

Amber Hunsaker, M.A.  
Office: Bea Wood 228  
Email: amber.hunsaker@msutexas.edu  
Office hours: MWF 8:00am-9:00am, 12:00pm-1:00pm

## Intermediate Composition & Grammar

ENGL 2113.X10- Spring 2023

### Syllabus

The primary objective of the course is to develop students' skills in clear and effective composition and standard usage of the English language. In English 2113, students compose, convincingly support, and polish persuasive, thesis-driven essays. The course can be used to satisfy the Writing Proficiency Requirement.

**Course goals:** Students will

- write thesis-based essays that provide strong support and specific details
- engage in a writing process that includes invention, drafting, and revision
- demonstrate critical and creative thinking about a timely issue or debatable topic
- demonstrate proficient use of Standard Written English

**Prerequisites:** Completion of the Communication Core

**Final Exam:** There is a two-part final at the semester's end (a grammar exam and an essay exam). We will use Respondus/Lockdown browser to monitor the exam.

**Required texts:** A textbook is not required for this course, but a style handbook (such as the one listed below) can be helpful.

- ***The Little, Brown Handbook (Brief), 6th edition***

**Required software/hardware:** A word processor (Google Docs or MSWord) that allows you to save your written assignments as Word Documents. A Chromebook is not compatible with Respondus/Lockdown browser, and you will need access to a webcam for the final exam.

**Assignments:**

- **Quizzes (10%):** There are ten quizzes. Before taking a quiz, review all the material posted on the quiz topic in the D2L module. Quizzes must be taken during the week assigned (i.e., no make-up quizzes). If you take the quiz, you will receive a grade of "1 point," no matter your posted score on the quiz. Your final grammar exam will be based on these quizzes and will count heavily, so don't take the quizzes lightly! The week's quizzes are open 5 a.m. on Monday until 11 p.m. on the following Monday.
- **Writing assignments (50%):** You have five writing assignments: a simple thesis and topic sentence assignment (W1); an assignment in which you submit two body paragraphs (W2); and three complete essays (W3, W4, W5).
- **Final exam (40%):** The final exam will consist of two parts: a grammar exam (20%) and a thesis-driven essay (20%).

**Late assignment policy:** All assignments are due on the dates assigned. No late work will be accepted unless specific arrangements have been made prior to the due date. Students falling two assignments behind are subject to administrative withdrawal from the course by the instructor.

**Acceptable submission format and process:** All formal writing assignments submitted for grading must conform to MLA guidelines. Assignments are to be submitted to the Dropbox folders in the course D2L website.

**Table 1 Grading Scale**

Grade	Points Earned
A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	< 60

**Required contact:** Students are required to interact with the instructor within the D2L course management system at regular intervals during the semester or term. By completing your weekly quiz on time and submitting assignments on time, you will meet this requirement. Any student who fails to interact with an instructor via D2L, telephone, email, or in person during any one-week period of the term may be subject to administrative withdrawal from the course by the instructor.

**Academic dishonesty:** All students are expected to adhere to the Midwestern State University Student Honor Creed when completing any work for this course. A student's name on any assignment scheduled to be turned in is his/her pledge that all work contained therein is his/hers alone. When using the ideas of other unpublished and published sources, students must use accepted documentation conventions (i.e., MLA). See the *MSU Student Handbook* (attached to D2L course web site) to read the Student Honor Creed and the university's policy on academic dishonesty.

**Professionalism:** Members of this class are expected to treat one another with courtesy, professionalism, and respect. Repeated unprofessional, rude, or inappropriate behavior can result in 50-100 points being deducted from a student's final grade for the course per instance of such behavior.

**Students with disabilities:** The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be

guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Disability Support Services in Room 168 of the Clark Student Center, 940-397-4140.

