logical, and interesting; it contains all of the following positive qualities:
  - Substance; something to say; original ideas
  - Concentration on a main purpose, with appropriate development and firm support; clear overall organization.
  - Thorough paragraph development; varied and effective sentence construction
  - Careful choice of effective words and phrases
  - Freedom from distracting errors in spelling, punctuation and grammar
  - Effective attention to audience interests

- The “B” paper clearly, logically, and adequately states its central purpose. It is comparatively free of usage errors. Although the “B” paper indicates competence and is responsive to audience interest, it lacks originality of thought and style that characterizes the “A” paper.

- The average paper will receive a grade of “C”. It has a central idea organized clearly enough to convey its purpose to the reader. It avoids serious usage errors and may, in fact, have few correction marks on it, but it lacks vigor of thought and expression that would entitle it to an above average-grade. An audience interest is not effectively addressed.

- The grade of “D” indicates below-average achievement in expressing ideas correctly and effectively. Most “D” papers contain errors in the use of English and fail to present a central idea, to develop it adequately, or to address the interests of a specific audience. With more careful proofreading and fuller development, many D papers might earn at least a “C” grade.

- The grade of “F” usually indicates failure to state and develop a main idea, as well as failure to avoid serious errors in grammar, spelling, punctuation, and sentence structure. An “F” essay is characterized by one or more of the following weaknesses: (1) inadequate ideas and details; (2) inadequate paragraph organization; (3) poorly constructed sentences; (4) ineffective word choice; and (5) serious errors in usage, grammar, punctuation, and spelling. In addition, plagiarized papers and papers that are off topic will automatically receive this grade.
Instructor 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 what you missed and come to the next class fully prepared, with all assignments complete. During 16-week semesters, students are allowed a maximum of six (6) hours of free absences, and for each hour absent over the free absences, their final grade is reduced by 10% (one letter grade) (10 hours = F, if you started with an A).

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 is NOT accepted, ever. It must be submitted at the beginning of the class period—not via e-mail—on the day it is due or before. 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.

Please see DCCCD website for WITDRAW and FINANCIAL AID CENSUS DATES.

Academic Dishonesty:
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. More information is available at https://www1.dcccd.edu/catalog/GeneralInfo/CollegePolicies/code.cfm.
Institution Policies: Please visit http://www.mountainviewcollege.edu/syllabipolicies 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).

Course Calendar/Important Dates:

Essay 1:

- List of controversial current events due Monday, January 27th
- List of 3 tentative thesis statements due Tuesday, January 28th
- Thesis statement due Wednesday, January 29th
- Tentative outline due Thursday, January 30th
- Final outline due Monday, February 3rd
- Rough draft due Tuesday, February 4th
- FINAL DRAFT DUE THURSDAY, February 6th

Essay 2: TBA

Essay 3: TBA (FINAL DRAFT DUE LAST DAY OF CLASS)

Group Presentations: Last official full week of class (prior to final exams)

Observation Report: Last day of class

NOTE: All assignment information and due dates will be posted under “Announcements” on eCampus and emailed directly to the class. I retain the right to make changes to the course calendar based on our in-class progress, but any changes that might happen will likely be extensions of deadlines (rather than moving deadlines forward).