

English 107
First-Year Composition
Syllabus and Course Guidelines

Summer 2013
Line #43015

Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays 10:10-11:30 a.m.

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Thursdays 2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.,
and by appointment.

Course Blackboard site: <<http://my.asu.edu>>

Writing Programs site: <<http://english.clas.asu.edu/writingprograms>>

Course Description and Objectives

English 107 is the first-semester writing course for students for whom English is a second language. It aims to increase students' ability to develop ideas, to express ideas effectively, and to engage different literacies. It gives special attention to expository and persuasive writing. Critical reading of articles, speeches, and other non-literary texts helps students to understand the rhetorical process, to analyze audience and its cultural contexts, and to foresee the audience's response. During the 16-week semester students will complete four formal written projects. Combined the final drafts of these four projects should result in approximately 5,000 words (this is equivalent to about 20 pages using standard academic format). Additionally, a final reflection is required.

English 107 credits are equivalent of English 101 credits.

Course Goals

Through this course, students will:

- synthesize and analyze multiple points of view
- articulate and support one's own position regarding various issues
- adjust writing to multiple audiences, purposes, and conventions
- become conscientious and responsible writers, both for college and beyond
- learn to access and become involved with the discourses of the university community
- develop questioning abilities that move them beyond the passive acceptance of new materials to thinkers who can hold those materials up to genuinely informed scrutiny

Required Textbooks

Ballengier, Bruce. *The Curious Writer: Fourth Edition*. Pearson, 2013. (available at bookstore)
Readings or links to readings will be available on the course Blackboard site.

Additional Requirements

Students are responsible for knowing:

- Writing Programs Goals and Policies. Available online at:
<<http://english.clas.asu.edu/writingprograms>>
- ASU Student Code of Conduct. Available online at:
<<http://www.asu.edu/studentaffairs/studentlife/srr/index.htm>>

An ASU email account

Access to a computer for Blackboard and for word processing of all drafts

An ASURITE ID and password to access MyASU
A college-level dictionary

Standard Writing Programs Policies

1. Policy on class attendance

Students are expected to attend all class sessions. Because Writing Programs courses incorporate frequent small- and large-group activities into lessons, students who are absent affect not only their own learning, but that of their fellow students. Therefore, only *two weeks'* worth of absences (see below) will be allowed for the semester, *regardless of reason, including documented illness or emergency*. Students who exceed two weeks' worth of classes will fail the course, unless they withdraw (see <http://students.asu.edu/withdrawal>).

- For a 5-week **Summer session**, for classes that meet daily, the maximum number of allowed absences is two (2).
- **Note:** Students who participate in **university-sanctioned activities** and/or who will be unable to meet the attendance requirements for a particular section should move to another section where their activity schedules will not interfere with their classroom obligations (students can freely switch sections during the first week of the semester). To accommodate students who participate in university-sanctioned activities, the Writing Programs Office offers sections of this course online and at various times of the day and week. We have asked advisors across campus to help students enroll in appropriate sections. If you think that this course may conflict with a university-sanctioned activity in which you are involved—athletics or the debate team or another—please see me immediately.
- **Note:** Writing Programs is sensitive to the religious practices of the various religious faiths represented in the student body of the university community. Writing Programs' standard attendance policy listed here provides reasonable accommodation for individual religious practices. Students who anticipate absences due to religious reasons should plan their absences in the course accordingly. To accommodate students' religious practices, ASU Writing Programs offers sections of many courses online and at various times of the day and week. We have asked advisors across campus to help students enroll in appropriate sections. If you think this course may conflict with your religious practices, please see me immediately.

2. Attendance: first week of classes

According to university policy, students who are registered but do not attend any of the first week of classes may be dropped.

3. If I am absent

If I need to cancel class for any reason, I will contact you via e-mail. If possible, I will also try to get someone to post a sign. However, if you come to class and I have not arrived by the time 15 minutes has elapsed (from when class is to start), please assume that class is cancelled, and check e-mail frequently afterwards for further instructions.

