

ENC 1101 Section P1279
Fall 2025, A Session
T-Th, 2:00-3:15
Bld. 4, Rm. 466

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Office Hours (Rm. 411):

English Composition I

Welcome to English Composition I. Writers must become well versed in a variety of approaches to composing if they are to be successful in their college courses and in the workplace. The goal of this course is to help you to develop various strategies for using writing to construct meaning. Throughout the course, students will demonstrate the ability to plan, write, revise, and edit effective multi-paragraph essays by choosing appropriate topics, developing well-structured thesis statements, and writing clearly developed, grammatically correct paragraphs.

Course Policies/Requirements

This semester there will be daily reading and writing assignments, as well as six multi-paragraph essays, one of which will be written in class. The daily writing will mostly consist of informal journal responses written in and out of class responding to the assigned readings, exercises, and various writing prompts. For these, you will need a notebook. Much of this writing may be used to create a “zine,” which will be due and presented near the end of the semester. The course grading scale and formula are as follows: 90-100 = A, 87-89 = B+, 80-86 = B, 77-79 = C+, 70-76 = C, 67-69 = D+, 60-66 = D, 0-59 = F

- . Essay 1 = 5%
- . Essay 2 = 10%
- . Essay 3 = 10%
- . Essay 4 = 10%
- . Research Essay = 20%
- . Final Exam Essay = 20%
- . Journal Responses = 10%
- . Zine = 10%
- . Presentation = 5%

You will also be required to actively engage in peer-review work and participate in class discussion. To do this, you must come to each class prepared to share and discuss your writing and assigned readings due that day, as well as any in-class writing. On days we are scheduled to discuss assigned readings, you must demonstrate that you have read the material and are prepared to discuss it. If it is apparent that you are not prepared, you may be told to leave the class.

Required Texts

None. Course materials will be provided in Canvas.

Class Attendance

Attendance is mandatory. Students with two or more absences may be withdrawn from the class or receive an 'F' for the course after the final deadline to withdraw (July 25). Three tardies will count as one absence. Leaving class early without my approval will also count as an absence.

Make-Up and Penalties

Your work must be ready to hand in at the beginning of class on the day on which it is due. Formal papers that are handed in late will be penalized five points per class day for up to one week; after that, they will not be accepted and will receive a zero. This policy applies whether or not you are present on the day the assignment is due.

Additionally, students who do not have a rough draft of their essay to be peer-reviewed on the due date will automatically lose a letter grade on the final draft.

If you are absent on the day of an assigned test or paper, you are responsible immediately upon return to class to arrange a make-up time. After one week, the instructor may assign a zero grade.

Writing Requirements

The formal class essays must be typed in a professional, 12- point font with numbered pages. They must also be double-spaced with one-inch margins on all sides and have the following information at the top left of the first page:

Your name Class (ENC 1101) Section (0074) Date
Title of Paper

When or if we do classwork on the computer, you are not permitted to use your personal laptop instead of the lab computer to complete class activities; should you have special circumstances that require a waiver of this class policy, please see me.

Student Expectations – Students enrolled in this course can expect the following: 1) clearly identified course objectives; 2) productive class meetings; 3) a positive learning environment; 4) opportunities for appropriate student participation; 5) effective instruction; 6) positive and appropriate interactions; 7) assistance with meeting course objectives during and beyond class hours; 8) evaluation of student performance and appropriate and timely feedback; 9) clear and well-organized instruction

Course Learning Outcomes:

1. Write essays with all parts – title, introduction, thesis, discussion, and conclusion – working together to communicate a single purpose to readers.
2. Develop papers using a recognizable, effective, and consistent organizational plan (e.g., the rhetorical modes of development by example, process analysis, comparison/contrast, causal analysis and argumentation). Paragraphs should have easily recognizable topics developed through specific details, explanation, and/or illustration that support the purpose. Appropriate transitions guide readers through the paper.
3. Develop college-level topics, with original content, and provide a depth of development beyond mere listing of paragraph sub-topics.
4. Use sentence structure and diction that reflect the patterns of Standard American English rather than the patterns of oral language.
5. Avoid errors that obscure meaning and cause readers to question the writer's credibility.
6. Demonstrate in papers the ability to critically analyze writing for effectiveness.

Academic Dishonesty

All forms of academic dishonesty, to include plagiarism and cheating, will not be tolerated in this class. Whenever you borrow a phrase, sentence, paragraph, or even an idea stated in your own words, from any outside source (news writing, magazine, TV show, book, online publication) without giving credit to the source, you have plagiarized. Plagiarism is cheating yourself and the author from whom you steal. The consequences are severe, including a failing grade for the assignment and possible failure for the course. It is your responsibility to understand the meaning of plagiarism. For more details, refer to the college catalogue: <https://pensacolastate.smartcatalogiq.com/en/2023-2024/Catalog/Student-Handbook/Student-Responsibilities/Plagiarism-and-Academic-Cheating>

Regarding AI: I have a zero-tolerance approach to AI-assisted writing since it is just another blatant form of cheating. Additionally, note that open-AI sites like ChatGPT tend to produce writing that is generic, bland, and devoid of personality and perspective. At their worst, these sites plagiarize online content and/or “hallucinate” facts, quotations, and citations that don’t actually exist. If any of this appears in your writing, it will earn you a zero, just as it would if a human fabricated this false information! The bottom line is that while artificial intelligence can be a helpful aid in certain tedious tasks, it cannot substitute for the real, actual work of learning (through writing and discussion) that college is designed to cultivate. If an AI site wrote a paper for you, you did not write the paper and cannot receive credit for doing so. Using artificial intelligence to assist in writing is strictly forbidden and counts as plagiarism. You must write all essays and literature circle responses, citing and quoting any outside sources consulted. Evidence of AI-assisted writing may result in an F for the assignment or an F for the course (possibly an F3 to designate academic dishonesty). Students whose writing shows evidence of AI or plagiarism may also be required to provide proof of a document history and/or rewrite the assignment in a proctored setting.

Additional Help

All students should (and may be required to) visit the Pensacola State College Writing Lab (building 4, Rm. 448) for assistance with writing. This is a free and invaluable service. The Writing Lab also offers one on one zoom meetings, as well as online tutoring at pensacolastate.edu/writinglab.

Extra credit: Students who visit the Writing Lab at least twice for tutoring while working on a specific essay will receive four extra points on that essay.

Individual Needs

All students are strongly encouraged to visit me during office hours to discuss the readings and/or written assignments. Any student having special needs due to hearing or vision impairment or learning disabilities is encouraged to speak with me within the first week of classes so that suitable arrangements can be made for your success in this course.

Withdrawal Dates: August 22 (with refund)
November 4 (without refund)

Final Exam: To be announced

Department Information

English and Communications, 850-484-1400, Bldg. 4, Rm. 442
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