ENGL 2113: Intermediate Composition & Grammar

Spring 2022 | Midwestern State University | Section X26

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Office Hours:	Mon. & Wed., 2 pm - 3 pm; Tue., 9 am - 12 pm;
	& by appointment



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 Final Exam : There is a mandatory two-part final exam. We will take the grammar exam on one class day, and the final essay exam during the exam period. Both the final essay and final grammar are set with both LockDown Browser and Respondus, which records the exam sessions.

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 or application 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 as a PDF.

Assignments:

- <u>Quizzes (10%)</u>: 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! <u>The week's quizzes are open 5 a.m. on</u> <u>Monday until 11:59 p.m. on the following Sunday</u>.
- 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).
- <u>Final exam (40%)</u>: The final exam consists 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.

Grading Scale:

A = 100-90%	indicates excellent work
B = 89-80%	indicates good work
C = 79-70%	indicates satisfactory work
D = 69-60%	indicates passing work
F = 59-0	indicates failing work

School closure policy: If the university is closed due to weather or a security alert on the date of a scheduled class, check D2L for any assignment changes.

Contacting Your Instructor: Email is the best way to contact me. In the body of your email, indicate the course and section number you're in. Please allow at least 24 hours for a response during the week and 48 hours over the weekend. Because this is a business writing course, <u>all</u> <u>emails sent to me must be professionally written using the standard email format. Emails not</u> <u>using professional standards will be ignored.</u> This means that you are not to write emails as if you are texting a friend. In your emails, you must have a clear subject line, formally address the instructor, and clearly state your purpose. See the following example:

Subject: Question about [X]

Dear [instructor's name]

My name is [student's name], and I am currently a student in your ENGL [Course# and Section#] this semester. I am writing to you in regards to [explain the issue].

Thank you, [student's name] [M. number]

Academic dishonesty: All students are expected to adhere to the Midwestern State University Student Honor Creed when completing any work for this course. When using the content or ideas of others, both published and unpublished sources, students must use accepted documentation conventions (e.g., APA or MLA). To read the Student Honor Creed and the university's policy on academic dishonesty, access the *MSU Student Handbook* published to the Office of Student Conduct website.

<u>Plagiarism Note:</u> All work submitted to D2L will be scanned by the Turnitin[®] program, which flags text that has been quoted from a published source. If you submit text in which quoted text is not placed in "quotation marks" and the correct source is not cited, 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 (e.g., Stating, "I meant to put the text in quotation marks but forgot to do so: please give me another chance" won't change the outcome). Please don't allow plagiarism to negatively impact your grade.

Submission Format and Policy: All written assignments must follow MLA or APA format unless otherwise noted. **Documents must be uploaded as** <u>MS Word .doc</u> or <u>.docx files</u>. Any documents uploaded not in these formats will not be graded. <u>Please note that it is your</u> <u>responsibility to check that your paper has been submitted correctly</u>. After each submission, you should always download the file you just submitted in order to make sure it opens properly. Failure to upload all required documents will result in a failing grade for the assignment. By enrolling in this class, the student expressly grants MSU a "limited right" in all intellectual property created by the student for the purpose of this course. The "limited right" shall include but shall not be limited to the right to reproduce the student's work product in order to verify originality and authenticity, and for educational purposes.

Safe Zone Statement: The professor considers this virtual classroom (D2L) to be a place where you will be treated with respect as a human being –regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, national origin, religious affiliation, sexual orientation, political beliefs, age, or ability. Additionally, diversity of thought is appreciated and encouraged, provided you can agree to disagree. It is the professor's expectation that ALL students consider the classroom a safe environment.

Writing Center: 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 will provide support and feedback at every stage of the writing process, 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.

American with Disability Act: The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal antidiscrimination 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.

Weekly Assignment Schedule

Week	Readings and Assignments
Week 1	Read in D2L:
Monday, Jan. 10	 "ENGL 2113 Syllabus/Schedule" "MSU Student Handbook" Read the university plagiarism policies. MLA and APA resources Look over Quiz modules and Grammar Practice Resources.
Week 2 Monday, Jan. 17	 Read in D2L: W1, W2, W3 assignment descriptions (These assignments build on each other: W1 is due the third week of class, W2 the fifth week, and W3 the seventh week). W1 Template: this is the format you should follow for the W1 assignment "Avoiding Plagiarism"
	 Review in the <i>Little Brown Brief</i> (<i>LBB</i>): Part 1 Ch. 1-6 The Writing Process. CH. 9 Academic Writing. 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. To prepare for the quiz, review: Ch. 21, 22, 23.
	Complete
	 Quiz 1. Subject/Verb Identification. (Quiz will open on Monday, Jan. 17 at 5:00 a.m. and close on Sunday, Jan. 23 at 11:59 p.m.)
Week 3	Due:
Monday, Jan. 24	 W1 (Consists of thesis statement and 2 topic sentences). Submit W1 by Friday, Jan 28, 11:59 p.m. Essay must be in either MS Word (.doc) format or PDF.
	Review in LBB:
	 CH. 5 Revising CH. 7 Paragraphs (especially introductions and conclusions) CH. 12 Writing Arguments CH. 43 Quotation Marks CH. 54 Avoiding Plagiarism CH. 52 Finding Sources CH. 53 Working with Sources