4. Grading

Grading is based on specific assignment criteria, and will follow English Department standards for content, organization, expression, and mechanics. To compute grades, the following values are assigned to the standard letter grades of A through E:

- A+.....4.3 (only used internally at ASU)
- A.....4.0
- A-.....3.7
- B+.....3.3
- B.....3.0
- B-.....2.7
- C+.....2.3
- C.....2.0
- D.....1.0
- E.....0.3
- No paper = 0

5. The public nature of class writing and discussions

Please consider every piece of writing you do for this class to be "public property." Remember that you will often be expected to share your writing with others, so avoid writing about things that you may not be prepared to subject to public scrutiny, or things you feel so strongly about that you are unwilling to listen to perspectives other than your own. This does not mean that you are not entitled to an opinion but that you adopt positions responsibly, contemplating the possible effect on others.

6. Technological Distractions

Please refrain from any unauthorized usages of technology during our class sessions. In this usage, 'unauthorized' means unrelated to the tangible learning activity or activities taking place during the class period. Please put all hand-held electronic devices away. I will expect computers and laptops to be used for classroom activities only. Failure to abide by these guidelines may have a negative impact on a student's participation grade. Repeat offenders may be seen as disruptive and asked to leave class.

7. Late Writing Projects

Final papers are due at the beginning of the scheduled class time unless otherwise noted on the syllabus. Students who suspect they will not have an assignment turned in on time should contact me prior to the class period in which it is due to discuss alternate arrangements. Paper extensions are rarely granted. If you do not receive permission to submit your paper late, late papers will be penalized one full letter grade for every calendar day that the paper is late.

8. All writing for this class must be written for this class

To pass this class all major writing assignments must be submitted, and note that all writing for this class must be written for this class. Reusing a paper from another class or elsewhere constitutes academic dishonesty. If you wish to further pursue a research project begun in another class or develop ideas you have written about in another class, please discuss your plans with me first.

9. Academic Dishonesty

Students are expected to write and submit original work in Writing Programs classes, and to incorporate others' words, images, or ideas into their writing using correct attribution practices. Academic dishonesty in any form (see <http://provost.asu.edu/academicintegrity/policy/StudentObligations>) will not be tolerated, and students are expected to be familiar with all relevant university policies. The Academic Integrity policy is located at <http://provost.asu.edu/academicintegrity>.

10. Disruptive, Threatening, or Violent Behavior

Students, faculty, staff, and other individuals do not have an unqualified right of access to university grounds, property, or services. Interfering with the peaceful conduct of university-related business or activities or remaining on campus grounds after a request to leave may be considered a crime. A disruptive student may be withdrawn from a course with a mark of "W" or "E" when the student's behavior disrupts the educational process. Disruptive classroom behavior for this purpose is defined by the instructor. Disruptive behavior in any form (see <http://www.asu.edu/studentaffairs/safety/definitions.html>) will not be tolerated, and students are expected to be familiar with all relevant university policies. ASU Student Rights and Responsibilities are located at <http://students.asu.edu/srr/code>.

11. Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Qualified students with disabilities may be eligible to receive academic support services and accommodations. Eligibility is based on qualifying disability documentation and assessment of individual need. If students wish to request accommodation for a disability, they must be registered with the Disability Resource Center (DRC) and submit appropriate documentation from the DRC in advance of the

request. Additional information can be found at the DRC website: <http://www.asu.edu/studentaffairs/ed/drc/>.

12. End-of-Semester Portfolio Collection

All students will submit a portfolio of their work to the Writing Programs Portfolio Archive at the end of the semester. This portfolio will consist of the final drafts of all major writing projects. This portfolio will be submitted digitally as a single PDF containing the major project final drafts in chronological order. Additional information and instructions for submission will be provided before the end of the semester.

