

About Your Instructor >>>

Instructor: Marisa Mills, Lecturer

Pronouns: she/her

Contact Me: Contact me via Canvas messenger, via email at mmills@pensacolastate.edu, or call me at (850) 484-1190.

Office Hours:

MW 11 AM-12 PM (via Zoom)
In-person by appointment (Pensacola campus)

About the Course >>>

Location: Online

Credit/Contact Hours: 3 credit hours, 3 contact hours

Department: English and Communications Department; Pensacola Campus, Building 4, Room 442, (850) 484-1400

Department Head: Tracy Peyton, Ed. D. tpeyton@pensacolastate.edu

Assistant Department Head: Christine O'Donnell, codonnell@pensacolastate.edu

Final Exam Date/Time >>>

The final exam for this course will be available to take online between **August 6th-9th**.

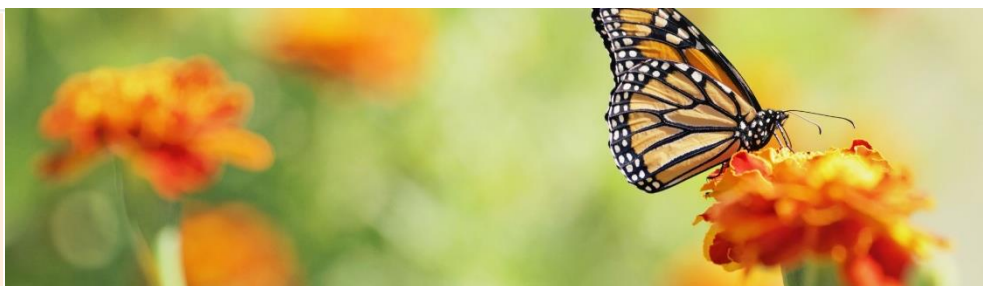
Add/Drop Dates >>>

Last Day to Add/Drop (with refund):

- June 29th

Last Day to Withdraw (without refund):

- July 27th



ENC1101 D9137: English Composition I

Course Description: Teaches the fundamentals of effective expression with emphasis on expository writing and logical thinking. Meets AA General Education Core, Communications requirement. A writing emphasis course.

Course Theme: Our class will revolve around “Changing Seasons.” While seasons are commonly thought of as simply changing weather patterns and temperatures, based upon the Earth’s rotation, seasons are deceptively complete. Culturally, our society also has certain aesthetics, views, and attitudes towards seasons. And our cultural relationships with seasons may differ significantly from another culture’s. Seasons, then, offer us an opportunity to consider the ways in which the changing natural world (seasons) interacts with us. Broadly, we will write essays that stem from the interaction of seasons/culture.

General Education & Course Learning Outcomes: For the General Education (GenEd) Student Learning Outcomes and Course Learning Outcomes, refer to the district course syllabus located in the Canvas modules—under “Course Documents” or on the Pensacola State website.

What You'll Need

Course Text: *Read, Reason, Write*; Seyler, Dorothy; 9781265743130; 12th; McGraw-Hill Education; 2019.

Microsoft Office Suite:

Available for free through your Pirate Mail account. Go to <https://www.pensacolastate.edu/piratemail/> to log in. Then click on the app launcher button in the upper left corner to access the cloud-based program.

Course Companion Site: The course companion website is in Canvas (eLearning) at <https://pensacolastate.instructure.com/>. You will submit all assignments through Canvas, and we will communicate using the Canvas messaging system.

Webcam: To take the exams in this course, which are proctored through Proctorio, you **must have a working webcam** or else, be prepared to make timely arrangements with one of PSC’s testing center locations.

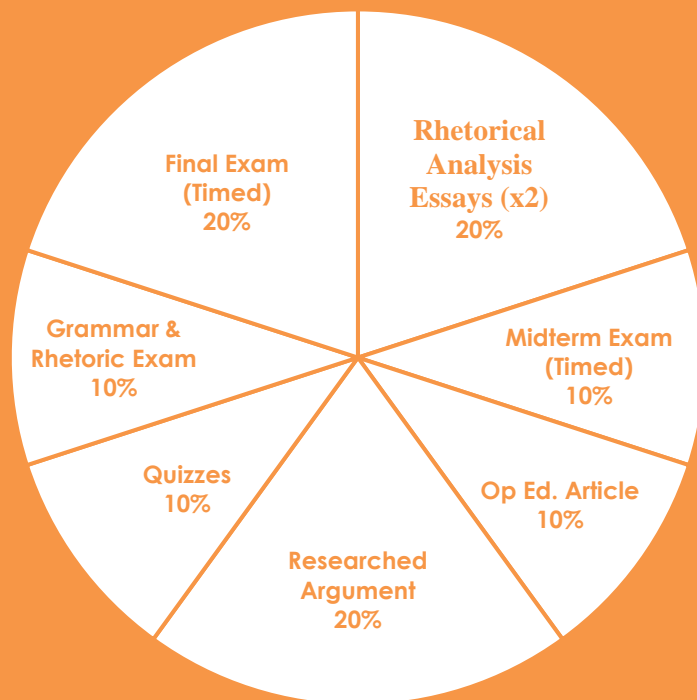
Grading & Assignments >>>

Grading Scale

A	90-100%
B+	88-89%
B	80-87%
C+	78-79%
C	70-77%
D+	68-69%
D	60-67%
F	0-59%



ASSIGNMENTS & THEIR WEIGHTS



Quizzes (10%)

Every Saturday, you will have a quiz/write-up due answering questions about that week's assigned readings; these quizzes will be partly a test of if you have read and retained the information. These are geared to help you write your major papers, testing your already existing knowledge while encouraging you to think creatively about the connections between the assigned readings and your writing assignments.

