
COURSE GUIDELINES: ENG 101

Course Description

ENG 101 • COMPOSITION I (03.0 credits)

Prerequisite: ENG 098 or equivalent or qualifying Accuplacer, SAT/ACT test results.

Writing intensive course designed to strengthen college level writing skills, with particular attention to persuasion, analysis, synthesis and an introduction to research methodologies. Focus on process through drafting, revising and editing is emphasized. Conventions of Standard Written English are reviewed. Additionally, critical reading strategies of college level texts are developed.

Student Learning Outcomes

Employ the conventions of SWE, as evidenced by competency in format, grammar, mechanics, punctuation, and sentence structure while affirming students' rights to their own patterns and varieties of language, which preserves the heritage of dialects.

Demonstrate ability to produce clear, accurate, and correct academic discourse that reflects an acceptable level of critical thinking, as evidenced by a clear argument-based thesis, clear organization, appropriate logic and evidence/support, which includes appropriate examples and details and appropriately cited secondary source information.

Student Population

Since Freshman Composition is required as part of the general education requirements at Truckee Meadows Community College, student populations in Freshman Composition I represents the range of students admitted to the community college. Most students are freshmen, but not all.

Reading Requirement

In developing student abilities to read and critically analyze college-level prose, students should read a minimum of 15 essays or their equivalent. Readings should be discussed in class, with analysis focusing on what the author says (content and purpose), how he or she writes it (organization, voice/style, diction, rhetorical strategies), and whether it is effective/appropriate for the intended audience (critique). Some instructors may require reading annotations or visual analysis of websites and/or texts. These are completely appropriate for the course.

Writing Requirements

During the semester, students will write the equivalent of four (4) essays developed through multiple drafts, revisions, in-class writings, and reading responses. Instructors have the option of substituting one paper for other forms of writing, such as daily journals, etc. Writing assignments should grow organically out of course readings, discussions, and thematic elements of the course. Assignments should be reasonably challenging, aimed at developing the intellectual maturity of students by encouraging critical thinking skills, self-reflection, and analytic skills.

Library Skills

There is one required library assignment to acquaint students with research resources. This strategy for helping students become effective researchers using the library is achieved through an assignment developed in conjunction with the library staff and contains an overview of resources available on site and through the databases at Elizabeth Sturm library.

Textbooks

Textbooks for part-time faculty are decided by a committee of faculty from the English department. Full-time faculty have the right to choose their own texts for their classes. Students should check with their instructor before purchasing their texts.

Syllabus

An English 101 syllabus should include the following:

- Course title and course number
- Course description
- Learning Outcomes
- Topics covered in the course
- Instructor contact info and office hours
- Suggested texts and other instructional materials needed
- Course requirements
- Methods of evaluation, including grading criteria
- Tentative schedule of assignments for the semester
- Participation/attendance policy
- Statement of policy regarding plagiarism
- The ADA statement
- Information about The Learning Center and Smartthinking