

ENC 1101 – Freshman Composition Skills I

Spring 2008 – 3 credit hours

Instructor: Serafin Roldan-Santiago, Ph.D.
Office: TTH 10:40 a.m. – 12:15 (in front of Bldg 4)
Sections: 19 -- TTH – 12:45 – 1:30 p.m. (to be announced)
Email: sroldan99@yahoo.com
Website: www.srs-pr.com
Phone: 352-486-1063

Course Description *

The course is an introduction to college composition and the first of two writing courses at CFCC, fulfilling part of the general undergraduate requirements. The course will focus on general writing using the expository mode, and it will introduce subject content in the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences and business subject areas. It will require the fulfillment of the Gordon Rule which states that a student must write a minimum of 6,000 words with a grade not less than C.

ENC 1101 focuses on developing skills in critical thinking, textual analysis, sound reasoning, and effective, well organized and clear written composition. It will introduce students to various rhetorical modes used for paragraph and essay development, such as, description, narration, definition, comparison and contrast, classification and division, cause and effect, and process analysis. Each mode will be carefully studied, and students will be required to apply their knowledge and writing strategies in actual small essays (referred to as “short takes”). The course will also introduce students to the academic research process, and the utilization of the MLA style of documentation.

Course Objectives/Outcomes (see “Evaluation”)

- Competency in reading different kinds of non-literary texts and essays.
- Familiarity with the major rhetorical modes mentioned above.
- Knowledge and application of the various stages of writing, e.g., pre-writing, thesis construction, outlining, drafts and final revised and edited products
- Ability to write essays in standard written English free of major errors
- Ability to use supporting details in an essay in a logical sequence
- Competency in structuring essays w/ transitional words or phrases
- Knowledge that the process of writing requires working with drafts, using peer review in order to achieve an effective final product.
- Ability to incorporate information from various written sources in a seamless manner
- Competency in formatting essays according to MLA style
- Ability to utilize information technology in oral competency events

Course Requirements:

The course requires a series of essays which begin each as exercises and subsequent drafts, ending in final polished essays. Seven (7) essays (or short takes) will be required during the semester, two of which will be presented orally in class. Readings for these essays will be assigned and discussed in class. The length and subject area of each essay is noted below. A

* **CLAST** – You are encouraged to register for and take the CLAST this term, if you meet the minimum requirements.

final research paper of 1500 words will be required which utilizes “argumentation.” An “oral competency” component is also required in which the student, working in small groups, will demonstrate, not only oral skills of presentation, but also skills in application software such as Microsoft Powerpoint, Macromedia Dreamweaver or other web development software.

Essay Assignments

In all seven expository essays, the student will include paragraphs and sections that utilize the various rhetorical modes listed below; for example, the descriptive/narrative piece will have sections of description and narration but will be expository in nature. All essays will be documented using MLA style; the last essay can be considered a “final paper” with a word count of 1500 words.^{1 2}

- **Essay #1 utilizing Description/Narration** **700 words**
Subject Area: Painting; Sculpture, Architecture, Music, Performing Arts
Readings: Essays of description and narration
- **Essay #2 utilizing Definition** **700 words**
Subject Area: Etymology; Lexicon; Words
Readings: Essays of definition
- **Essay #3 utilizing Classification & Division** **700 words**
Subject Area: Natural and Physical Sciences
Readings: Essays of classification & Division
- **Essay #4 utilizing Comparison & Contrast** **700 words**
Subject Area: Psychology; Sociology; Anthropology; Business; Ads
Readings: Essays of comparison and contrast
- **Essay #5 utilizing Process Analysis** **700 words**
Subject Area: Natural/Human Processes; History & Events
Readings: Essays of process analysis
- **Essay #6 utilizing Cause and Effect** **700 words**
Subject Area: Medicine and Health; Environmental Issues
Readings: Essays of cause & effect
- **Essay #7 utilizing Argument and Persuasion** **700 words**
Subject Area: Psychology; Sociology; Anthropology; Business; Ads
Readings: Essays of argument; logical fallacies, etc.
- **Final Research Paper** **1500 words**
Subject Area: OPEN
Readings: [see the Instructor]

¹ See schedule for essay submission dates

² Specific instructions will be given for each essay.

Oral Competency and Information Technology

- Panel Discussions (groups of three students)
- Powerpoint presentations; Web-Site Design (groups of “ “)

Evaluation

Essays will be evaluated according to the following six criteria, all essential and interconnected. Mechanical aspects such as paper length and format will also serve as requirements including application of MLA rules and procedures.

Purpose: Specific purpose and focus; audience need.

