



English 1302.105
English Composition II
Fall 2021
MW 11:00-12:20
LRC 212B

Instructor: Dr. Bernie Smiley, bsmiley@com.edu, 409-933-8356

Student hours and location: LRC 256- Monday 2:00-6. Tuesday- 9:30-3. Wed- 2-3.
Also available online by request.

Required Textbook: All reading materials are online for free.

Course Description: Intensive study of and practice in the strategies and techniques for developing research-based expository and persuasive texts. Emphasis on effective and ethical rhetorical inquiry, including primary and secondary research methods; critical reading of verbal, visual, and multimedia texts; systematic evaluation, synthesis, and documentation of information sources; and critical thinking about evidence and conclusions.

Course requirements (including description of any special projects or assignments): You will have a midterm and a final essay exam as well as 3-5 essays as written assignments. In addition, you will be required to do a research project that will include evaluation of both database and web material.

You will also be required to participate in class discussions (Discussion Board). It is mandatory and necessary that you do so.

Determination of Course Grade/Detailed Grading Formula (methods of evaluation to be employed to include a variety of means to evaluate student performance):

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| Essays/Tests | 70% |
| Research project | 20% |
| Participation | 10% |

Grading Scale:

A = 100-90

B = 89-80

C = 79-70

D = 69-60

F = 59 or less

Make-Up Policy: I do not take late work. *This includes if you are ill.***Attendance Policy:** Attendance is expected for every class meeting. All students are required to attend every class promptly. If a student misses more than 4 classes, he/she places the successful completion of this course in serious jeopardy. I reserve the right to drop you after 4 missed classes.**Communicating with your instructor:** ALL electronic communication with the instructor must be through your COM email. Due to FERPA restrictions, faculty cannot share any information about performance in the class through other electronic means. (Faculty may add additional statement requiring monitoring and communication expectations via Blackboard or other LMS)

| Student Learner Outcome | Maps to Core Objective | Assessed via this Assignment |
|---|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| | | |
| 1. Demonstrate knowledge of individual and collaborative writing processes. | Teamwork (TW) | Oral presentation over research topic |
| 2. Develop ideas with appropriate support and attribution. | Personal Responsibility (PR) | Essay style midterm |
| 3. Write in a style appropriate to audience and purpose. | Communication Skills (COM) | Essay style midterm |
| 4. Read, reflect and respond critically to a variety of texts. | Critical Thinking Skills (CT) | Oral Presentation over research topic |
| 5. Use edited American English in academic essays. | Unmapped | Essay style midterm |

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Academic Dishonesty: Any incident of academic policy will be dealt with in accordance with college policy and the Student Handbook. Academic dishonesty – such as cheating on exams is an extremely serious offense and will result in a **grade of zero** on that exam and the student will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for the appropriate discipline action.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is using someone else’s words or ideas and claiming them as your own. Plagiarism is a very serious offense. Plagiarism includes paraphrasing someone else’s words without giving proper citation, copying directly from a website and pasting it into your paper, using someone else’s words without quotation marks. Any assignment containing any plagiarized material will receive a **grade of zero** and the student will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for the appropriate discipline action.

Concerns/Questions Statement: If you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of this course, please contact me using the contact information previously provided. If, after discussing your concern with me, you continue to have questions, please contact Brian Anderson-Department Chair of Humanities at (409) 933-8186 or BAnderson@com.edu.

Course Outline

Tentative and Highly Flexible Syllabus- Please read

8/23 Introduction of class, syllabus, expectations.

8/25 The Lottery & The Ones Who Walk Away From Omelas. The concept of sacrifice in literature.

8/30 A Rose for Emily & The Tell-Tale Heart The role of Gothic in American storytelling.

9/1 A&P & A Clean Well-Lighted Place. The nature of youth vs. age.

9/8 The Metamorphosis & The Parable of the Prodigal Son. A discussion of parents and children in literature.

9/13 Hamlet Act I-background, plot, and tone.

9/15 Hamlet Act I-The concept of rising and falling action.

9/20 Hamlet Act II-Character development and plot.

9/22 Hamlet Act II- Character development and plot.

9/27 Hamlet Act III The concept of climax in drama.

9/29 Hamlet Act III-Discussion of the Ghost and its role.

10/4 Hamlet Act IV-Ophelia's insanity and the aftermath. Also a discussion of the concept of revenge.

10/6 Hamlet Act V-Discussion on the concept of the hero in literature.

10/11 Hamlet Act V- Discussion of morality in Hamlet.

10/13 Midterm Essay – Over materials to date including short stories covered in class and Hamlet.