**Table 2: Weekly Assignment Schedule**

Week	Readings and Assignments
<p>Lesson One- Introduction to Course</p> <p>Tuesday, Jan. 17<sup>th</sup></p> <p>Ends- Mon. Jan 23</p>	<p><b>What to Read:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Syllabus &amp; Assignment Schedule</li> <li>• <i>MSU Student Handbook</i>. Read the university plagiarism policies.</li> <li>• <i>Essay Grading Guidelines – Basic Rubric</i>, which explains how your assignments will be graded.</li> <li>• <b>MLA and APA Resources</b></li> <li>• Grade Sheet</li> </ul> <p><b>Complete:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• D2L Discussion Board posting: by Monday Jan. 23, introduce yourself to class.</li> <li>• Quiz 1- Pretest due by Monday Jan 23. (Your score will not be included in your final grade, but it helps me see the needs of focus and counts against you if you fail to take them.)</li> </ul>
<p>Lesson 2</p> <p>Starts-Tues. Jan. 24</p> <p>Ends- Mon. Jan. 30</p>	<p><b>What to Read:</b></p> <p>WRITING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LBB Ch. 1-6 The Writing Process PPT</li> <li>• LBB Ch. 11- Academic Writing and Argument</li> <li>• OWL MLA Guidelines</li> <li>• <i>W1 Assignment</i>- (W1 is due on Monday, Jan. 30)</li> <li>• The <i>W1 template</i>: this is the format you should follow for the W1 assignment.</li> <li>• Additional Resources: Writing Assignments</li> </ul> <p>GRAMMAR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Subject and Verb Identification</li> <li>• LBB Ch. 21 and 22</li> <li>• Additional Resources: Identifying Sentence Subjects</li> </ul> <p><b>What to Complete by Mon. Jan. 30:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• W1: Thesis- Topic Sentences Assignment</li> <li>• Quiz 2- Subject/Verb Identification</li> </ul>
<p>Lesson 3</p> <p>Starts- Tues. Jan 31</p> <p>Ends- Mon. Feb. 6</p>	<p><b>What to Read:</b></p> <p>WRITING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LBB- Ch. 7- Writing Paragraphs</li> <li>• Feedback on W1 when posted.</li> </ul> <p>GRAMMAR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Subject/Verb Agreement</li> </ul>

Week	Readings and Assignments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LBB- Ch. 29 S-V Agreement</li> <li>• Additional Resources: Subject/Verb Agreement</li> </ul> <p><b>What to Complete by Mon. Feb. 6:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz 3- Subject/ Verb Agreement</li> </ul>
<p>Lesson 4</p> <p>Starts- Feb. 7</p> <p>Ends- Mon. Feb. 13</p>	<p><b>What to Read:</b></p> <p>WRITING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• W2- Two Body Paragraphs Description (Due Feb. 13)</li> <li>• Template for Body Paragraphs</li> </ul> <p>GRAMMAR-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comma Splices and Fused Sentences</li> <li>• LBB Ch. 36- Comma Splices and Fused Sentences</li> <li>• Additional Resources: Sentence Errors</li> </ul> <p><b>What to Complete by Mon. Feb. 13:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• W2- Two Body Paragraphs</li> <li>• Quiz 4- Comma Splices and Fused Sentences</li> </ul>
<p>Lesson 5</p> <p>Starts Tues. Feb. 14</p> <p>Ends Mon. Feb. 20</p>	<p><b>What to Read:</b></p> <p>WRITING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• W2- Two Body Paragraph Feedback when posted</li> </ul> <p>GRAMMAR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Phrases, Clauses, Fragments</li> <li>• LBB Ch. 23 &amp; 24- Phrases and Clauses and Sentence Types</li> <li>• LBB Ch. 35- Sentence Fragments</li> <li>• Joining Main Clauses: Do you Need a Comma or Semicolon</li> </ul> <p><b>What to Complete by Mon. Feb 20:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz 5- Phrases, Clauses, and Fragments</li> </ul>
<p>Lesson 6</p> <p>Starts Tues. Feb. 21</p> <p>Ends Mon. Feb. 27</p>	<p><b>What to Read:</b></p> <p>WRITING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specifics of the W3 assignment (Due Mon. Feb. 27)</li> <li>• Sample Position Paper</li> </ul> <p>GRAMMAR</p>

