

Intermediate Composition & Grammar

ENGL 2113-X30, X31 Summer 2020

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

Mandatory Online Proctored Final Exam: There is a mandatory *online proctored* two-part final exam at the end of the semester, which consists of a grammar exam and an essay. Students have three hours to complete both parts of the exam.

- To take the online exam, you will need access **to a computer with a camera**
- Schedule to take the online proctored exam through ProctorU between **Tuesday June 30 and Thursday July 2**. (First *possible* appointment on 6/30 at 8:00 a.m. CDT; last *possible* appointment 7/2 at 6:00 p.m. CDT, if space is available.)
- You need to make a reservation and pay a fee to ProctorU to take the exam online. Register ASAP as the week of exam, ProctorU is going to be very busy. Read the following on setting up an account with ProctorU and making reservations: [ProctorU: How It Works](#)

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: Access to a computer with a camera for the final exam. Access to a word processor or application (e.g., Google docs) 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., there are 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. However, your final grammar exam will be based on the content of these quizzes and the exam 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

Email format: When sending emails to the instructor, please use the D2L email system. (Please do not send duplicate emails to the instructor’s D2L account and msutexas email address.)

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 submissions to D2L, 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. See the [MSU Student Handbook](#) to read the Student Honor Creed and the university's policy on academic dishonesty. 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., all text copied from another source must be placed in quotation marks and correctly cited and referenced following either MLA or APA style guidelines.) If a student submits an essay that was written by someone else, the student will receive an F for the course. If a student copies text without both putting that text in quotation marks and citing the source, the student will receive a zero for the essay. If this happens twice in the course, the student will receive an F for the course.

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
Week One Monday, June 1	<p>Read in D2L, under Content, Introduction to the Course:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Syllabus & Assignment schedule (this document) • <i>MSU Student Handbook</i>. Read the university plagiarism policies. <p>Read in D2L , under Content, Writing Guidelines & Assignment Descriptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • W1, W2, W3 assignment descriptions (W1 is due on Wed. of this week, June 3, and W2 is due on Sunday of this week, June 7.) • The <i>W1 template</i>: this is the format you should follow for the W1 assignment. • <i>Writing and Formatting Your Essay</i>, which shows how to construct each part of a complete essay. (Your first complete essay will be the W3 assignment.) • <i>Essay Grading Guidelines</i>, which explains how assignments W2-W5 will be graded. • <i>MLA and APA Resources</i> • Look over the Quiz modules and Grammar Practice Resources <p>Review in the <i>Little Brown Brief</i> (LBB):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part 1 Ch. 1-6 The Writing Process • Ch. 9 Academic Writing • Ch. 56 MLA Documentation and Format <u>or</u> Ch. 57 APA

Week	Readings and Assignments
	<p>Documentation and Format depending on which style you will use to format your citations and references.</p> <p>To prepare for weekly grammar quizzes, review the modules in the D2L and the following chapters in LBB:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 21 Parts of Speech • Ch. 22 The Sentence • Ch. 23 Phrases and Subordinate Clauses • Ch. 35 Sentence Fragments • Ch. 36 Comma Splices and Fused Sentences <p>Complete:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • W1. Thesis statement and 2 topic sentences. Upload to Dropbox by Wed. June 3, before 11:00 p.m. • Pretest by Thurs. June 4, before 11:00 p.m. (Your score will not be included in your final grade.) On the D2L Menu, click Tests > Pretest • D2L Discussion Board posting: by Friday, June 5, introduce yourself to class • W2. On same topic as W1, consists of thesis sentence, two body paragraphs, and reference page. Upload to Dropbox by Sun. June 7, before 11:00 p.m. • Quizzes 1-3 will open on Monday, June 1, at 5 a.m., and close on Sunday, June 7, at 11 p.m. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Quiz 1 Subject/Verb Identification ○ Quiz 2 Phrases/Clauses/Fragments ○ Quiz 3 Comma Splices and Fused Sentences
<p>Week 2 Monday, June 8</p>	<p>Read in D2L under Content, Writing Guideline & Assignment Descriptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Writing and Formatting Your Essay</i> • <i>Essay Grading Guidelines</i> (Note the W3 criteria) <p>Review in LBB:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 5 Revising • Ch. 7 Paragraphs (especially introductions and conclusions) • Ch. 12 Writing Arguments <p>To prepare for weekly grammar quizzes, review the modules in the D2L and the following chapters in LBB:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 25 Verb Forms • Ch. 29 Agreement of Subject and Verb • Ch. 31 Agreement of Pronoun and Antecedent • Ch. 32 Reference of Pronoun and Antecedent <p>Complete:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quizzes 4-6 will open on Monday, June 8, at 5 a.m., and close on Sunday, June 14, at 11 p.m. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Quiz 4 Subject/Verb Agreement

