

DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION

Grande Prairie Regional College

English 1201: English Composition

3(3-0-0) UT

Fall 2009

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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, students will learn academic research documentation format.

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 Text: The Brief Penguin Handbook

Term Work Value:

Out-of-class essays:

First Essay: Oct. 19.....	800 word essay	10%
Second essay: Nov. 30	1000 word essay	20%
Oral Presentations begin Sept. 22		10%
Learning Summary		10%
Mid-Term Examination: Oct.20		20%
Final Exam or Research Essay (1500 words): Dec.10.....		20%
Participation		5%
Initiative Mark		5%

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The **Oral Presentation Mark** is earned by preparing and making a five-minute presentation to the class on any aspect of the course content. Students may design activities, prepare handouts, show videos, or perform an oral presentation.

The **Learning Summary** will include individual student's 600-word typed summary, which will synthesize each student's understanding of the content of the course. This summary will reflect the student's understanding of the key grammatical concepts and the essentials of academic writing and will be submitted the last day of class.

The **Initiative Mark** is designed to encourage students to initiate consultation with the instructor. Each student is required to have at least **two** consultations with the instructor during the semester. The student will then have the opportunity to seek extra resources, or discuss assignments or exams.

The **Class Participation Mark** is determined by evaluating a student's contribution to the classroom learning environment. At least twice during the course, each student is required to contact the instructor by appointment email or phone at least twice during the course to clarify assignment or to discuss course content.

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.

Grading Conversion Chart

Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	Percentage Range	Description
A+	4.0	90-100	<i>Outstanding</i>
A	4.0	85-89	<i>Excellent</i>
A-	3.7	80-84	
B+	3.3	76-79	
B	3.0	73-75	<i>Good</i>
B-	2.7	70-72	
C+	2.3	67-69	
C	2.0	64-66	<i>Acceptable</i>
C-	1.7	60-63	
D+	1.3	55-59	
D	1.0	50-54	<i>Minimal Pass</i>
F	0.0	Below 50	<i>Fail</i>

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COURSE SCHEDULE
 Fall 2009

Week	Date	Subject	Activity
1	Sept. 4-5	Introductions, How to Use Text Getting Started, Parts of Speech	Introductions In Class Essay
2	8-12	Devising a Thesis, Pronoun Case Expository Essay Parts of Speech	In Class Essay Ex. Subjects and verbs Trans and Intransitive verbs
3	15-19	Correct Sentences Punctuation Conciseness Subject Verb Agreement	In Class Essay Exercises Video-Parts of Speech III Oral Presentations Begin(5%)
4	22-26	Research Writing: Plagiarism Editing Sentences Parts of Speech Voice (Active/Passive)	Video-Comma In Class Essay Video- Parts of Speech 1st Out-of-Class Essay Due (5%)
5	29- Oct. 3	End Punctuation Preciseness Thinking Critically	In Class Essay Video-Common Errors Video-Punctuation Exercises
6	6-9	MLA/APA Documentation Clichés Prepositional Phrases	In Class Essay Video-Grammar Exercises Video- Acceptable Errors
7	13-17	APA In Text Citations Misplaced & Dangling Modifiers Sentence Fragments, Run-ons Paraphrasing	In Class Essay Video <u>2nd Essay Due (10%)</u>
8	20-24	Grammar Clauses Coordination and Subordination Modifiers	In class essay Review of Exam <u>Mid Term (15%)</u>
9	27-31	Evaluating Sources Parallelism Most Common Mistakes	In Class Essay In Class Exercises Video-The Wily Comma
10	Nov. 3-7	Verb Agreement Spelling and Mechanics Expletives	Essay In Class Exercises Video-Semicolon, colon, and dash
11	10-14	Voice (Passive & Active) Wordiness Sentence Variety	Correct Sentences In Class Essay Video-Surrounding Information
12	17-21	Verbals Sentence Patterns Subject-verb Agreement	Class Writing Exercises Video-Punctuation Potpourri Third Essay Due (30%) Oral
13	24-28	Introductory Words Phrases and Clauses.	In-Class Exercises In Class Essay <u>Presentations Conclude (10%)</u>
14	Dec. 1-9	Review, Review, Review	Sept. 10 Exams begin or 1500 word paper due (20%)