Content: Mature and detailed approach to the topic; development of strong arguments; appropriateness of material; knowledgeable treatment of subject details and points

Organization: Thesis statement; appropriate body paragraphs with supporting arguments; efficient style; logical interconnections between introductory and body paragraphs, and conclusion.

Construction: Appropriate mechanical aspects of paragraph construction; length of paragraphs; transitional devices; parallelisms and other structures.

Language Use: Appropriateness of language and diction; lexicon; correct use of denotation and connotation; logical syntax order; signal phrases for all citations.

Grammar and Mechanics: Correct grammatical structures; spelling and punctuation; others

Grades: Seven Essays (700 pts.) + Final Research paper (200) + Class Participation () = 900 pts.

Grading Scale: 90-100 (A); 86-89 (B+); 80-85 (B); 76-79 (C+); 70-75 (C); 60-69 (D); ≤ 60 (F)

Class Policies

Papers will be due on the day assigned. Points will be subtracted from the grade for late papers.

- All formal essays must be done in MLA format.
- Each student will be responsible for information discussed in the class.
- Attendance is mandatory; **after five (5)** absences a student's final grade will be lowered.
- Class participation is required. (If you have problems with this, please see me.)
- **Plagiarism will not be tolerated and may lead up to a class dismissal.**
- Decorum and respect as college students will be expected.

Required Texts

- Fowler, Ramsey H., Jane E. Aaron, and Janice Okoomian. The Little, Brown Handbook. 10th ed. New York: Pearson/Longman, 2007.
- Kennedy, S. J., Dorothy M. Kennedy, and Jane E. Aaron. The Bedford Reader. 9th ed. New York: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2005.

CFCC CLASSES – ENC 1101 – Weekly Schedule, Spring 2006

- 7 Short Takes and Final Research Paper
- Drafts and Peer Review
- Oral presentations w/ information technology
- Abbreviations: BR=Bedford Reader; LBH=Little, Brown Handbook

Week 1	Syllabus and general comments; LBH (Ch. 3)
Week 2	LBH (Ch. 1); BR (Ch. 4-5) [Description/Narration] ~ ----- > 1 st Draft of essay #1 (drafts on Thursday) ○ Essays: [to be assigned]
Week 3	LBH (Ch. 2); BR (Ch. 4-5) ~ ----- > Final draft of essay #1 (final paper on Thursday) ○ Essays: [to be assigned]
Week 4	LBH (Ch. 4); BR (Ch. 12) [Definition] ~ ----- > 1 st Draft of essay #2 (draft on Thursday) ○ Essays: [to be assigned]
Week 5	LBH (Ch. 4); BR (Ch. 12) ~ ----- > Final draft of essay #2 (final paper on Thursday) ○ Essays: [to be assigned]
Week 6	LBH (Ch. 5); BR (Ch. 9-10) [Classification & Division] ~ ----- > 1 st Draft of essay #3 (draft on Thursday) ○ Essays: [to be assigned]
Week 7	LBH (Ch. 5); BR (Ch. 9-10) ~ ----- > Final draft of essay #3 (final paper on Thursday) ○ Essays: [to be assigned]
Week 8	LBH (Ch. 6-7); BR (Ch. 7) [Comparison and Contrast] ~ ----- > 1 st Draft of essay #4 (draft on Thursday) ○ Essays: [to be assigned]
Week 9	LBH (Ch. 6-7); BR (Ch. 7) ~ ----- > Final draft of essay #4 (final paper on Thursday) ○ Essays: [to be assigned]
Week 10	[Floating Week] for adjustments

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- Week 11 LBH (Ch. 8); BR (Ch. 8) [Process Analysis]
~ ----- > 1st Draft of essay #5 (draft on Thursday)
○ Essays: [to be assigned]
- Week 12 LBH (Ch. 8); BR (Ch. 8)
~ ----- > Final draft of essay #5 (final paper on Thursday)
○ Essays: [to be assigned]
- Week 13 LBH (Ch. 9); BR (Ch. 11) [Cause and Effect]
~ ----- > 1st Draft of essay #6 (draft on Thursday)
○ Essays: [to be assigned]
- Week 14 LBH (Ch. 9); BR (Ch. 11)
~ ----- > Final draft of essay #6 (final paper on Thursday)
○ Essays: [to be assigned]
- Week 15 LBH (Ch. 10); BR (Ch. 13) [Argument and Persuasion]
~ ----- > 1st Draft of essay #7 (draft on Thursday)
○ Essays: [to be assigned]
- Week 16 LBH (Ch. 10); BR (Ch. 13)
~ ----- > Final draft of essay #7 (final paper on Thursday)
○ Essays: [to be assigned]

Final Paper [To be handed in on the Final Exam date]