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Intermediate Composition & Grammar

ENGL 2113.203 Spring 2019

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

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.

Assignments:

Quizzes (10 points): 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 points): You have five writing assignments: a simple thesis statement and two body paragraphs (W1); and three complete in-class essays (W2, W3, W4), and a typed revision of one of the essays (W5).

Final exam (40 points): The final exam will consist of two parts: a grammar exam (20 points) and a thesis-driven essay (20 points). The grammar final will be on Tuesday, April 30, and the essay final will be on Thursday, May 2.

Table 1 Grading Scale

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

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. Please see me for arrangements to make up missed in-class writing assignments.

Acceptable submission format and process:

All in-class essays will be completed in a Blue Book. The typed W5 will be completed according to MLA format.

Desire to Learn (D2L):

While this is a face-to-face class, extensive use of the MSU D2L program is part of this course. Each student is expected to be familiar with this program as it provides a primary source of communication regarding assignments, examination materials, and general course information. You can login to D2L through the MSU homepage. If you experience difficulties, please contact the technicians listed for the program.

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. NOTE: At the very least, plagiarism will result in a 0 on the assignment; at the worst, the

consequence will be an F in the course. Offenders will be reported to the English Department Head and/or the Director of Student Conduct.

Attendance:

It is important that you attend class and be on time. If you have more than 6 absences excused or not, you will fail the class. When you miss class meetings, you miss out on the instruction for which you pay tuition. In the unfortunate event that you accrue 6 or more absences before the last day to withdraw, you have the responsibility of withdrawing from the class. Please do not feel like you have to explain or justify absences to me; I respect your privacy, but you must accept the consequences. You may notify me through email in advance if you will not be able to make class. If you miss class on a due date for an assignment, still upload your paper that day so that it is not late. Consider it your responsibility to be here, prepared for class, or you will not do as well as you wish nor gain as much as you could.

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.

Writing Center:

Begin drafting papers as early as possible and take advantage of the MSU Writing Center, located off the 2nd floor atrium of Prothro-Yeager. Tutoring is available Monday through Thursday from 9am to 4pm; you can also find a tutor at the satellite location in Moffett Library, Sunday and Thursday from 6pm to 9pm. Writing tutors will not edit your papers for you, but they will provide support at every stage of the writing process from brainstorming to drafting, revising to proofreading.

Campus Carry Statement:

Senate Bill 11 passed by the 84th Texas Legislature allows licensed handgun holders to carry concealed handguns on campus, effective August 1, 2016. Areas excluded from concealed carry are appropriately marked in accordance with state law. For more information please refer to the MSU Texas website.

Writing Proficiency Requirement:

All students seeking a Bachelor's degree from Midwestern State University must satisfy a writing proficiency requirement once they've 1) passed 6 hours of communication core and 2) earned 60 hours. You may meet this requirement by passing the Writing Proficiency Exam or English 2113. If you have any questions about the exam, visit the Writing Proficiency Office website or call 397-4131.

Table 2 Course Calendar

Week	Date	Do This Before Class Meets	Do This In Class
1	T 1/15	N/A	Introductions Syllabus "Are You a Writer?"
	R 1/17	Read: LBB Ch 21 and 22 Complete: Pre-Test in D2L <i>before class begins on 1/17</i>	Review: Pre-Test
2	T 1/22	Read: LBB Ch 21 and 22	Discuss: Parts of Speech and Parts of a Sentence
	R 1/24	Read: LBB Ch 1-6 Writing Process Complete: Q1 by 1/21 at 11:00pm	Discuss: Writing Process and Thesis Statements
3	T 1/29	Read: LBB Ch 23, 24, 35 LBB Ch 7 Paragraphs	Discuss: Phrases, Clauses, Fragments Body Paragraphs
	R 1/31	Read: Article in D2L Complete: Q2 by 2/3 at 11:00pm	In Class Essay W1
Week	Date	Do This Before Class	Do This In Class
4	T 2/5	Read: LBB 36 Comma Splices and Fused Sentences LBB Ch 7 Paragraphs	Discuss: Comma Splices and Fused Sentences Introductions & Conclusions
	R 2/7	Complete: Q3 by 2/10 at 11:00pm	In Class Essay W2
5	T 2/12	Read: LBB Ch 29 Subject/Verb Agreement	Discuss: Subject/Verb Agreement

	R 2/14	Complete: Q4 by 2/17 at 11:00pm	NO CLASS (out of town)
6	T 2/19	Read: LBB Ch 30 - 32 Pronouns	Discuss: Pronouns
	R 2/21	Read: LBB Ch 11 Writing Arguments Complete: Q6 by 2/24 at 11:00pm	Discuss: Writing Arguments
7	T 2/26	Read: Article in D2L	In Class Essay W3
	R 2/28	Q7 by 3/3 at 11:00pm	NO CLASS (at a conference)
8	T 3/5	Read: LBB Ch 39 Commas	Discuss: Comma Rules
	R 3/7	Read: LBB Ch 53 Working With Sources Complete: Q7 by 3/10 at 11:00pm	Discuss: Integrating Sources They Say/I Say Templates
9	T 3/12	Read: LBB Ch 40-41	Discuss: Semicolons and Colons
	R 3/14	Complete: Q8 by 3/17 at 11:00pm	In Class Essay W4
		NO CLASS SPRING BREAK	
10	T 3/26	Read: LBB Ch 16	Discuss: Parallelism and Unity
	W 3/28	Complete: Q9 by 3/31 at 11:00pm	Editing Practice
Week	Date	Do This Before Class	Do This In Class
11	T 4/2	Read: LBB Ch 42 Apostrophes	Discuss: Apostrophes
	R 4/4	Read: LBB Ch 54 Complete: Q10 by 4/7 at 11:00pm	Discuss: MLA Formatting and Avoiding Plagiarism
12	T 4/9	Read: LBB Ch 33 Adjectives & Adverbs	Discuss: Adjectives & Adverbs

	R 4/11	Read: LBB Ch 18-20	Discuss: Clear, Complete, Concise Sentences
13	T 4/16		Workshop Essay Revisions
	R 4/18	NO CLASS EASTER HOLIDAY	
14	T 4/23	Revise	Review
	R 4/25	Revise	Review W5 DUE
15	T 4/30	Review	FINAL GRAMMAR EXAM
	R 5/2	Review	FINAL ESSAY EXAM
Final Exam Week			