	 CH. 56 MLA or CH. 57 APA To prepare for quiz, read CH. 23, 35
	Complete:
	 Quiz 2. Phrase/Clauses/Fragments. (Quiz will open on Monday Jan. 24 at 5:00 a.m. and close on Sunday, Jan. 30, at 11:59 p.m.)
Week 4	Review in LBB:
	- CH. 18 Appropriate and Exact Words
Monday,	- CH. 20 Conciseness
Jan. 31	- To prepare for quiz, read CH. 36
	 Complete: Quiz 3.Comma Splices and Fused Sentences. (Quiz will open on Monday Jan. 31 at 5:00 a.m. and close on Sunday, Fab. 6, at 11:59
	p.m.)
Week 5	
VVEEK 5	 Due: W2 (On the same topic as W1, thesis sentence, two body paragraphs,
Monday,	and works cited/reference page). Submit to W2 dropbox by Friday,
Feb. 7,	Feb 11, 11:59 p.m.
,	
	Review in LBB:
	- To prepare for quiz, read Ch. 29
	Complete:
	- Quiz 4. Subject/Verb Agreement (Quiz will open on Monday, Feb. 7,
	at 5:00 a.m., and close on Sunday, Feb. 13 at 11:59 p.m.)
Week 6	Review in LBB:
Monday	- To prepare for quiz, read Ch. 31
Monday, Feb. 14	Complete:
	- Quiz 5. Pronoun-antecedent Agreement. (Quiz will open on Monday
	Feb. 14, at 5:00 a.m., and close on Sunday, Feb. 20 at 11:59 p.m.)
Week 7	Due:
	- W3 . A complete essay which builds on assignments W1 and W2:
Monday,	introductory paragraph, body paragraphs, concluding paragraph, and
Feb. 21	reference page. Submit W3 by Friday, Fab. 25, 11:59 p.m.
	Review in LBB:
	- To prepare for quiz, read Ch. 30

	Complete: - Quiz 6. Pronoun Case (Quiz will open on Monday Feb. 21, at 5:00 a.m., and close on Sunday, Feb. 27 at 11:59 p.m.)
Week 8 Monday, Feb. 28	 Read in D2L: W4 assignment description Review in LBB: To prepare for quiz, read Ch. 39 Complete: Quiz 7. Commas (Quiz will open on Monday Feb. 28, at 5:00 a.m., and close on Sunday, Mar. 6 at 11:59 p.m.)
Week 9 Monday, Mar. 7	 Due: W4. a complete essay on the assigned new topic, including introductory paragraph, two body paragraphs, concluding paragraph, and reference page. Submit by Friday, Mar. 11, 11:59 p.m. Review in LBB: To prepare for quiz, read Ch. 40 & Ch. 41 Complete Quiz 8. Semicolons and colons (Quiz will open on Monday Mar. 7, at 5:00 a.m., and close on Sunday, Mar. 13 at 11:59 p.m.)
Week 10 Monday, Mar. 14	Spring Break
Week 11 Monday, Mar. 21	 Read in D2L: W5 assignment description Read in LBB: To prepare for quiz, read Ch. 16 Complete: Quiz 9. Parallelism (Quiz will open on Monday Mar. 21, at 5:00 a.m., and close on Sunday, Mar. 27 at 11:59 p.m.)
Week 12 Monday,	Review in <i>LBB</i> : - To prepare for quiz, read Ch. 42

Mar. 28	Complete: - Quiz 10. Apostrophes. (Quiz will open on Monday Mar. 28, at 5:00 a.m., and close on Sunday, Apr. 3 at 11:59 p.m.).
Week 13 Monday, Apr. 4	 Due: W5: a complete essay on the new topic, including introduction, body paragraphs, conclusion and reference page. Due Friday, Apr. 8 before 11:59 pm.
Week 14 Monday, Apr. 11	Holiday Break
Week 15 Monday, Apr. 18	Read in D2L: - Final exam guidelines
Week 16 Monday, Apr. 25	Final Exam