

Umbrella Syllabus

ENG 102 – Composition Skills

Course Description:

ENG 102 provides practice in a variety of writing, reading, and critical thinking skills, with emphasis on forming experiences, ideas and opinions into a coherent essay. The types of writing assignments vary among instructors, but students can expect to write expressive, analytical, and persuasive essays, some of which may involve the use of secondary sources. The course will hone students' grammatical and punctuation skills, as needed.

Course Objectives:

- (1) To develop new ideas, clearer insights, deeper thinking, and a more extensive vocabulary through reading and discussion, thereby improving writing.
- (2) To provide practice in writing clear, coherent, effective paragraphs and essays.
- (3) To provide practice in research skills, including such skills as summarizing, paraphrasing, and incorporating secondary sources into an essay without plagiarizing. Organizing ideas and sources will also be stressed, as will the importance of appropriate documentation. Students will practice these skills either by writing a 4-5 page paper with documentation or by using secondary sources in other writing assignments throughout the term.
- (4) To meet the college-wide objectives of General Education: the ability to use written English with clarity and precision as a basis for coursework across the disciplines and in one's major.
- (5) To provide information and assistance on grammar, usage, and mechanics as needed.

Course Requirements:

Although individual instructors' classroom activities and assignments may vary, all students enrolled in ENG 102 must fulfill the same basic requirements. In order to receive a passing grade for Composition Skills, students must complete all work assigned by their instructor. Although most students will write more, a **MINIMUM** of 6 essays or comparable writing assignments (not including the diagnostic essay) is required. Essays should be at least 500-700 words in length. Students will write persuasive, expressive, and analytical essays.

To insure that the course objectives and requirements are met, a minimum grade of "C" in ENG 102 is required to qualify for graduation. A grade of "C-" is not sufficient. ENG 102 is a prerequisite to all other ENG courses except by permission of the Chair of the Department of Language and Literature.