Week	Readings and Assignments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Quiz 5 Pronoun Agreement ○ Quiz 6 Pronoun Case ● W3. A complete essay which builds on assignments W1 and W2: consists of introductory paragraph, two body paragraphs, concluding paragraph, and reference page. Upload by Sunday, June 14, before 11 p.m.
<p>Week 3 Monday, June 15</p> <p>June 18, 2020 Last Day for "W" by 4:00 p.m. Drops after this date will receive grades of "F."</p>	<p>Read in D2L under Content, Writing Guidelines & Assignment Descriptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● W4 Essay Assignment Instructions <p>Review in LBB:</p> <p>Under Section 6 Spelling and Mechanics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ch. 43 Quotation Marks ● Ch. 54 Avoiding Plagiarism ● Ch. 52 Finding Sources ● Ch. 53 Working with Sources ● Ch. 56 MLA or Ch. 57 APA <p>To prepare for weekly grammar quizzes, review the modules in the D2L and the following chapters in LBB:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ch. 39 The Comma ● Ch. 40 The Semicolon ● Ch. 41 The Colon <p>Complete:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Quizzes 7-8 will be open on Monday, June 15, at 5:00 a.m. and close on Sunday, June 21, at 11 p.m.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Quiz 7 Commas ○ Quiz 8 Colons and Semicolons ● W4 Essay Assignment: a complete essay on the assigned new topic, including introductory paragraph, two body paragraphs, concluding paragraph, and reference page. Due Sunday, June 21, before 11 p.m.
<p>Week 4 Monday June 22</p>	<p>Read in D2L under Content, Writing Guidelines & Assignment Descriptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● W5 Essay Assignment Instructions ● Read in D2L under Content, Preparing for the Final Exam ● <i>Planning Ahead for the Proctored Final Exam</i> ● <i>Final Essay Exam Grading Criteria</i> <p>Read in LBB:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ch. 18 Appropriate and Exact Words ● Ch. 20 Conciseness <p>To prepare for weekly grammar quizzes, review the modules in the D2L under content, and read the following chapters in LBB:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ch. 16 Parallelism

Week	Readings and Assignments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 42 The Apostrophe <p>Complete:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quizzes 9-10 will be open on Monday June 22, at 5:00 a.m. and close on Sunday, June 28 at 11 p.m.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Quiz 9 Parallelism ○ Quiz 10 Apostrophes • W5 Essay Assignment: a complete essay on the new topic, including introduction, body paragraphs, conclusion, and reference page. Due Sunday June 28, before 11 p.m.
<p>Week 5 Monday June 29</p>	<p>Review in D2L under Content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grammar modules and quizzes you have taken in preparation for the final grammar exam • <i>Preparing for the Final Exam</i> <p>Complete Final Exam (grammar and essay exams): You need to have made a reservation through ProctorU well before the testing date.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have scheduled to take the exam between Tuesday June 30 thru Thursday July 2. <p>(First <i>possible</i> appointment on 6/30 at 8:00 a.m. CDT; last <i>possible</i> appointment 7/2 at 6:00 p.m. CDT, <u>if</u> space is available.)</p>