Assignment Descriptions >>>

These are *abridged* descriptions of the assignments; the major writing assignments have more detailed prompts in the Course Documents module on Canvas. Note that I am asking you to write a variety of essay types, all of which ask you to respond to either an assigned reading or argue on an assigned topic. Any papers submitted on a text or topic not assigned in this class will receive a 0. I advise you to read the directions for each major assignment carefully and ask right away if you have any questions.

Rhetorical Analysis Essays x2 (20%)

For your first two writing assignments this term, you will write two **500-word rhetorical analysis essays** which provide an in-depth, thoughtful analysis of rhetorical strategies from an assigned reading, as detailed in the assignment sheet. As with all essays in the course, this assignment should be written as a formal essay in MLA format with an introduction, an arguable thesis evaluating the effectiveness of the speech writer's rhetoric, several body paragraphs, and a conclusion. These essays **should not** include outside sources. You should **use only** your chosen argumentative piece and your own knowledge of rhetorical strategies.

Midterm Exam (10%)

Approximately halfway through the term, you will complete your third writing assignment, a timed essay, testing your knowledge of rhetorical strategies, essay structure, MLA formatting, and in-text citations. Note that you **must have this exam proctored with Proctorio** or else make alternative arrangements with one of PSC's Testing Centers.

Op. Ed Article (10%)

For the fourth writing assignment, you will write a **750-word op. ed essay**. An op. ed (or op-ed), as defined by the *Oxford English Dictionary*, is “[t]he page of a newspaper facing the editorial page, typically devoted to personal comment and feature articles.” After we look at a variety of op. ed articles and approaches, you will write your own op. ed, expressing an argument about some season-related topic. (I will have a list of options to choose from.) As with all essays in the course, this assignment should be written as a formal essay in MLA format with an introduction, an arguable thesis which clearly expresses your perspective, several body paragraphs, and a conclusion. For this essay, you **may use 1-2 outside sources** (if you like), provided they are from either academic, peer-reviewed journals or publications by a university press; these must be properly cited in MLA format.

Researched Argument (20%)

For your final major writing assignment of the term, you will choose from a list of potential questions involving the seasons, and you will answer this question by creating a **1000-word** researched argument which makes use of appropriate, credible sources. You must use a **minimum of 4 sources**, at least **2** of which should be either from peer-reviewed journals or publications by a university press; these must be properly cited in MLA format. For this assignment, you may use non-academic sources *provided those sources are reasonably credible and make sense within the context of the paper*. Like the other essays in the course, this assignment should be written as a formal essay in MLA format with an introduction, a clear central idea which provides a definitive, arguable answer to your chosen question, several body paragraphs, and a conclusion.

Grammar & Rhetoric Exam (10%)

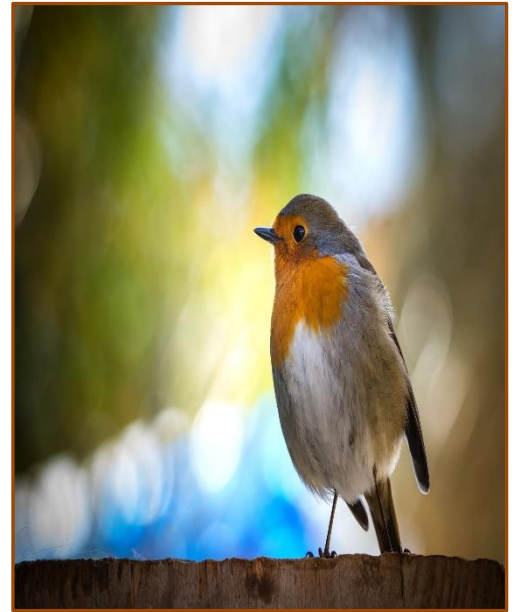
Towards the end of the semester, you will take an in-class exam, which will test your knowledge of grammatical and rhetorical concepts and principles. This exam will be a combination of multiple choice and short answer questions. Note that you **must have this exam proctored with Proctorio** or else make alternative arrangements with one of PSC’s Testing Centers.

Final Exam (20%)

At the end of the term, you will write a timed, in-class essay, testing your knowledge of rhetorical strategies, essay structure, MLA formatting, and in-text citations. Note that you **must have this exam proctored with Proctorio** or else make alternative arrangements with one of PSC’s Testing Centers.

Extra Credit

I offer one extra credit opportunity. If you complete the student perception survey through EvaluationKit at the end of the term, I will add an additional 3 points to your final exam score.



