



English 1301 159CL
English Composition I
Spring 2023
MW 12:30 - 1:50pm

Instructor Information: James Francis — jfrancisiii@com.edu

Student Hours and Location: Monday through Thursday 10am - 4pm (excepting class times) and by appointment.

Course Description: Intensive study of and practice in writing processes, from invention and researching to drafting, revising and editing, both individually and collaboratively. Emphasis on effective rhetorical choices, including audience, purpose, arrangement and style. Focus on writing the academic essay as a vehicle for learning, communicating and critical analysis.

Course Requirements: Students are required to write different types of pieces in and out of class. These writing assignments include short reflective pieces and longer, researched essays. There will be no exams, but there may be short reading quizzes. Daily writing and reading are requirements for this course. The workshop portion of the class requires students to engage in discussions about writing and reading with their peers. The class stresses collaboration as well as independent writing. In this class, the instructor guides the students in analysis of various texts and the students engage in discussions and writing about the assigned readings. The students are required to engage in discussions about the assigned readings, analyze and write about those readings.

Writing Assignments: Students will be required to write 3 short essays that have a page length requirement of 2-3 pages and one longer research paper of approximately 4-5 pages. Page lengths will be enforced on all papers turned in for credit. Each paper will be evaluated on content, organization, unity, development, style, grammar, analytic proficiency and adherence to

MLA documentation and formatting rules. The student will be given an opportunity to revise and resubmit one of the short essays for, potentially, a higher grade. We will spend a sufficient amount of class time on MLA, so no excuses will be accepted for improper documentation. You will receive in-class help on all paper assignments.

Additional writing assignments will be assigned during the semester, as described in the class assignments section.

Determination of Course Grade: A percentage system is used for grading is used in this course. Your grade for this class is composed of the following:

Short Papers (3):	30%
Research Essay:	40%
Participation & Shorter Assignments:	20%
Presentation:	10%

ALL READING AND WRITING ASSIGNMENTS MUST BE COMPLETED BEFORE YOU COME TO CLASS ON THE DAY THE WORK IS TO BE DISCUSSED, AS INDICATED ON THIS SYLLABUS.

Late Work Policy: A student is responsible for any work missed. Some assignments such as peer reviews and other group work may not be made up and will receive no points. For missed assignments that can be made up, the student must turn those in upon the next class day of the face-to-face class. Failure to turn in missed in-class assignments upon the next class day will receive no credit. If an assignment is due the day a student misses, the student must turn that assignment in the next class day or it will be considered late. It is the student's responsibility to contact me about any missed assignments.

Attendance Policy: Students must attend the face-to-face class each week. More than 3 absences or failure to participate over a two-week period may result in receiving a grade of “F” for the course.

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 Outcomes:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of individual and collaborative writing processes.
2. Develop ideas with appropriate support and attribution.
3. Write in a style appropriate to audience and purpose.
4. Read, reflect, and respond critically to a variety of texts.
5. Use Edited American English in academic essays.
6. (PR) Evaluate choices and actions of others or one's own and relate consequences to decision-making.

Student Learner Secondary Outcomes:

1. To analyze appropriate college-level reading materials.
2. To evaluate expository and persuasive prose.
3. To demonstrate knowledge of MLA bibliographic and citation systems.
4. To use technology in the writing process.

Outcomes Assessment Mapping Box:

Student Learner Outcome	Maps to Core Objective	Assessed via this Assignment
1. Demonstrate knowledge of individual and collaborative writing processes.	Teamwork (TM)	Peer review on research-based Essay
2. Develop ideas with appropriate support and attribution.		Research-based Essay
3. Write in a style appropriate to audience and purpose.	Communication Skills (CS1)	Research-based Essay
4. Read, reflect, and respond critically to a variety of texts.	Critical Thinking (CT)	Research-based Essay
5. Use Edited American English in academic essays.		Research-based essay
6. (PR) Evaluate choices and actions of others or one's own, and relate consequences to decision-making.	Personal Responsibility (PR)	Research-based Essay (correct documentation) or Professionalism grade or another assignment

