

Fall 2015

ENGL 1157

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English 1157 Section 35 English Composition 1

Instructor: Rena Tillinghast

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Office: LA 204 Monday & Wednesday 10am-12pm and by appointment

Course requirements:

The Curious Writer by Bruce Ballenger ISBN: 9781269887656

Aunt Alice vs. Bob Marley by Kareem Kennedy

Loose leaf paper and pen or pencil

Folder for your portfolio

Course Description:

In this course, we will explore the many reasons writers write and the many genres they use to express their ideas. Through critical reading and writing, discussion, peer review, and classroom exercises, you will develop the skills necessary to express your own ideas across a variety of genres.

The core of the class is the crafting of three long compositions, three short compositions, and the development of a writing portfolio that contains not just well-developed compositions, but also prewriting, sketches, drafts, and revisions, as well as letters of reflection. Because the writing process incorporates many more elements than simply writing itself, you will be responsible for nearly daily writing and reading, and you will respond critically (and constructively) in writing to your own work and that of your classmates. The process of writing your essays and projects will include a number of activities: critical reading and writing, prewriting, discussing, evaluating your audience, determining your purpose, developing a thesis, writing drafts, incorporating sources, refining your thesis, revising your draft, editing your prose, and proofreading. Your final projects and essays should be interesting, thoughtful, well-written pieces of college-level prose.

Student Learning Outcomes

After successfully completing English 1157 you will be able to display proficiency in the following areas:

- Determine purpose and audience in their own and others' writings
- Understand how purpose, audience, and context writing style, voice, and tone
- Apply appropriate rhetorical strategies for diverse writing situations
- Demonstrate familiarity with and/or compose in different genres (such as editorial writing, personal narratives, reviews, satires, dialogues, letters, or profile essays)
- Demonstrate familiarity with and/or incorporate different media (such as power point presentations, web pages, pod casts, or visual essays)
- Analyze and/or interpret texts and other forms of discourse in multiple genres
- Use logical reasoning

- Summarize, analyze, evaluate, and respond to the ideas of others
- Understand writing as a process that involves invention, drafting, collaboration, and revision
- Identify and incorporate persuasive techniques
- Incorporate the ideas and texts of others
- Write informative, analytical, and persuasive essays
- Use library and non library research methods
- Evaluate sources
- Use standard grammar
- Follow conventions for word choice, syntax, spelling, and punctuation
- Follow conventions appropriate for the given genre and/or medium, such as style, diction, and format
- Document sources in MLA style

Course Assignments:

The work in this class will be comprised of three projects, each culminating in a Long Composition (LC). To prepare you to compose each project's LC successfully, you will compose a Short Composition (SC) designed to help you understand the genre in which you'll be writing.

These major assignments will be supported with a number of activities called Process Work (PW), which we will complete both in class and as homework (including fast writing, brainstorming, group work, sketches, drafts, peer review, workshops, research, and more).

At the very end of the course, you will compose a final letter of reflection in which you look back at your experience over the course. This letter will be included in a final Best Works portfolio in which you will include two of your three LCs and SCs with final revisions and also include all of the process work for those assignments.

Revision Policy:

Revision is an integral part of the writing process. Therefore you are required to revise at least one of your long compositions for an improved grade. You are, of course, encouraged to revise any of your short or long compositions. To revise any piece of writing, you must submit a request form (found on Moodle) within three days of receiving the grade. You must also fully comply with the directives found on said form. Keep in mind that I reserve the right to modify or deny your revision request as I see fit. If all goes well your new grade will replace your old grade.

Grading Guidelines:

You MUST submit ALL the assignments required for this course in order to earn a final course grade higher than an F. Additionally, you must COMPLETE each assignment in order to move on to the next assignment since our projects are scaffolded. If you miss an assignment or do not complete it, I will not grade your next completed assignment until the previous one is turned into me.

A (100-90) Represents achievement that is outstanding relative to the level necessary to meet course requirements

B (89-80) Represents achievement that is significantly above the level necessary to meet course requirements

C (79-70) Represents achievement that meets the course requirements in every respect

D (69-60) Represents the achievement that is worthy of credit even though it fails to meet fully the course requirements

F (59 or below) Represents achievement that fails to meet the course requirements to such a degree that it is not worth of credit

Project One: 20 pts	Project Two: 20 pts	Project Three: 30 pts	
PW: 15%		PW: 15%	PW: 15%
SC: 30%		SC: 30%	SC: 30%
LC: 55%		LC: 55%	LC: 55%

Portfolio: 20 pts		Participation: 10 pts	
Reflection letter	40%	Writing Center Sessions:	50%
Best Works Revised:	60%	Class Participation:	50%

Freebie: You may turn in one SC or one LC one class period after its due date, no explanation necessary. If you choose to do this, you must notify me which essay to apply this extension to. All other late assignments will be docked one letter grade for each additional day they are late.

Classroom Community and Class Expectations:

In our writing class, all participants must behave with civility and respect at all times. We will encounter multiple depths of writing, perhaps even emotional and vulnerable topics, as well as topics of varying opinions. Having said that, I expect each student to respect the right of each individual to have those opinions. No one in our class should ever feel belittled or undermined by anyone else in the class. Any actions that purposefully undermine or belittle either another person or a classroom activity will not be tolerated.

As your facilitator, you can expect that I will respect your opinions and that I will behave with civility and respect at all times. Our classroom is a place where we, as writers, explore ourselves and our world in a safe and supportive environment. Course policies like this one are designed to make sure that happens.

Attendance:

You are allowed **five** absences because this is a MWF course. *For every absence after that a full letter grade will be deducted from your overall grade.*

If you miss the day we have peer review in class, you will need to submit your draft to me prior to the class meeting. Our peer review workshops are crucial to the revision process before completing your LCs and missing this class could be detrimental to your overall grade for the project. If you arrive to class on the day of peer review but do not have a draft you will be counted absent for the day since you will be unable to participate in the instruction.

Two tardies equal an absence. I consider it a tardy three minutes after class has begun. If you arrive to class twenty minutes late you will be counted absent for the day.

Writing Center Sessions:

All students are **required** to visit the writing center for two LCs and one SC. Please fill out the visitation slip found on our class Moodle page and submit it along with your assignment.

I encourage each of you to use the writing center as much as possible since the tutors are the best kind of writing coaches eager to train you to become the best writer you can be!

The Writing Center is located in LA 334. Call to set up an appointment at (504) 280-7054. For more information visit <http://www.uno.edu/lrc/writingcenter>

Academic Dishonesty:

Any case of academic dishonesty, including but not limited to plagiarism or cheating, will be handled according to departmental and university regulations and may result in failure of this course. A plagiarized paper will result in a grade of zero for the assignment without opportunity for revision. A zero on any graded composition results in a failing grade for the course.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:

Students who qualify for services will receive the academic modifications to which they are legally entitled. It is the responsibility of the student to register with the Office of Disability Services (UC 260) each semester and follow their procedures for obtaining assistance.

Tentative Course Schedule

(A detailed project schedule will be given to students at the beginning of each unit)

Project One: Personal Narrative

9/9/15 Short Comp 1

9/23/15 Long Comp 1

Project Two: Profile

10/2/15 Short Comp 2

10/23/15 Long Comp 2

Project Three: Review

11/6/15 Short Comp 3

11/23/15 Long Comp 3

12/4/15 Portfolio Peer Review

12/7/15 Final Exam and Final Portfolio