



# ENGL 2113: Intermediate Composition & Grammar

2023 Fall Online Asynchronous | X14 11371

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 Objectives

Student 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

## Contact information

Instructor: Meng Yu, PhD.

Email: [meng.yu@msutexas.edu](mailto:meng.yu@msutexas.edu)

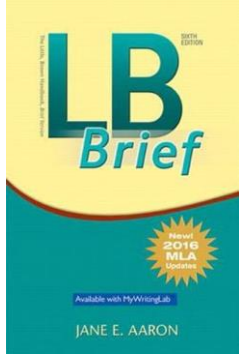
Phone: 940-397-4086

I will check the email from Monday to Friday 8 am to 5 pm. Messages sent outside this time span will not be check until the next business day. Students are also welcomed to visit the instructor during the office hours or request an appointment at a mutually convenient time. Students are strongly encouraged to "cc" themselves on all email correspondence to ensure delivery. Please note: There is a chance that I will not see the email on the same day that you send it. Therefore, please anticipate waiting at least 24 hours for a response to emails.

Office: BW201

Office Hours: Zoom by appointment OR, face to face MW 2-3:30 p.m. & Tuesday 2-4 p.m.

## 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.

## Assessment

**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 11:30 p.m. on the following Sunday.**

You may take the quizzes up to 4 times to improve your grade. Your highest attempt will be the recorded grade. To view the results for each quiz, click the drop-down arrow next to an exam, and click Submission. In the window that opens, in the upper left, click Attempt #.

**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).

**Mandatory Final Exam (40%):** The final exam consists of two parts: a grammar exam (20%) and a thesis-driven essay (20%). These will be scheduled for access within D2L the final week of class. Both the final essay and final grammar are set with both LockDown Browser and Respondus, which records the exam session.

Your final grade will be converted to a letter grade as follows:

A 88.5-100	B 79.5-89.4	C 69.5-79.4	D 59.5-69.4	F < 59.5
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## 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.

## Course Structure

This course will be taught online in D2L.

This course will be structured in weekly lessons or modules beginning on Mondays. The length of time spent on each week will vary depending upon the complexity of the assignment. All work within the lesson must be completed by the close of each lesson and prior to the start of the next lesson.

## Attendance

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

## Technology

Students in this course will need a working and reliable computer and internet access that will allow the use of D2L course site tools, Google Drive, and any online resources provided. No special software is required but students will need access to MS Office products.

## Accommodations

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.

## Writing Center & Tutoring

[Tutoring and Academic Support Programs](#) (TASP) provides free drop-in tutoring for MSU students. Located on the first floor of Moffett Library, writing tutors are available Monday through Thursday from 11:00am to 6:00pm and Sunday 2:00pm to 9:00pm. You don't need an appointment to use these services. Writing tutors will not edit your papers for you, but they

provide support and feedback at all stages of writing, from brainstorming to drafting, revising to proofreading.

For Distance Education students, TASP has partnered with Thinkingstorm, an online tutoring company that provides you with high-quality, 24/7 tutoring support. Located at the top of your D2L course page, select the tutoring tab to book an appointment with a tutor.

## 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). If a direct quote is not placed in quotation marks, this will be considered plagiarism. 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.

- All work submitted to D2L will be scanned by the Turnitin® program, which flags text that has been quoted from other sources and/or generated by AI tools such as ChatGPT.
- AI/ChatGPT: AI and ChatGPT are prohibited from this course.
- When using the ideas of other published and unpublished sources, students must use accepted documentation conventions (i.e., MLA or APA). If you submit an assignment in which quoted content is not placed in "quotation marks" and/or you have not cited the correct source, you will receive a grade of zero for that assignment. If this occurs twice in the course, you will receive a grade of "F" for the course. There are no exceptions to this policy.

## 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 points being deducted from a student's final grade for the course per instance of such behavior.

**Fall 2023 Schedule**

This schedule reflects a plan for the course, but deviations from this plan **will** become necessary as the semester progresses. Students are responsible for taking note of changes announced during class time **when** they occur.