Additional Course Information

Attendance

I expect you to attend all classes and to arrive on time. **If you miss more than four classes, you will fail the course**—this is Writing Programs policy. **Being more than 10 minutes late to class, being 5-10 minutes late to class twice, or leaving class early without permission will count as an absence.** Several times during the semester I will cancel classes to hold conferences; **if you miss your scheduled conference, you will be counted absent for each day that class was canceled for those meetings.**

Classroom Etiquette

As active members of the writing community, it is important to be involved and active during every class period. As a responsible member of the classroom community, it is necessary that you complete all assigned homework and come prepared to discuss all topics in class. **Use of cell phones (including text messaging) or any other unauthorized electronic devices will result in no participation credit for that day,** and I reserve the right to ask you to leave the class. If we are using computers in the class, you should remain on task. **If we see that you are off-task on your computer (such as checking Facebook or playing Solitaire), you will lose participation points for the day.**

Please note that some course content may be sensitive. As we conduct scholarly investigation and engage in critical thinking about class topics, we will often entertain many different opinions about a topic or text or perspective; please be considerate of others' contributions and viewpoints. An environment of respect will allow all of us the opportunity to participate and learn.

Course Work

All paper drafts and other homework writing assignments must be typed in a standard font (such as Times New Roman, Garamond or Arial), 11- or 12-pt type, with your name and the title of your document at the top of the first page. Final drafts of major writing assignments may not be revised, nor is there any extra credit available in this course.

Participation Work

Participation work includes daily participation efforts, oral and written responses to readings and other course material, reading responses, in-class writing, quizzes, group work, drafts, revision work, and anything else we do in the the writing process for each project.

I will not accept make-up work for participation work that is done in class, so you need to attend regularly keep work and grades up-to-date. **Homework responses should be typed,** and posted in Blackboard (unless noted otherwise) and they are due by the beginning of class time in which we discuss the reading. Homework is due at the beginning of class; late or incomplete work will receive partial credit. Furthermore, be aware that **absence is not an excuse for not being prepared for class. If you are absent, you should still be prepared for the next class that you attend.** Participation activities will equal 25% of the course grade. It all adds up, so make every effort to come to class and keep up with your assignments.

Grades:

Writing Project #1	20%
Writing Project #2	20%
Writing Project #3	25%
Final Course Reflection (in-class)	10%
Participation and Homework	25%

The grading system indicated here will be used to calculate the student's final course grade. The student will receive a final grade no lower than the grade determined by the formula. Keep in mind that part of this course is about learning to write using academic conventions, so **all your documents**, homework and Blackboard postings should reflect these conventions.

Homework or process drafts turned in late (after the deadline) cannot earn higher than half credit. **Failure to turn in a final draft of any of the major writing assignments will result in automatic failure of the course without exception.**

Description of Writing Projects

Project One: In-depth analysis of writing practices, assumptions and beliefs

Project Two: Thorough and deep analysis of student revision practices

Project Three: A reflective research paper

Final Reflection: The course will include a written critical evaluation of your work in lieu of a final exam.

Disability Resources for Students

ASU complies with all federal and state laws and regulations regarding discrimination, including the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA). If you have a disability and need a reasonable accommodation for equal access to education at ASU, please contact Disability Resources for Students at 965-1234. Please feel free to discuss the special accommodations with all of your teachers.

Tentative Semester Schedule

Following is a daily plan of projects and due dates. While there is a particular curriculum we need to cover within the semester, every class is different, and sometimes we will have to change plans. Therefore, you should view the semester outline as just that - an outline, with details to be arranged as the class progresses and various changes to be made as the need arises. If I make any major change in course requirements, I will hand out written revisions in a timely manner in class and on the course Blackboard site. Students are responsible for assignments handed out in class as well as for those indicated on the project outlines, so absent students should check with classmates in order to be prepared for class.

Important Dates:

July 4	Independence Day Observed – No Classes
July 23	Course Withdrawal Deadline – In Person & Online
Aug 13	Complete Withdrawal Deadline – In Person and Online
Aug 13	Last Day of Classes
Aug 15	Final Grades Due

Writing Project Deadlines (subject to change)

Writing Project One

First draft: July 11

Revised draft: July 15

Final Draft: July 17

Writing Project Two

First draft: July 24

Revised Draft: July 26

Final Draft: July 30

Writing Project Three

First Draft: August 6

Revised Draft: August 9

Final Draft: August 13

Week One

Wednesday, July 3

In class: Intro to Course; Syllabus Review; What is language? How is speech different from writing?