10/18 Alexander Pope (Handout). Keats “Ode On A Grecian Urn” & Historical perspective on the Enlightenment Period and how it differs from the Romantic Period. **Oral Presentations**

10/20 Plath “Daddy” & Smith “American Primitive” & Donne “Batter My Heart, Three Personed God for You” –Poetry concepts and Literary styles. **Oral Presentations**

10/25 Brooks “We Real Cool” & Thomas “Do Not Go Gentle Into That Good Night” & Johnson “On My First Son” What is poetry discussion? Rhyme and meter. **Oral Presentations**

10/27 Clifton “Homage To My Hips” & Handout on Byron- The concept of male and female poetry. Is there a difference in perspective throughout the ages and sexes?

11/1 Shelly, Wordsworth, Blake. Discussion of time in poetry.

11/3 Sexton “Cinderella” & McKay “America” & Parker “Resume”- Modern poetry themes and concepts.

11/8 Frankenstein Background, History& Film related to the myth of Frankenstein.

11/10 Frankenstein Letters I-IV and Chapters 1-2.Science vs. God in the novel.

11/15 Frankenstein Chapters 3-5. Satan imagery and the novel.

11/17 Frankenstein Chapters 6-9. Discussion of poverty themes.

11/22 Frankenstein Chapters 10-13. The creature's story.

11/24 Frankenstein Chapters 14-15 Theme of justice in the novel.

11/29 Frankenstein Chapters 16-23 Mind/body issues in the novel.

12/1 Paper due

12/6 Final

Institutional Policies and Guidelines

Grade Appeal Process: Concerns about the accuracy of grades should first be discussed with the instructor. A request for a change of grade is a formal request and must be made within six months of the grade assignment. Directions for filing an appeal can be found in the student handbook. <https://build.com.edu/uploads/sitecontent/files/student-services/Student_Handbook_2019-2020v5.pdf. *An appeal will not be considered because of general dissatisfaction with a grade, penalty, or outcome of a course. Disagreement with the instructor's professional judgment of the quality of the student's work and performance is also not an admissible basis for a grade appeal.* https://build.com.edu/uploads/sitecontent/files/student-services/Student_Handbook_2019-2020v5.pdf

Academic Success & Support Services: College of the Mainland is committed to providing students the necessary support and tools for success in their college careers. Support is offered through our Tutoring Services, Library, Counseling, and through Student Services. Please discuss any concerns with your faculty or an advisor.

ADA Statement: Any student with a documented disability needing academic accommodations is requested to contact Holly Bankston at 409-933-8520 or hbankston@com.edu. The Office of Services for Students with Disabilities is located in the Student Success Center.

Counseling Statement: Any student needing counseling services is requested to please contact Holly Bankston in the student success center at 409-933-8520 or hbankston@com.edu. Counseling services are available on campus in the student center for free and students can also email counseling@com.edu to set up their appointment. Appointments are strongly encouraged; however, some concerns may be addressed on a walk-in basis.

Textbook Purchasing Statement: A student attending College of the Mainland is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from the college-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

Withdrawal Policy: Students may withdraw from this course for any reason prior to the last eligible day for a "W" grade. Before withdrawing students should speak with the instructor and consult an advisor. Students are permitted to withdraw only six times during their college career by state law. The last date to withdraw from the 1st 8-week session is October 6. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is November 19. The last date to withdraw for the 2nd 8-week session is December 2.

F_N Grading: The F_N grade is issued in cases of *failure due to a lack of attendance*, as determined by the instructor. The F_N grade may be issued for cases in which the student ceases or fails to attend class, submit assignments, or participate in required capacities, and for which the student has failed to withdraw. The issuing of the F_N grade is at the discretion of the instructor. The last date of attendance should be documented for submission of an F_N grade.

Early Alert Program: The Student Success Center at College of the Mainland has implemented an Early Alert Program because student success and retention are very important to us. I have been asked to refer students to the program throughout the semester if they are having difficulty completing assignments or have poor attendance. If you are referred to the Early Alert Program you

will be contacted by someone in the Student Success Center who will schedule a meeting with you to see what assistance they can offer in order for you to meet your academic goals.

COVID-19 Statement: All students, faculty, and staff are expected to familiarize themselves with materials and information contained on the College of the Mainland's Coronavirus Information site at www.com.edu/coronavirus. In compliance with Governor Abbott's May 18 Executive Order, face coverings/masks will no longer be required on COM campus. Protocols and college signage are being updated. We will no longer enforce any COM protocol that requires face coverings. We continue to encourage all members of the COM community to distance when possible, use hygiene measures, and get vaccinated to protect against COVID-19. Please visit com.edu/coronavirus for future updates.

Classroom Conduct Policy: College of the Mainland requires that students enrolled at COM be familiar with the Standards of Student Conduct, which can be found in the on-line Student Handbook. <http://www.com.edu/student-services/student-handbook.php>. Students should act in a professional manner at all times. Disruptive students will be held accountable according to college policy. Any violations of the Code of Conduct will result in a referral to the Office for student Conduct and may result in dismissal from this class.

