

English 112, Section 30  
College Composition II  
Fall 2000  
Thursdays 7:30 p.m. – 10:20 p.m.  
Room CC 109

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Office Hours by Appointment

### REVISED SYLLABUS

#### Course Description and Purpose:

English 112 continues the treatment of effective writing, analytical reading, argumentation, and research techniques begun in English 111. The focus of 112 will be on the study of argumentative essays and literature through critical reading, writing, and research. The course will develop each student's power of critical thinking as he or she responds to poetry, drama, and prose. The successful completion of English 111 or its equivalent is required for enrollment in this course.

Major Topics Covered: Written Analysis and Interpretation of Literature  
Literary Terms  
Argumentation and Logic  
The Research Paper

Texts: Hacker, Diana. *Rules for Writers*. 4<sup>th</sup> ed. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2000.  
(RW)

Henderson, Gloria Mason, Bill Day, and Sandra Stevenson Waller, eds.  
*Literature and Ourselves: A Thematic Introduction for Readers and Writers*. 3<sup>rd</sup>  
ed. New York: Longman, 2000. (L&O)

Students who have a recently purchased copy of the *Little, Brown Handbook* may continue to use that text as their writing guide in this course. While accommodations will be made for these students, the instructor will be referencing *Rules for Writers* in class.

Writing Assignments: **Late papers will not be accepted.** Essays and the research paper are due at the beginning of class on the dates listed below. The research paper is a process; therefore, preliminary work is required before the final paper will be graded. All preliminary work must be submitted when requested. Furthermore, all papers should be typed before submission.

Attendance: Students are expected to be present in and prepared for class. Students will receive an "F" for the course if they are absent for five or more classes.

Grading: A = Excellent  
B = Proficient  
C = Competent  
D = Minimally Competent  
F = Incompetent

An “A” paper demonstrates organization, a clear thesis, an awareness of the audience, and a lack of grammatical and spelling errors. Moreover, the essay thoroughly develops its main idea, supports any assertions, and utilizes varying sentence structure and vocabulary.

The student’s final course grade will be calculated with the following weights:

- 60% Essays (20% for each)
- 30% Research Paper
- 10% In-class writing, exercises, quizzes, class work, participation

Plagiarism will not be tolerated. Any student who knowingly plagiarizes another’s work will receive an “F” for that assignment.

**Withdrawal:** Students, not the instructor, have the responsibility for withdrawing from the course. Students should contact the school’s administration officers for withdrawal procedures.

**August 24** First class meeting. Introduction to the teacher, class, syllabus. Review of writing strategies, inclusive language, and thesis formation from RW. Brief writing assignment in class.

**August 31** Introduction to the short story. “Désirées Baby” and “The Story of an Hour” by Kate Chopin; “The Yellow Wallpaper” by Charlotte Perkins Gilman; “Why I Live at the P.O.” by Eudora Welty; and “Everyday Use” by Alice Walker in L&O.

**September 6** **Last day to apply for graduation.**

**September 7** “Hills Like White Elephants” by Ernest Hemingway; “The Gilded Six-Bits” by Zora Neale Hurston; “The Chrysanthemums” by John Steinbeck; “Shiloh” by Bobbie Ann Mason; and “Girl” by Jamaica Kincaid in L&O. “Sweat” by Zora Neale Hurston (handout).

**September 14** “The Grave” by Katherine Anne Porter; “Barn Burning” by William Faulkner; “The Man Who Was Almost a Man” by Richard Wright; “A Good Man Is Hard to Find” and “Greenleaf” by Flannery O’Connor; and “Customs of the Country” by Madison Smartt Bell in L&O. Begin essay #1 in class.

**September 21** **Essay #1 due: The Short Story.** Introduction to poetry. “On the Pulse of Morning” by Maya Angelou and “Brothers in Arms” by Mark Knopfler (handouts). Sonnets 116, 130, and 138 by William Shakespeare; “A Valediction: forbidding Mourning” by John Donne; “To His Coy Mistress” by Andrew Marvell; “The Lamb” and “The Tyger” by William Blake; “My Last Duchess” by Robert Browning; and Sonnet 43 by Elizabeth Barrett Browning in L&O.

**September 28** “On Being Brought from Africa to America” by Phillis Wheatley; “To Helen” by Edgar Allan Poe; “I heard a Fly buzz,” “Because I could not stop for Death,” and “Much Madness is divinest Sense” by Emily Dickinson; “Richard Cory” by Edwin Arlington Robinson; “Harlem” by Langston Hughes; “After Apple-Picking” and “Birches” by Robert Frost in L&O.

**October 5** **Essay #2 due: The Poem.** “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock” by T. S. Eliot; “Dulce et Decorum Est” by Wilfred Owen; “The Second Coming” and “A Prayer

for My Daughter” by William Butler Yeats; “Do Not Go Gentle into That Good Night” by Dylan Thomas; “Ringing the Bells” by Anne Sexton; “Courtship” and “Courtship, Diligence” by Rita Dove in L&O.

- October 12 Introduction to drama. *Othello* by William Shakespeare in L&O.
- October 19 *A Doll's House* by Henrik Ibsen in L&O.
- October 26 Review of documentation and research writing in RW. Library tour. Work in library developing research paper topic and gathering secondary sources.
- October 30 **Last day to withdraw without a grade penalty.**
- November 2 **Research paper's thesis statement, working outline, and preliminary bibliography due.** View *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.
- November 9 **Research paper's draft and notes due.** Peer critique and editing. “Allegory of the Cave” by Plato and “A Modest Proposal” by Jonathan Swift in L&O.
- November 16 **Research paper due: The Drama.** “The Declaration of Independence” by Thomas Jefferson; excerpt from *My Bondage and My Freedom* by Frederick Douglass; and “Professions for Women” by Virginia Woolf in L&O.
- November 23 **Thanksgiving—no class.**
- November 30 “Letter from a Birmingham City Jail” by Martin Luther King, Jr.; excerpt from *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* by Maya Angelou; “In Search of Our Mothers' Gardens” by Alice Walker; and “Americanization Is Tough on ‘Macho’” by Rosa del Castillo Guilbault in L&O.
- December 7 **Essay #3 due: The Essay.** “Chairman Mao's Good Little Boy” by Liang Heng and Judith Shapiro; “The Man Made of Words” by M. Scott Momaday; and “Heaven and Earth in Jest” by Annie Dillard in L&O.
- December 14 Last class meeting. **Final Exam: Bring your copy of *Rules for Writers* to class.**

Note to Students: NVCC is a place of learning and growing. You should feel safe and comfortable anywhere on this campus. In order to meet this objective, you should a) let your instructor, his/her supervisor, the Dean of Students or Provost know if an unsafe, unwelcome, or uncomfortable situation arises that interferes with the learning process; b) inform the instructor within the first two weeks of classes, if you have special needs or a disability that may affect your performance in this course.