



**English 1301.121 CL**  
**English Composition I**  
**Spring 2021**  
**MW 2-3:20 pm**

**Instructor Information:**

**Name:** James Francis

**Email:** jfrancisiii@com.edu

**Office Hours:** MW 10-11am 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.

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

**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.

### **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.

### **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

**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%

**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.

**Tardiness Policy:** Tardiness in excess of 10 minutes will be treated as an unexcused absence.

**Withdrawal Policy:** Failure to attend classes will not constitute an official or automatic withdrawal. It is the student’s responsibility to acquire and complete the drop form when she or he has decided to drop the class. Any student who fails to withdraw will receive a grade of “F” for the class. The instructor is not responsible for dropping students. Please visit <http://www.com.edu/admissions/drop-notification> to obtain more information.

**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.

**ADA Statement:** College of the Mainland complies with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, and the Americans with Disabilities Act. Any student with a documented disability needing academic accommodations is requested to contact Holly Bankston at 409-993-8520. The Office of Services for Students with Disabilities is located in the Student Success Center. For More information, see the COM Web page for Counseling and Disabilities, <https://www.com.edu/counseling/disability-services>

**Early Alert Program:** The Student Success Center at College of the Mainland has implemented an Early Alert Program because student success and retention is 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.

**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 are expected to be familiar with and abide by the

Student Code of Conduct. Any violations of the Code of Conduct will result in a referral to the Dean of Students and may result in dismissal from this class.

**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](#).

**Link(s) to resource(s) about ways to avoid plagiarism:** <http://en.writecheck.com/ways-to-avoid-plagiarism/>

**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 the Department Chair, Brian And