

Intermediate Composition & Grammar

ENGL 2113.X11 and X12, Fall 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

Final Exam: There is a two-part final at the semester's end (a grammar exam and an essay exam). We will use the Respondus/Lockdown browser to monitor the exam.

Required texts: A textbook is **not** required for this course, but a style handbook (such as the one listed below) can be helpful.

- *The Little, Brown Handbook (Brief), 6th edition*

Required software/hardware: A word processor (Google Docs or MSWord) that allows you to save your written assignments as Word Documents. A Chromebook is not compatible with the Respondus/Lockdown browser.

Assignments:

- **Quizzes (10%):** There are ten quizzes. Before taking a quiz, review all the material posted on the quiz topic in the D2L module. 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!
- **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. *If you need more*

time for an assignment, just email me and let me know.

Acceptable submission format and process: All formal writing assignments submitted for grading must conform to MLA guidelines. 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.

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). See the *MSU Student Handbook* (attached to D2L course website) to read the Student Honor Creed and the university's policy on academic dishonesty. ChatGPT is not allowed for writing assignments.

Professionalism: Members of this class are expected to treat one another with courtesy, professionalism, and respect.

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 (some of these dates may change in the future, and I'll email you well ahead of these changes.) A typical week starts on Monday and ends on Sunday.

Week	Readings and Assignments
Unit 1 (4 weeks) (Aug 28-Sept 24)	<p>Read in Content, Introduction to the Course:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Syllabus & Assignment Schedule <p>Read in Content, Writing Assignments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>W1, W2, W3</i> assignment descriptions ● The <i>W1 template</i>: this is the format you should follow for the W1 assignment. ● <i>Essay Grading Guidelines – Basic Rubric</i>, which explains how your assignments will be graded. <p>Read in Writing Assignments, LBB Slides and Additional Resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ch. 1-6 The Writing Process ● Ch. 11 Academic Writing & Argument ● MLA Documentation <p>To prepare for weekly grammar quizzes, review the following Quiz modules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Quiz 1 Subject and Verb Identification ● Quiz 2 Phrases, Clauses, and Fragments ● Quiz 3 Comma Splices and Fused Sentences <p>Complete in Content, Introduction to Course:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Discussion Board post ● Pretest <p>Complete in Content, Quiz modules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Quiz 1 Subject/Verb Identification ● Quiz 2 Phrases/Clauses/Fragments ● Quiz 3 Comma Splices and Fused Sentences <p>Complete in Content, Writing Assignments, W1, W2, W3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● W1 (Thesis statement and 2 topic sentences) Upload to Dropbox by TBD. ● W2 (Thesis sentence, two body paragraphs, and reference page) Upload to Dropbox by TBD.
Unit 2 (4 weeks) (Sept 25-Oct 22)	<p>Read under Content, Writing Assignments, LBB Slides and Additional Resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Essay Grading Guidelines – Basic Rubric</i> <p>To prepare for weekly grammar quizzes, review the following Quiz modules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Quiz 4 Subject/Verb Agreement ● Quiz 5 & 6 Pronouns <p>Complete in Content, Quiz modules:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Quiz 4 Subject/Verb Agreement ● 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)
Unit 3 (4 weeks) (Oct 23-Nov 19)	<p>Read in Content, Writing Assignments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● W4 Essay Assignment Instructions <p>Review in Writing Assignments, LBB Slides and Additional Resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● OWL MLA <p>To prepare for weekly grammar quizzes, review the Quiz modules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ch 7 Comma ● Ch 8 The Semicolon and Colon ● Ch 9 Parallelism <p>Complete in the Quiz modules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ch 7 Comma ● Ch 8 The Semicolon and Colon ● Ch 9 Parallelism <p>Complete in Content, Writing Assignments, W4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● W4 (A complete essay on the new topic: Introductory paragraph, two body paragraphs, concluding paragraph, and reference page)
Unit 4 (2 weeks) (Nov 27-Dec 8)	<p>Read in Content, Writing Assignments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● W5 Essay Assignment Instructions (A complete essay on a new topic) <p>To prepare for weekly grammar quizzes, review the Quiz modules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Quiz 10 The Apostrophe <p>Complete in Quiz modules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Quiz 10 Apostrophes <p>Complete in Writing Assignments, W5:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● W5 (A complete essay on the new topic: Introduction, body paragraphs, conclusion, and reference page)
Final Exam (Starting Dec 9)	<p>Review in Content, Final Exam:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Preparing for the Final Exam</i> ● <i>Final Exam Essay Grading Criteria</i> <p>Complete Final Exam in Content, Final Exam:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The final exams open and close on dates to be announced later. ● You do not have to take both exams in the same sitting.