Thursday, July 4

No Classes Independence Day

Friday, July 5

Homework due: Read pages 3-17 of *The Curious Writer*; Post a paragraph in the Blackboard

Discussion Forum about your experiences with writing

In class: Introduce Writing Project One; Discuss aims of “academic writing”; Discuss the Writing Process; “What Is Your Process?” Survey

Week Two

Monday, July 8

Homework due: Read pages 22-33 of *The Curious Writer*;

In class: Write the “story” of yourself as a writer (use exercise 1 on p. 37 to help generate ideas)

Tuesday, July 9

Homework due: Read pages 71-75 of *The Curious Writer*

In class:

Wednesday, July 10

Homework due: Read pages 92-102 of *The Curious Writer*

In class:

Thursday, July 11

Homework due: Writing Project One First Drafts Due

In class: Conferences on your first draft

Friday, July 12

Homework due: Read pages 102-106 of *The Curious Writer*

In class: Conferences on your first draft

Week Three

Monday, July 15

Homework due: **Revised draft of WP1 due** at the beginning of class (bring hard copy to class AND post in Blackboard

In class: Peer review

Tuesday, July 16

Homework due:

In class: Revising for final draft

Wednesday, July 17

Homework due: **Writing Project One Final Draft Due (post in Blackboard)**

In class: Introduce Writing Project Two

Thursday, July 18

Homework due: Read pages 39-55 of *The Curious Writer*; “The Importance of Writing Badly” (pages 58-59

In class: Discuss rhetorical reading strategies

Friday, July 19

Homework due: Read Sommers' "Revision Strategies of Student Writers and Experienced Adult Writers" (bring printed article); Write a response to Sommers' reading (post in Blackboard discussion forum)

In class: Discuss categories of revision practices; dissect Sommers' article; Rhetorical Reading-and-Writing Strategies

Week Four

Monday, July 22

Homework due: Read the drafts for our class sample discussion (first and revised drafts); Bring notes documenting the revision strategies you notice in the student's draft

In class: Group Analysis of Drafting Strategies

Tuesday, July 23

Homework due: Read pages 246-248 of *The Curious Writer*; Begin drafting WP2; bring copy to class to continue drafting work

In class: Discuss the "argument" of WP2; In-class Drafting

Wednesday, July 24

Homework due: **Writing Project Two First Draft Due (post in Blackboard)**

In class: Conferences on WP2 drafts; Revise drafts

Thursday, July 25

In class: Conferences on WP2 drafts; Revise drafts

Friday, July 26

Homework due: **Writing Project Two Revised Draft Due (post in Blackboard)**

In class: Peer review

Week Five

Monday, July 29

Homework Due: Bring revision-in-progress of WP2

In class: Continue revising for final draft

Tuesday, July 30

Homework due: **Writing Project Two Final Draft Due (post in Blackboard)**

In class: Review day

Wednesday, July 31

Homework due: Read pages 442-460 of *The Curious Writer*

In class: Introduce Writing Project Three

Thursday, August 1

Homework due: Read pages 478-485 of *The Curious Writer*; come prepared with a research topic for WP3

In class: Documenting sources, tracking research, reading abstracts; topic generation

Friday, August 2

In class: Research and drafting day (in-class)

Week Six

Monday, August 5

Homework due: Post a list of sources or a draft-in-progress on Blackboard prior to class.

In class: Research and drafting day (in-class)

Tuesday, August 6

Homework due: **Writing Project Three First Draft Due**

In class: Conferences

Wednesday, August 7

In class: Conferences

Thursday, August 8

Homework due: Bring a list of your sources

In class: MLA documentation workshop

Friday, August 9

Homework due: **Writing Project Three Revised Draft Due (post in Blackboard and bring hard copy to class)**

In class: Peer review

Week Seven

Monday, August 12

Homework due: Continue revising according to your peer feedback

In class: Individual Workshop Day

Tuesday, August 13

Homework due: Writing Project Three Final Draft Due (post in Blackboard)

In class: Final Course Reflection (post in Blackboard at end of class)