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Intermediate Composition & Grammar

ENGL 2113-X31 Summer I 2023

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 at the end of the semester: a grammar exam and an essay. You will have three hours to complete both parts of the exam.

1. The final exam must be completed between July 5, 2023 6:00 AM and July 7, 2023 11:00 PM. **Recommended texts:** *The Little, Brown Brief* (LBB), 6th edition with 2016 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. Note: all assignments will be screened by TurnItIn.com software that includes AI detection. 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.

Table 2: Weekly Assignment Schedule

Week	Readings and Assignments
<p>Week One</p> <p>Monday, June 5</p>	<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 Assignments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • W1, W2, W3 assignment descriptions (W1 is due on Wednesday of this week, June 7, and W2 is due on Sunday of this week, June 11.) • 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 your assignments will be graded. (Note the W1 and W2 criteria) • <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. 11 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. <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"> • D2L Discussion Board posting: by Friday, June 9, introduce yourself to class • Pretest by Wed. June 7, before 11:00 p.m. (Your score will not be included in your final grade.) On the D2L Menu, click Tests > Pretest • Quiz 1 Subject/Verb Identification (Quizzes 1-3 will open on Tuesday, June 6 at 5 a.m. and close on Sunday, June 11 at 11 p.m.) • Quiz 2 Phrases/Clauses/Fragments • Quiz 3 Comma Splices and Fused Sentences • W1 (Thesis statement and 2 topic sentences) Upload to Dropbox

Week	Readings and Assignments
	<p>by Wed. June 7, before 11:00 p.m.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • W2 (Thesis sentence, two body paragraphs, and reference page) Upload to Dropbox by Sun. June 11, before 11:00 p.m.
<p>Week 2 Monday, June 12</p>	<p>Read in D2L under Content, Writing Assignments:</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"> • Quiz 4 Subject/Verb Agreement (Quizzes 4-6 will open on Monday, June 13 at 5 a.m. and close on Sunday, June 18 at 11 p.m.) • Quiz 5 Pronoun Agreement • Quiz 6 Pronoun Case • W3 (A complete essay which builds on assignments W1 and W2: introductory paragraph, body paragraphs, concluding paragraph, and reference page) Sunday, June 18 before 11 p.m.
<p>Week 3 Monday, June 19</p> <p>June 23, 2023</p> <p>Last Day for “W”, 4:00 p.m. – Drops after this date will receive grades of “F.”</p>	<p>Read in D2L under Content, Writing Assignments:</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"> • Quiz 7 Commas (Quizzes 7-8 will be open on Monday, June 19 at 5:00 a.m. and close on Sunday, June 25 at 11 p.m.)

Week	Readings and Assignments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> W4 (A complete essay on the new topic: Introductory paragraph, two body paragraphs, concluding paragraph, and reference page), Sunday, June 25, before 11 p.m.
<p>Week 4 Monday, June 26</p>	<p>Read in D2L under Content, Writing Assignments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> W5 Essay Assignment Instructions (A complete essay on a new topic) <p>Read in D2L under Content, Preparing for the Final Exam</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Planning Ahead for the 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 Ch. 42 The Apostrophe <p>Complete:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quiz 9 Parallelism (Quizzes 9-10 will be open on Monday June 26 at 5:00 a.m. and close on Sunday July 2 at 11 p.m.) Quiz 10 Apostrophes W5 (A complete essay on the new topic: Introduction, body paragraphs, conclusion, and reference page), <u>Sunday, July 2</u> before 11 p.m.
<p>Week 5 Monday July 3</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):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The final exam must be completed between Wednesday, July 5, 8:00 AM and Friday, July 7, 11:00 PM.