

Fall 2015

## **ENGL 1157**

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**English 1157****Fall 2015 2-3:15 TR LA 312****Instructor: Dr. Shelby Richardson****Office: LA 343, Ext 6472****Office Hours: MWF 10-11 and 12:30-1; TR 1-2****E-mail: elovell@uno.edu****Course Description:**

In this class, you will learn to define the elements that constitute an effective argumentative essay. You will also develop strategies for organization and revision, which will help you to create thoughtful, well-written, persuasive academic essays, skills that will assist you in any discipline you choose to pursue.

**Student Learning Objectives:**

By the end of the semester, students will be introduced to the concepts, strategies, and habits of mind that will lead to the outcomes that comprise our program's three primary goals.

**1. Rhetorical Strategy:**

Students should be able to

Determine purpose and audience in their own and others' writing and understand how purpose, audience, and context affect writing style, voice, and tone

Apply appropriate rhetorical strategies for diverse writing situations

Demonstrate familiarity with and/or compose in different genres

Demonstrate familiarity with and/or incorporate different media

**2. Critical Thinking, Reading, and Writing**

Students should be able to

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

Write informative, analytical, and persuasive essays

Incorporate the ideas and texts of others

Use library and non-library research methods

Evaluate sources

**3. Knowledge of Conventions**

Students should

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

Use a variety of sentence structures

Document sources in MLA style

**Texts:**

*The Curious Writer: Custom Edition for UNO*, Ballenger, ed  
*Aunt Alice vs. Bob Marley: My Education in New Orleans*, Kennedy, Kareem.

\*Additional readings will be posted on Moodle

**Course Policy:**

**Participation:** Students are expected to actively participate in every aspect of this class. Get a notebook or journal just for this class and be prepared to write each day, both in and outside of the classroom. Participation includes in-class writing assignments and written responses.

Come prepared, having done the reading and/or writing assignment for the day. You must complete all assigned work (including in-class and homework assignments) in order to receive credit for this course. You will generally write several drafts of out of class papers and receive comments from your classmates and/or from me. You will turn in all drafts and response sheets with the final draft of the essay.

**Attendance:** I expect everyone to come to class every day and to attend meetings when scheduled. Because class participation is crucial to your performance, any absences will negatively impact your final grade. Excessive lateness or departures from class will be counted as absences. Five or more unexcused absences will lower your final class participation grade by one full letter grade. Nine or more unexcused absences (three full weeks of class) will result in a grade of “F” in the course.

Cell phones and personal computers: Cell phones and personal computers disrupt class work and should be turned off during class sessions. They should be put away from the beginning of class until I dismiss you—this includes earpieces. Do not leave phones on vibrate unless there is a genuine emergency you have discussed with me before our class begins. If you cannot follow this rule, I will ask you to leave.

**Assignments:**

This course requires **three** projects, comprised of at least 5000 words (total), 3000 of which are formally assessed. Each unit encompasses both a larger essay and shorter assignments leading up to the final essay. All projects must be completed in their entirety in order to pass this course.

Each project will culminate 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, journaling, group work, sketches, drafts, peer review, workshops, research, and more). At the end of each project, you will turn in a project folder that includes the final draft of your LC, your previously graded SC, and all of your PW.

**Late Papers:** Any assignment turned in after the due date stated on the syllabus will be considered late and will lose points. Late essays will be reduced by ½ letter grade per day. Essays over one week late will not be accepted.

\*Each student is allowed **one** free late assignment. In order to have no points deducted from your grade, you must let me know in advance that your assignment will be late and turn in the essay the following day.

**Writing Center:**

I encourage you all to visit the Writing Center. The times you go to the Writing Center are at your discretion; you can sign up for meeting times and specific workshops at the Writing Center itself or you can call ahead to make an appointment.

**Location: LA 343**

**Phone : 280-7054**

\*Students who visit the Writing Workshop regularly will receive extra credit.

**Breakdown of Grades:**

Provided the student passes the Portfolio Review at the end of the semester, the student's final grade will be determined by the following formula:

Project #1= 30%

Project #2= 30%

Project #3=30%

Class participation = 10%

**Paper Format:**

All final papers must be typed, double-spaced and written in 12 point Times New Roman font with standard one inch margins. Papers should be printed in black ink on regular white paper. On the title page, include your name, the course title and the correct date. Essay titles should be centered above the text. Start page numbering on the second page (you do not need to number the title page). All essays including outside material should also include a separate "Works Cited" page.

**Final Portfolio, Final Grades, and the Letter of Reflection:**

Keep a collection of ALL of your essays (with my comments) and their drafts written for this semester in a folder. Instead of a final exam, this class will assess your performance with a final portfolio. A letter of reflection in which you look back over your experience during the course will accompany your portfolio. Your final portfolio fulfills the final exam requirement and will be due by the end of your scheduled Final Exam time.

**Plagiarism:** Do not consider it. If I have any suspicion that your work is not original I will not hesitate to report you. Academic dishonesty simply will not be tolerated. Refer to the UNO judicial Code for further information (see Syllabus Attachment).

**Moodle/UNO email:**

Every UNO student has a computer account and access to Moodle. It is a requirement of this course that you use this resource. Please check your UNO email daily. I will respond to your email within 24 hours, Monday through Friday.

**Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:**

Students who qualify for services will receive the academic modifications for 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.

**Conferences and Office Hours:**

At a certain point in the semester conferences will be required. Conferences will be held in my office and will be approximately 10 minutes long. Attendance at these conferences is mandatory. Please Remember: Office hours are your time to talk to me about your writing, ask questions, and voice general concerns about the class.

**Requirements:**

1. Completion of all Projects
2. A passing average once your grades are totaled
3. Completion of all in-class work
4. Absences within the required number

