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# Intermediate Composition & Grammar

**ENGL 2113- X25 Spring 2021**

## 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 exam at the end of the semester: a grammar exam and an essay. You will have three hours to complete both parts of the exam. Before you take the final exam, please be sure that you have everything that you need. Read the information below carefully:

* You will need a computer or laptop with access to both the internet and a webcam.
* Take time to check that both your Wi-Fi and camera are in working order.
* Be sure you have one of the following Operating Systems:
  + Windows: 10, 8, 7
  + Mac: MacOS 10.12 of higher
  + iOS: 11.0+ (iPad only – no phones)
* You should download/update the Respondus Lockdown Browser. You can do so here: <https://download.respondus.com/lockdown/download.php?id=444613158> This link is also available through the exam in D2L.
* Please  note that a **CHROMEBOOK LAPTOP CANNOT BE USED WITH LOCKDOWN BROWSER**.
* Google Chrome or Firefox are the recommended browsers. Do not use Edge.
* If you have trouble downloading Respondus or have any issues with D2L please contact [d2lhelp@msutexas.edu](mailto:d2lhelp@msutexas.edu) for assistance. DO NOT CONTACT YOUR INSTRUCTOR FOR TECHNICAL ISSUES.

On the day you take your exam, follow these instructions:

* Launch the D2L ENGL 2113 Course
* Read any News Items you may have missed
* At the navigation bar, click on Assessments
* Select “Tests”
* Click on the Grammar Final Exam
* Follow the instructions for Respondus Lockdown Browser
* You will be asked to pan the camera over your area, remove extra papers and books, and show a picture ID. Your MSU Student ID or a driver’s license will work.
* You may use a single, blank sheet of scratch paper to plan
* Begin the 50 question, multiple choice grammar exam
* The final question is your essay response
* Plan or draft your response on your scratch paper.
* Type your response in the text box.
* You will have 3 hours to complete the exam (180 minutes).
* Submit your exam.
* That’s it. 

Required texts: *The Little, Brown Brief* (LBB),6th edition with MLA update. You may purchase an older/cheaper edition, but you will need to make any needed adjustments to chapters referenced in course content.

Required software: A word processor that allows you to save your written assignments as Word Documents, and an Adobe Reader to read my comments when I return the assignments to you.

### Assignments:

Quizzes (10%): There are ten quizzes. Before taking a quiz, read the associated chapter in the LBB and review all the material posted on the quiz topic in D2L. 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 Sunday.

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 the *Writing and Formatting Your Essay* and *Essay Grading Guidelines* documents posted to D2L. 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 or APA). 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.

## Course Schedule

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Week** | **Assignments** |
| 1  Monday, January 11 | **Read:**  Syllabus  Course Calendar  Other Course Information |
| **Complete:**  Introduce yourself on the discussion board  Grammar Pre-test by Sunday, January 17, 11:00pm |
| 2  Monday, January 18 | **Read:**  Ch 21 Parts of Speech  Ch 22 The Sentence  Part 1 Ch 1-6 The Writing Process |
| **Complete:**  Q1 Subject/Verb Identification by January 24, 11:00 pm |
| 3  Monday, January 25 | **Read:**  Ch 23 Phrases and Subordinate Clauses  Ch 24 Sentence Types  Ch 35 Sentence Fragments  Ch 11 Academic Writing |
| **Complete:**  Q2 Phrases/Clauses/Fragments by January 31, 11:00 pm |
| 4  Monday, February 1 | **Read:**  Ch 36 Comma Splices and Fused Sentences  Ch 12 Writing Arguments  **Review:**  Ch 56 MLA Documentation and Format (note your text does not include the latest citation updates)  Ch 57 APA Documentation and Format |
| **Complete:**  W1 Thesis Statement and 2 Topic Sentences by Thurs, Feb 4, 11:00pm  Q3 Comma Splices and Fused Sentences by Feb 7, 11:00 pm |
| 5  Monday, February 8 | **Read:**  Ch 25 Verb Forms  Ch 29 Agreement of Subject and Verb  Ch 7 Paragraphs  Ch 52 Finding Sources  Ch 53 Working with Sources |
| **Complete:**  W2- Two Body Paragraphs from W1 by Thurs, Feb 11, 11:00pm  Q4 Subject/Verb Agreement by Feb 14, 11:00 pm |
| 6  Monday, February 15 | **Read:**  Ch 30 Pronoun Case  Ch 31 Agreement of Pronoun and Antecedent  Ch 32 Reference of Pronoun and Antecedent  Ch 54 Avoiding Plagiarism |
| **Complete:**  Q5 Pronoun Agreement by February 21, 11:00 pm |
| 7  Monday, February 22 | **Review:**  Ch 30 Pronoun Case  Ch 5 Revising  Ch 7 Paragraphs (especially introductions and conclusions) |
| **Complete:**  W3- Full Essay from W1 & W2 by Thurs, February 25, 11:00pm  Q6 Pronoun Case by February 28, 11:00 pm |
| 8  Monday, March 1 | **Read:**  Ch 39 The Comma |
| **Complete:**  Q7 Commas by March 7, 11:00 pm |
| 9  Monday, March 8 | **Spring Break!** |
| **Even though they said it was cancelled, take a week away from this class.** |
| 10  Monday, March 15  Monday, March 15 | **Read:**  Ch 40 The Semicolon  Ch 41 The Colon  Part 6 Spelling and Mechanics |
| **Complete:**  W4 Full Essay (Intro, Body, Conclusion) by March 18, 11:00 pm  Q8 Colons and Semicolons by March 21, 11:00 pm |
| 11  Monday, March 22 | **Read:**  Ch 16 Parallelism  Ch 18 Appropriate and Exact Words  Ch 20 Conciseness |
| **Complete:**  Q9 Parallelism by March 28, 11:00 pm |
| 12  Monday, March 29 | **Complete:**  W5 Full Essay (Intro, Body, Conclusion)  **Wed, March 31 by 11:00pm** |
| **Easter Break!** |
| 13  Monday, April 5 | **Read:**  Ch 42 The Apostrophe  Ch 43 Quotation Marks  Q10 Apostrophes by April 11, 11:00 pm |
| 14  Monday, April 12 | **Review for Final Exam** |
| 15  Exam Week  Monday, April 19 | **Take Final Exams (Grammar and Writing)** |
|  | **Grades will be posted in D2L before commencement** |