

# DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION

## Grande Prairie Regional College

### English 1201: English Composition

3(3-0-0) UT

Winter 2007

**Instructor:** Dianne McDonald  
**Office:** C405  
**Phone:** (W) 539-2987 (H) 513-9775 **E-Mail:** [dmcDonald@gprc.ab.ca](mailto:dmcDonald@gprc.ab.ca)  
**Office Hours:** Mon., Wed., 2:30-3:30, Tues., Thurs., Fri. 10-11  
By appointment or 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:** Quick Access Reference for Writers (text and exercise booklet)

**Optional Texts:** English & Grammar Punctuation Guide  
Essays & Term Papers Academic Outline

#### Term Work Value:

Out-of-class essays:

First essay : Jan.26. ....	800 word essay .....	5%
Second essay: Feb.23. . ....	800 word essay .....	10%
Third essay: Mar.23 .....	800 word essay .....	30%
Oral Presentation:Feb.5- Mar.30 ..	.....	10%
Mid term examination: Week of Feb19 .....	.....	15%
Final examination: Week of Apr.14 .....	.....	20%
Participation .....	.....	5%
*Initiative Mark .....	.....	5%

\*The **Initiative Mark** 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.

## English Composition 1201

### Class Participation:

The class participation grade is determined by evaluating a student's contribution to the classroom learning environment.

### 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. 40.** 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 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>

**“Real writing is the decoding of the garble and static of inner speech, in an effort to make meaning personal, strong, connected and understandable to self [and your audience].”**

**by William Strong**

ENGLISH COMPOSITION 1201  
**COURSE SCHEDULE**  
 Winter Session 2005

Week	Date	Pg.	Subject	Activity
<b>1</b>	Jan.4-5	xxxv	Introductions, How to Use Text Getting Started, Parts of Speech	Introductions In Class Essay
<b>2</b>	Jan.8-12	1-30	Devising a Thesis, Pronoun Case Expository Essay Parts of Speech	In Class Essay Ex. Subjects and verbs Trans and Intransitive verbs
<b>3</b>	Jan.15-`9	89 105 357	Correct Sentences Punctuation Conciseness Subject Verb Agreement	In Class Essay Exercises Video-Parts of Speech III Video-Peer Feedback
<b>4</b>	Jan.22-26	175	Research Writing: Plagiarism Editing Sentences Parts of Speech Voice (Active/Passive)	Video-Comma In Class Essay Video- Parts of Speech <b>1<sup>st</sup> Out-of-Class Essay Due (5%)</b>
<b>5</b>	Jan.29- Feb.2	125 36	End Punctuation Preciseness Thinking Critically	In Class Essay Video-Common Errors Video-Punctuation Exercises
<b>6</b>	Feb.5-9	193	MLA/APA Documentation Clichés Prepositional Phrases Review, Review, Review	In Class Essay Video-Grammar Exercises Video- Acceptable Errors <b>(10%)</b> <b>Oral Presentations In Class Begin</b>
<b>7</b>	Feb.12-16	193 101 89 186	APA In Text Citations Misplaced & Dangling Modifiers Sentence Fragments, Run-ons Paraphrasing Review & Review of Exam	In Class Essay Video <b>Mid Term (15%)</b> <b>2nd Essay Due (10%)</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Feb.19-23</b>		<b>Winter Break</b>	
<b>9</b>	Feb.26- Mar.2	98 109	Grammar Clauses Coordination and Subordination Modifiers	
<b>10</b>	Mar.5-9	177 112	Evaluating Sources Parallelism Most Common Mistakes	In Class Essay In Class Exercises Video-The Wily Comma
<b>11</b>	Mar.12-16	70 158	Verb Agreement Spelling and Mechanics Expletives	Essay In Class Exercises Video-Semicolon, colon, and dash
<b>12</b>	Mar.19-23	69 105	Voice (Passive & Active) Wordiness Sentence Variety	Correct Sentences In Class Essay Video-Surrounding Information
<b>13</b>	Mar.26-30	49 53 70	Verbals Sentence Patterns Subject-verb Agreement	Class Writing Exercises Video-Punctuation Potpourri <b>Third Essay Due (30%) Oral Presentations Conclude (10%)</b>
<b>14</b>	Apr.2-6		Introductory Words Phrases and Clauses.	In-Class Exercises In Class Essay
<b>15</b>	Apr.9-13		<b>Review, Review, Review</b>	
<b>16</b>	<b>Apr.16-24</b>		<b>Final Exam</b>	<b>Final Exam 20%)</b>

