"English Composition"

ENGLISH 150 section 15

Winter 2003

Instructor: Kristine Kerins
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Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 5:30 to 6:30 pm (or by appointment)

Course Credit Value: 3

Course Prerequisites: C+ in English 12; or English C in 082 and 084;

or by assessment

- A basic ability with grammar, punctuation and spelling is also expected and will be factored into assignment grades.

Course Description:

This course centers on generating, organizing and expressing ideas in clear and effective written prose. Instruction and practice in writing college-level expository prose, based on appropriate models, form the core. Finished assignments total 4000-4500 words.

Core Learning Objectives:

WRITING

- * develop a mature writing process, which includes pre-writing, outlining, drafting, peer editing, revising and proofing
- * shape thoughts and ideas into unified, coherent paragraphs and essays
- * select and use rhetorical patterns to serve various purposes and audiences
- * use language precisely, effectively and grammatically
- * vary writing style through sentence variety, vocabulary and figurative language

READING

- * read mature expository and persuasive prose by student & professional writers
- * analyze prose by identifying controlling ideas, supporting ideas, dominant rhetorical patterns, tone and style
- * summarize prose (to reflect original idea, organization, tone) in different words

RESEARCHING

- * use a variety of sources (print, non-print, informal, interview) in expository paper
- * chose to summarize, paraphrase, or directly quote from sources
- * integrate the borrowed information smoothly & effectively into the paper
- * document sources fully, ethically and according to bibliographic conventions

Required Texts:

Green, Brian, and Sarah Norton. Essay Essentials with Readings. 2nd ed. Toronto: Harcourt-Brace, 1995. [Approx. \$40.00]

Course Pack for English 150 (Kerins)

[Approx.

\$20.00]

A good dictionary (Oxford, Webster's ...)

A good thesaurus (Roget's, Random House ...)

ASSIGNMENTS

Instructions for essay assignments can be found in the *Supplementary Materials* One of the essays may be sent to an external marker for initial grading

	Approx. Length	Value	Due Date	
In-class Outline	(300 words)	10%	()	
Completed Essay	(500 - 700 words)	10%	()	
Argument/Persuasive Essay	(750 - 1000 words)	20%	()	
In-class Compare/Contrast Essay (750-1000 words)		20%	()	
Research Essay	(1250 -1500 words)	30%	()	
In-class work		5 %		
Grammar Presentation		5 %		
		100%		

ABOUT ESSAYS AND ASSIGNMENTS ...

Missed In-Class Essays and Assignments:

- Unless you can prove a medical emergency (with a doctor's note), all exams and in-class assignments <u>must</u> be completed in the intended class. A missed exam or in-class assignment without a note will result in a grade of zero.
- If you already know that you are going to be unable to attend on the date an assignment is scheduled, please come and see me ASAP. If your absence is justifiable, we will schedule a re-write as close to the set date as possible.
- Missed in-class group work can not be made up at a later date.

Late Assignments:

- Assignments are due at the start of class on the date specified.
- -10% per day (including weekends days) will be deducted for lateness.
- -Requests for extensions will only be considered under special circumstances, and only if the request is made at least 48 hours before the essay is due.
- -No assignments will be accepted 5 days or more past the due date.

Attendance, Readings, Homework, and Participation:

To do well in English 150, you must regularly attend the class. If, however, you do find it necessary to miss a class, it is YOUR responsibility to find out what you missed in the discussion, to collect any hand-outs from that day, and to receive the reading and homework instructions BEFORE the next class. I also suggest you make a trustworthy friend in the class from whom you can borrow thorough, reliable notes. As with any course, it is also vitally important that you have

completed all assigned readings and homework before coming to each class. (Reading assignments are provided on the schedule.) Further, since much of our class time will consist of group work, you must come prepared to actively and intelligently participate with others.