



Lincoln University

ENG 82A COURSE SYLLABUS

Course: **English 82A – Written Communication I**

Semester: Spring 2013

Class meetings: Thursdays, 9:00-10:15, 10:30-11:45

Course prerequisites/co-requisites: None

Credit: 3 units, 45 lecture hours

Instructor: Dr. Sylvia Y. Schoemaker Rippel

Office hours and location: T, Th 11:45-12:30 and by arrangement, room 307

Office phone: 510-628-8036

University instructor email: sysr@lincolnuca.edu

Course-related email: profsylvia@gmail.com

Course Description

ENG 82A & 82B – WRITTEN COMMUNICATION I & II

First term: A thorough study of grammar and the fundamentals of composition. Practice in writing themes, book reviews and other short papers is given. Particular attention is directed toward sentence structure, syntax, and general rhetorical principles. Second term: Critical reading and evaluation of selected texts and writings; composition of well-organized expository papers; a careful consideration of methods of research, organization in a clear, logical manner and other elements involved in writing research papers. (3 + 3 units)

Learning Objectives

Students will develop their writing skills for academic, professional, and socio-cultural purposes, in mode-centered essay writing. Students will learn editing, documentation skills, use of pre, during, and post writing strategies, topic mapping and other resources.

Students will demonstrate written communication skills in writing and presenting their essays for personal, peer and instructor evaluation based on established rubrics, including competencies in planning, drafting, editing, and documentation skills.

Instructional Materials and References:

Required Text:

VanderMey et al. *The College Writer*. 4th Edition. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 2011.
ISBN-10: 0495915831, ISBN-13: 978-0495915836

Text instructional companion site

Topical Outline

English 82A covers the aspects of composing well-organized written communications. The core of the course will emphasize practice in organizing ideas in a clear, logical manner and other elements involved in writing papers in descriptive, narrative, analytical, and persuasive rhetorical contexts. Student and professional writing models will be used throughout the units.

Assignments Overview

Students will complete the following: Essays for 3 Units, 2 to 3 weeks each, midterm and final exams, ePortfolios/blogs/wikis, due weeks 8 and 15, notes and maps for each unit and text assignment, including reference data, in-class presentations, readings and exercises.

Assignments are due on the dates indicated in the schedule below. Additions/revisions to the schedule will be announced in class as needed. Class attendance is mandatory for content, interactions, and presentations. Appropriate classroom decorum is expected; arriving late, leaving early, or leaving the classroom at times other than the scheduled breaks is inappropriate and, if unavoidable, should be explained and kept to a minimum. Researched materials must be documented using a consistent style for both in-text and end-text citations of sources using the published standards of the most recent subject-appropriate style guide, such as APA (social sciences) or MLA (humanities), for example.

For each of the units (as well as additional assignments given in class), students will do the following:

- Read assigned materials with care and understanding,
- Create a personalized, three-level outline for assigned readings, turning text headings into questions for the first level of the outline, and developing the second and third level with your main and more detailed answers to your formulated questions.
- Reflect on the assignments in writing (a brief paragraph or two), discussing your thoughts on the primary content; include points of personal interest.
- Email your assignments to me at profsylvia@gmail.com, with your outline and reflections written (or copied and pasted) in the body of your email. Be sure to keep a copy of the email for yourself and add it to your ePortfolios/PowerPoint presentations for midterm and final submission and sharing.

Instructional Methods

The course sessions will include lectures , A/V-augmented presentations (text-based and other topically related slides and relevant audio/video/web resources), written and oral classroom exercises applying course concepts, small group and classroom discussions, student presentations of individual and group assignments based on course units, with emphasis on engaging students in learning by doing.

Student Responsibilities

Students are expected to attend class punctually and fully (arriving on time and leaving the classroom only at the scheduled break and end times). Students are expected to participate in individual and group work in a productive manner, to complete assignments according to schedule and at a level appropriate to university rubrics, and to take personal responsibility for meeting the objectives of the course.

Assignments are due on the dates indicated on the schedule below. Revisions to the schedule will be announced in class as needed. Class attendance is mandatory for content, interactions, and presentations. Researched materials must be documented using a consistent style for both in-text and end-text citations of sources using the published standards of the most recent subject-appropriate style guide, such as APA (social sciences) or MLA (humanities), for example.

SCHEDULE

Date	Topics
24-Jan-13	1. Intro
31-Jan-13	Brief Overview Chapters
	1. Critical Thinking Through Reading, Viewing, and Writing
	The Writing Process
	2. Beginning the Writing Process
	3. Planning
	4. Drafting
	5. Revising
	6. Editing and Proofreading
	7. Submitting, Writing, and Creating Portfolios
	The College Essay
	8. One Writer's Process

7-Feb-13	Unit I Narrative, Descriptive, and Reflective Writing -- Weeks 3-5, 7-Feb-13 -- 3-21-13 Chapter 9. Forms of College Writing
14-Feb-13	Chapter 10: Narration, Description, and Reflection
21-Feb-13	Chapter 11: Cause and Effect
28-Feb-13	<i>Unit I (Narrative, Descriptive, and Reflective Writing) Paper Due -- Presentations</i>
4-Apr-13	Unit II -- Analytical Writing
7-Mar-13	Chapter 12: Comparison and Contrast
14-Mar-13	Chapter 13. Classification
SPRING RECESS	
28-Mar-13	Chapter 14. Process
4-Apr-13	Chapter 15. Definition
11-Apr-13	Chapter 16. Strategies for Argumentation and Persuasion
18-Apr-13	Unit II (Analytical Writing) Paper Due –Presentations
25-Apr-13	Unit III Persuasive Writing Chapter 17. Taking a Position Chapter 18. Persuading Readers to Act
2-May-13	Chapter 19. Proposing a Solution Unit III (Persuasive Writing) Paper Due –Presentations
9-May-13	Final

Please note::

Revisions to the schedule will be announced in class as needed. Class attendance is required. Class participation is encouraged for enhanced learning through applied content, group interactions, and individual and small group presentations. Plagiarized content is strictly prohibited: Researched materials must be documented using a consistent style for both in-text and end-text citations of sources using the published standards of the most recent subject-appropriate style guide, such as APA (social sciences) or MLA (humanities), for example. Missed exams and assignments require certified excuses (signed documentation by an appropriate medical or other official representative). With documentation, a makeup exam may be scheduled. Electronics are not allowed during exams. Cell phones should not be active during class sessions.

Assessment Criteria & Method of Evaluating Students

Students will demonstrate their level of proficiency and achievement through appropriate and accurate application of written communication theory and skills. Assessments of improved competence in writing descriptive, narrative, informative, and persuasive essays and personal and peer evaluations and reflections are fundamental to the grades attained.

Class Work: oral and written exercises	10
Midterm	30
Assignments, Projects, Presentations	10
ePortfolios I and II Presentations	10
Final exam	40
Total	100

100-95	A
94-90	A-
89-87	B+
86-84	B
83-80	B-
79-77	C+
76-74	C
73-70	C-
69-67	D+
66-64	D
63-60	D-
59 or less	F

Last Updated: January 2013