Week	Readings and Assignments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pronoun Antecedent Agreement; Pronoun Reference</li> <li>• LBB Ch. 31 and Ch. 32: Pronoun Agreement and Ref.</li> <li>• Additional Resources: Pronouns</li> </ul> <p><b>What to Complete by Mon. Feb. 27:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• W3- Complete Essay</li> <li>• Quiz 6 Pronoun-Antecedent Agreement</li> </ul>
<p>Lesson 7</p> <p>Starts Tues. Feb. 28</p> <p>Ends Mon. March 6</p>	<p><b>What to Read:</b></p> <p>WRITING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review W3 Feedback</li> </ul> <p>GRAMMAR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pronoun Case</li> <li>• LBB Ch. 30- Pronoun Case</li> </ul> <p><b>What to Complete by Mon. March 6:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz 7 Pronoun Case</li> </ul>
<p>Lesson 8</p> <p>Starts Tues. March 7</p> <p>*Spring Break March 13-17</p> <p>Ends Mon. March 20</p>	<p><b>What to Read:</b></p> <p>WRITING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• W4 Assignment (Due Mon. March 20)</li> </ul> <p>GRAMMAR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commas</li> <li>• LBB Ch. 39- Commas</li> <li>• Additional Resources</li> </ul> <p><b>What to Complete by Mon. March 20:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• W4- Complete Essay</li> <li>• Quiz 8- Commas</li> </ul>
<p>Lesson 9</p> <p>Starts Tues. March 21</p> <p>Ends Mon. March 27</p>	<p><b>What to Read:</b></p> <p>WRITING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Feedback from W4 when posted</li> <li>•</li> </ul> <p>GRAMMAR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Colons and Semicolons</li> <li>• LBB Ch. 40 &amp; 41- Semicolons and Colons</li> <li>• Additional Resources: Colon/Semicolon</li> </ul> <p><b>What to Complete by Monday March 27:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz 9- Semicolons and Colons</li> </ul>

Week	Readings and Assignments
<p>Lesson 10</p> <p>Starts Tues. March 28</p> <p>Ends Mon. April 3</p>	<p><b>What to Read:</b></p> <p>WRITING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plan out W5 (Due Mon. April 10)</li> </ul> <p>GRAMMAR:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parallelism</li> <li>• Additional Resources: Parallelism</li> </ul> <p><b>What to Complete by Mon. April 3</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz 10- Parallelism</li> </ul>
<p>Lesson 11</p> <p>Starts Tues. April 4</p> <p>Ends Mon. April 10</p>	<p><b>What to Read:</b></p> <p>WRITING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• W5 Essay (Due Mon. April 10)</li> </ul> <p>GRAMMAR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Apostrophes</li> <li>• Additional Resources: Apostrophes</li> </ul> <p><b>What to Complete by Mon. April 10</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• W5 Essay</li> <li>• Quiz 11- Apostrophes</li> </ul>
<p>Lesson 12</p> <p>Starts Tues. April 11</p> <p>Ends Mon. April 17</p>	<p><b>What to Read:</b></p> <p>WRITING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revision Opportunity (Due Mon. April 17)</li> </ul> <p>GRAMMAR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Re-opened Pre-Test for Practice</li> <li>• Preparing for the Final Exam</li> <li>• Final Exam Essay Grading Criteria</li> </ul> <p>If you need help preparing for the final, please contact your instructor.</p>
<p>Lesson 13- Final Exam</p> <p>Starts Mon. April 24</p> <p>Ends Fri. April 28</p>	<p><b>What to Complete by Friday April 28</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Final Grammar Exam</li> <li>• Final Essay Exam</li> </ul> <p>The final exams open on Monday, April 24 at 5am and closes on Friday April 28 at 11:59pm.</p> <p>Remember that you will need access to a webcam.</p>

<b>Week</b>	<b>Readings and Assignments</b>
	You do not have to take both exams in the same sitting.