General Education Core Objectives:

Students successfully completing this course will demonstrate competency in the following Core Objectives:

1. **Critical Thinking Skills:** Students will demonstrate creative thinking, innovation, and the ability to analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information.
2. **Communication Skills:** Develop, interpret, and express ideas through written, oral, and visual communication.
3. **Teamwork:** Consider different points of view and work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal.
4. **Personal Responsibility:** Evaluate choices and actions of others or one's own, and relate consequences to ethical decision-making.

Academic Dishonesty: Any incident of academic dishonesty will be dealt with in accordance with college policy and the Student Handbook. Academic dishonesty – such as presenting a plagiarized paper — is an extremely serious offense and will result in a **grade of zero** on that assignment and the student will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for the appropriate disciplinary 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 disciplinary action. Access this link to learn [How To Avoid Plagiarism](#). Another link to a resource about ways to avoid plagiarism: <http://en.writecheck.com/ways-to-avoid-plagiarism/>

Student Concerns: 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 the Department Chair, Brian Anderson.

Success Tips for Students: Come to class on time and keep up with your work! If for some reason you cannot make it to class, be sure and contact me in advance to let me know what is going on with you. Stay current with your classwork and take good notes. Meet with me at least every other week, even if briefly.

Course outline: The following is a tentative schedule of the texts we will be covering in class as well as some of the assignments associated with them.

Grammar, Mechanics, & Keywords:

- Session 1: Intro
- Session 2: Preliminary Sketches 1
- Session 3: Quote Blending Practice 1
- Session 4: No Class — Preliminary Sketches 2
- Session 5: Quote Blending Practice 2

Discipline & Visibility:

- Session 6: Foucault: “The Body of the Condemned” + Questions
- Session 7: Foucault: “Panopticism” + Summaries
- Session 8: Han: “The Dictatorship of Transparency” + Questions
- Session 9: Film Screening + Film Questions
- Session 10: Film Discussion + Preparation for Essay 1
- Session 11: Essay 1 Due + Harris & Cameron Questions

In You More Than Yourself:

- Session 12: Zizek & Boyce + Questions
- Session 13: Williams: Keywords + Questions
- Session 14: Baudrillard: “Hyperreal and Imaginary” + Questions
- Session 15: Film Screening 2 + Film Questions 2
- Session 16: Film Discussion + Essay Preparation

Unwritten Rules:

- Session 17: Essay 2 Due + Humiliation: Koestenbaum: “Humiliation” + Questions
- Session 18: Humiliation 2: Zizek: “Humiliation” + Questions
- Session 19: Unwritten Rules: Kipnis + Questions
- Session 20: Essay Prompt & Discussion
- Session 21: Essay 3 Due

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

[Student Handbook 2022-2023_v4.pdf \(com.edu\)](#). *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.*

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 Kimberly Lachney at 409-933-8919 or klachney@com.edu. The Office of Services for Students with Disabilities is located in the Student Success Center.

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 March 1. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is April 24. The last date to withdraw for the 2nd 8-week session is May 3.

FN Grading: The FN grade is issued in cases of *failure due to a lack of attendance*, as determined by the instructor. The FN 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 FN grade is at the discretion of the instructor. The last date of attendance should be documented for submission of an FN 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.

Resources to Help with Stress:

If you are experiencing stress or anxiety about your daily living needs including food, housing or just feel you could benefit from free resources to help you through a difficult time, please click here <https://www.com.edu/community-resource-center/>. College of the Mainland has partnered with free community resources to help you stay on track with your schoolwork, by addressing life issues that get in the way of doing your best in school. All services are private and confidential. You may also contact the Dean of Students office at deanofstudents@com.edu or communityresources@com.edu.