Week	Readings and Assignments
<p>Week 1 Monday, Aug. 28</p>	<p><b>Read in D2L, under Content, Introduction to the Course:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Syllabus &amp; Assignment schedule (this document)</li> <li>• MSU Student Handbook. Read the university plagiarism policies.</li> <li>• Writing and Formatting Your Essay, which shows how to construct each part of a complete essay. (Your first complete essay will be the W3 assignment. W1 and W2 help prepare for W3.)</li> <li>• Essay Grading Guidelines, which explains how your assignments will be graded. (Note the W1 and W2 criteria)</li> <li>• MLA and APA Resources</li> <li>• Look over the Quiz modules and Grammar Practice Resources</li> </ul> <p><b>Complete:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• D2L Discussion Board posting: by Sunday, Sep. 3 Introduce yourself to class.</li> <li>• Pretest by Sunday, Sep 3, before 11:30 P.M. (Your score will not be included in your final grade.) On the D2L Menu, click Tests &gt; Pretest</li> </ul>
<p>Week 2 Monday, Sep. 4</p>	<p><b>Read in D2L under Content, Writing Assignments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Writing and Formatting Your Essay</li> <li>• Essay Grading Guidelines (Note the W3 criteria)</li> <li>• W1, W2, W3 assignment descriptions (These assignments build on each other: W1 is due the third week of class, W2 the fifth week of class, and W3 the seventh week.)</li> <li>• The W1 template: this is the format you should follow for the W1 assignment.</li> </ul> <p><b>Review in the Little Brown Brief (LBB):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Part 1 Ch. 1-6 The Writing Process</li> <li>• Ch. 9 Academic Writing</li> <li>• Ch. 56 MLA Documentation and Format or Ch. 57 APA Documentation and Format depending on which style you will use to format your citations and references.</li> <li>• To prepare for quiz, review Ch. 21, 22, 23</li> </ul> <p><b>Complete:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz 1. Subject/Verb Identification. (Quiz will open on Monday Sep 4 at 5:00 a.m., and close on Sunday, Sep 10, at 11:30 p.m.)</li> </ul>

<p>Week 3 Monday, Sep. 11</p>	<p><b>Due:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• W1 (Consists of thesis statement and 2 topic sentences) Upload to Dropbox Tuesday, Sep 12, before 11:30 p.m.</li> </ul> <p><b>Review in LBB:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ch. 5 Revising</li> <li>• Ch. 7 Paragraphs (especially introductions and conclusions)</li> <li>• Ch. 12 Writing Arguments</li> </ul> <p>In LBB Under Section 6 Spelling and Mechanics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ch. 43 Quotation Marks</li> <li>• Ch. 54 Avoiding Plagiarism</li> <li>• Ch. 52 Finding Sources</li> <li>• Ch. 53 Working with Sources</li> <li>• Ch. 56 MLA or Ch. 57 APA</li> <li>• To prepare for quiz, read Ch. 23, 35</li> </ul> <p><b>Complete:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz 2. Phrases/Clauses/Fragments. (Quiz will open on Monday Sep 11 at 5:00 a.m., and close on Sunday, Sep 17, at 11:30 p.m.)</li> </ul>
<p>Week 4 Monday, Sep. 18</p>	<p><b>Review in D2L under Content, Writing Assignments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specifics of the W2 assignment</li> </ul> <p><b>Read in LBB:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ch. 18 Appropriate and Exact Words</li> <li>• Ch. 20 Conciseness</li> <li>• To prepare for quiz, read Ch. 36</li> </ul> <p><b>Complete:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz 3. Comma Splices and Fused Sentences. (Quiz will open on Monday, Sept. 18 at 5:00 a.m., and close on Sunday, Sep. 25, at 11:30 p.m.)</li> </ul>
<p>Week 5 Monday, Sep. 25</p>	<p><b>Due:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• W2 assignment: (On same topic as W1, thesis sentence, two body paragraphs, and works cited/reference page) Upload to Dropbox by Tuesday, Sep 26 before 11:30 p.m.</li> </ul> <p><b>Read in LBB:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To prepare for quiz, read Ch. 29</li> </ul> <p><b>Complete:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz 4. Subject/Verb Agreement (Quiz will open on Monday, Sep 25, at 5:00 a.m., and close on Sunday, Oct 1 at 11:30 p.m.)</li> </ul>
<p>Week 6 Monday, Oct. 2</p>	<p><b>Review in D2L under Content, Writing Assignments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specifics of the W3 assignment</li> </ul> <p><b>Read in LBB:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To prepare for quiz, read Ch. 31</li> </ul>