Course Regulations >>>

This class will be conducted under the regulations defined in the Code of Student Conduct in the **Pensacola State College Catalog**. Please, note the following:

Regular, punctual attendance is required, per the Pensacola State College Catalog. Even though this is an online course, you are still expected to “attend.”

What Does Online Attendance Look Like?

Attendance for my course is defined thusly: logging in once per week and making an earnest effort to complete an assignment in its entirety. Logging in or logging in and not making an earnest attempt to complete an assignment *in its entirety*—for example, answering one quiz question—is not considered as “attending.”

Can I Get My Absences Excused?

No. I do not differentiate between excused and unexcused absences. Rather, I assume that if you are not participating in my class, you must have a valid reason, and I respect your choices!

However, if you end up missing more than **one week** of assignments, we’ll need to meet to work out a plan for you to continue in the class. If you do not meet with me or else do not stick to the plan we work out for you, I may deduct 3 pts. from your final letter grade for each additional week during which you do not participate.

What If I Have Extremely Extenuating Circumstances?

If you have extenuating circumstances which may result in missing a significant amount of class, you must communicate those with me as soon as possible if you desire accommodation for them.

Is Inaccessibility of Technology/Technical Problems an ‘Extenuating Circumstance?’

No. An extenuating circumstance does not include a lack of tech accessibility. I know that not all students have access to reliable technology, and I am happy to connect you with campus resources to help you with this need. Alternatively, you may find them yourself by flipping through the [PSC Student Resource Guide](#).

However, having the appropriate technology to log into the course and complete assignments is ultimately up to the individual student.

Late Work Policy & Due Dates >>>

<i>So I Missed...</i>	Can I Make It Up?
<i>A weekly quiz</i>	No. I will not allow make-ups on the weekly quizzes.
<i>A major writing assignment that isn't an exam (rhetorical analyses, op. ed essay, researched argument)</i>	Yes! If you can't submit a major writing assignment on time, you may have one extension during the term. When you request an extension, provide me with your proposed extended date. If it is reasonable, I will enter it into Canvas, and you may submit the assignment then. If not, we will negotiate an agreeable extended due date. Extensions will not be granted if the request for an extension is made more than 24 hours after the original due date/time .
<i>The midterm, grammar & rhetoric exam, or final exam</i>	Maybe. If you have a documented extenuating circumstance (illness, death in your family, etc.), you may make up the midterm or grammar & rhetoric exam via Proctorio or at the Testing Center within 3 business days of the original due date; make-ups for the final exam, which is due by the last day of the term, are not guaranteed. These will be given at my discretion and will only be granted in <i>extremely</i> extenuating circumstances.

Other Policies >>>

Cheating & Plagiarism

Plagiarism is the use of anyone else's ideas or words without giving proper credit. Cheating includes, among other things, copying someone else's work, turning in work done by someone else (including by AI), or turning in work that has been submitted in another class by you or anyone else. The consequences of either plagiarism or cheating are an automatic zero (0) on the work in question and possible failure of the course or discipline by the college. Please refer to the College Catalog for the college policy regarding cheating and plagiarism.



Turnitin

Your writing assignments will be submitted via Turnitin. Some of you might be familiar with this program. Turnitin is often used as a plagiarism checker. Although it is commonly used to catch plagiarism after the fact, I prefer to use Turnitin as a teaching tool. If you submit drafts of your papers BEFORE they are due, you will have the opportunity to revise areas of your paper where you might be unintentionally plagiarizing sources and/or not citing them correctly.

Maximum Attempts

Any student still on the official class roll after the drop period will be counted as having attempted the course whether or not he or she finishes the class. The third attempt to take a college course will cost three (3) times the cost of the first two (2) attempts.

Student Perception Surveys- -EvaluationKit

During the term, you will receive a notification in PirateMail with a link to EvaluationKit, the online evaluation system used by Pensacola State College. Please take advantage of this opportunity to provide anonymous feedback to your instructors about their courses. Your opinions are valuable, and your evaluations enable instructors to assess their teaching style and help them decide what changes to consider in curriculum, textbooks, or assignments.

Extra Support >>>

Instructor during office hours by appointment: Please, feel free to reach out to me via Canvas or by email. My goal is to see you succeed in my class and by extension, in your future endeavors at PSC. I'd love to meet with you to discuss any aspect of my class!

Library home page:
<http://library.pensacolastate.edu/>

The **Writing Lab** offers free tutoring in writing and grammar to all PSC students on a virtual basis:
<https://pensacolastate.instructure.com/courses/1325752>.

The **Student Support Services Lab** is located on the Pensacola Campus, Building 6, Room 620. It provides free tutoring to students who apply to the program and meet eligibility requirements. (850-484-2028)

The **Student Resource Center for ADA Services** office is located on the Pensacola Campus. Building 6, Room 603. It assists students who have any type of special situation that impacts their learning. (850-484-1637).

Student HelpDesk for tech support: 850-471-4534

Canvas (eLearning) Support Hotline: 855-534-1843