

# DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION

## Grande Prairie Regional College

### English 1201: English Composition

3(3-0-0) UT

Fall 2008 EN1201 A3

**Instructor:** Dianne McDonald **Office:** C214

**Room:** B208 **Time:** 13:00- 14:20

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**Office Hours:** Mon., Tue., Wed., Thur., Fri. 2:30-4pm  
or by appointment and drop-ins welcome

#### Course Description:

This course concentrates on the construction of sentences and paragraphs appropriate for formal academic research essays. Written assignments offer reviews of the conventions of formal English grammar and the mechanics of good writing and editing. There will be discussions and analyses of readings. Students will write a minimum of twelve in-class compositions. In addition, research documentation will be provided.

#### Objectives:

The objective of formal compositions is to increase the student's abilities to develop and support a thesis for a particular audience. Students will organize sentences and paragraphs to achieve unity and coherence. The course will stress the need to create a clear and concise thesis statement. Students will also be assisted in developing a writing style appropriate for specific contexts.

**Required Texts:** The Brief Penguin Handbook (text and exercise booklet)

#### Term Work Value:

Out-of-class essays:

First essay: Jan., 19 .....	800 word essay .....	5%
Second essay: Feb., 23. ..	800 word essay .....	10%
Third essay: Mar., 23 .....	800 word essay .....	20%
Oral Presentations: Start Jan., 26 .....		5%
Participation/*Initiative Mark .....		10%
Learning Journal.....		5%

Mid term examination: Feb., 23.....15%

Final examination: Apr., 16.....20%

**OR** 1500 word essay.....20%

### Class Participation

The class **Participation Grade** is determined by evaluating a student's contribution to the classroom learning environment. The **Initiative Grade** is designed to encourage students to initiate consultation with the instructor. Each student is expected to have at least **two** consultations with the instructor during the semester. The student will then have the opportunity to go over assignment drafts, seek extra resources or discuss assignments or tests.

### Basic Expectations and Class Rules

- 1) **Attend all classes.** Come prepared with assignments and readings completed. Be prepared to **participate** actively in your learning.
- 2) Essays may **not be accepted after the due date** unless prior arrangements have been made or compelling circumstances are demonstrated.
- 3) **Essays will lose marks** if they are significantly less or more than the **required** word length.
- 4) **Students are required** to make **two** copies of each of the three out-of-class essays.
- 5) **Each student is responsible** for any changes to this syllabus which may be announced when the student is not in class.
- 6) **Please see the College Policy on "Plagiarism" under Student Conduct pg. 49.** Plagiarism is never allowed. Plagiarism includes representing the ideas or words of another person as your own without proper acknowledgment and extends to the work of other students, the Internet, books, magazines, journals, TV shows, films, etc. This would not only include direct copying without citing the source, but paraphrasing as well.
- 7) Students who earn **69% or less** on an assignment or less **may request a rewrite.**

### Grading System

Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	Percentage Range	Description
A+	4.0		<i>Outstanding</i>
A	4.0	95 - 100	<i>Excellent</i>
A-	3.7	90 - 94	
B+	3.3	85 - 89	
B	3.0	80 - 84	<i>Good</i>
B-	2.7	75 - 79	
C+	2.3	70 - 74	
C	2.0	65 - 69	<i>Satisfactory</i>
C-	1.7	60 - 64	
D+	1.3	55 - 59	
D	1.0	50 - 54	<i>Minimal Pass</i>
F	0.0	Below 50	<i>Fail</i>

# **COURSE SCHEDULE**

**Winter Session 2009**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Activity</b>
<b>1</b>	Jan. 5	Introductions, How to Use Text Getting Started, Parts of Speech	Introductions In Class Essay
<b>2</b>	12	Devising a Thesis, Pronoun Case Expository Essay Parts of Speech	In Class Essay Ex. Subjects and verbs Trans and Intransitive verbs
<b>3</b>	19	Correct Sentences Punctuation, Conciseness Subject Verb Agreement	In Class Essay Exercises Video-Parts of Speech III <b><u>1<sup>st</sup> Out-of-Class Essay Due (5%)</u></b>
<b>5</b>	Feb.2	End Punctuation Preciseness Thinking Critically	In Class Essay Video-Common Errors Video-Punctuation Exercises
<b>7</b>	16	APA In Text Citations Misplaced & Dangling Modifiers Sentence Fragments, Run-ons Paraphrasing Review & Review of Exam	In Class Essay Video
<b>9</b>	Mar. 2	Evaluating Sources Parallelism Most Common Mistakes	In Class Essay In Class Exercises Video-The Wily Comma
<b>10</b>	9	Verb Agreement Spelling and Mechanics Expletives	Essay In Class Exercises Video-Semicolon, colon, dash
<b>11</b>	16	Voice (Passive & Active) Wordiness Sentence Variety	Correct Sentences In Class Essay Video-Surrounding Information
<b>12</b>	23	Verbals Sentence Patterns Subject-verb Agreement	Class Writing Exercises Video-Punctuation Potpourri <b><u>Third Essay Due (20%) Oral Presentations Conclude (10%)</u></b>
<b>13</b>	30	Introductory Words Phrases and Clauses. Review, Review, Review  <b>Review, Review, Review</b>	In-Class Exercises, Essay <b><u>1<sup>st</sup> Out-of-Class Essay Due (5%)</u></b>
<b>14</b>	Apr. 16	<b>Exams            20%</b>	