	<p><b>Complete:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz 5. Pronoun-antecedent Agreement. (Quiz will open on Monday Oct, 2 at 5:00 a.m., and close on Sunday, Oct 8 at 11:30 p.m.)</li> </ul>
<p>Week 7 Monday, Oct. 9</p>	<p><b>Due:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• W3 Essay: a complete essay which builds on assignments W1 and W2: introductory paragraph, body paragraphs, concluding paragraph, and reference page) Tuesday, Oct 10 before 11:30 p.m.</li> </ul> <p><b>Read in D2L under Content, Writing Assignments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• W4 Essay Assignment Instructions</li> </ul> <p><b>Read in LBB:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To prepare for quiz, read Ch. 30</li> </ul> <p><b>Complete:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz 6. Pronoun Case. (Quiz will open on Monday, Oct 9 at 5:00 a.m., and close on Sunday, Oct 15, at 11:30 p.m.)</li> </ul>
<p>Week 8 Monday, Oct. 16</p>	<p><b>Read in LBB:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To prepare for quiz, read Ch. 39</li> </ul> <p><b>Complete:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz 7. Commas (Quiz will open on Monday Oct 16, at 5:00 a.m. and close on Sunday Oct 22, at 11:30 p.m.)</li> </ul>
<p>Week 9 Monday, Oct. 23</p>	<p><b>Read in LBB:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To prepare for quiz, read Ch. 40 &amp; 41</li> </ul> <p><b>Complete:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz 8. Semicolons and colons. (Quiz will open on Monday Oct 23, at 5:00 a.m. and close on Sunday, Oct 29, at 11:30 p.m.)</li> </ul>
<p>Week 10 Monday, Oct. 30</p>	<p><b>Due:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• W4 Essay: a complete essay on the assigned new topic, including introductory paragraph, two body paragraphs, concluding paragraph, and reference page. Due Tuesday, Oct 31, before 11:30 p.m.</li> </ul> <p><b>Read in D2L under Content, Writing Assignments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• W5 Essay Assignment Instructions</li> </ul> <p><b>Read in LBB:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To prepare for quiz, read Ch. 16</li> </ul> <p><b>Complete:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz 9. Parallelism (Quiz will open on Monday Oct 30, at 5:00 a.m. and close on Sunday, Nov 5 at 11:30 p.m.)</li> </ul> <p>* Last Day for “W”, Oct 30, 4:00 p.m. – Drops after this date will receive grades of “F.”</p>
<p>Week 11</p>	<p><b>Read in LBB:</b></p>

<p>Monday, Nov. 6</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To prepare for quiz, read Ch. 42</li> </ul> <p><b>Complete:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz 10. Apostrophes. Quiz will open Monday Nov 6, at 5:00 a.m. and close on Sunday, Nov 12 at 11:30 p.m.</li> </ul>
<p>Week 12 Monday, Nov. 13</p>	<p><b>Due:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• W5 Essay: a complete essay on the new topic, including introduction, body paragraphs, conclusion, and reference page. Due Tuesday, Nov 14, before 11:30 p.m.</li> </ul> <p><b>Read in D2L under Content, Writing Assignments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read in D2L under Content, preparing for the Final Exam</li> <li>• Planning Ahead for the Proctored Final Exam</li> <li>• Grammar review</li> </ul>
<p>Week 13 Monday, Nov. 20</p>	<p>Thanksgiving Break – No Class</p>
<p>Week 14 Monday, Nov. 27</p>	<p>Preparing for the final exam: Contact professor if you need any help</p>
<p>Week 15 Monday, Dec. 4</p>	<p>Take final exams between Monday Dec 4 to Thursday Dec 7</p>
<p>Final Week Monday, Dec 11</p>	<p>Grades will be posted in D2L by the end of exam week.</p>