English 101.008 – Composition I: Critical Reading and Responding – Course Syllabus

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Office Hours: 10:00-11:55 on Tuesdays; 9:00-10:00 on Thursdays
Office: Library 188-D
We Meet: 11-11:50, MWF
Classroom: Shaw Smyser 115

Required Text(s)

- Both of these books need to be brought to class every day!

Course Description
In this course, students will develop the skills necessary for academic writing, including summarizing, reading sources critically and responding to them, synthesizing multiple perspectives, and using academic writing conventions. The aforementioned skills will be practiced and honed through various reading and writing assignments. The culminating writing assignment for the course is an exploratory synthesis essay in which each student will respond to a unique question at issue—that is, a question that cannot be answered with a simple yes or no and that is of interest to a broad audience.

The University Writing Program Outcomes
In English 101, we will focus on the following outcomes:
- Reading critically, distinguishing central ideas from evidence and identifying the author’s purpose, assumptions, and attitudes;
- Summarizing advanced-level material accurately—representing and documenting content; reflecting the source’s purpose, tone, and structure; referring to all key ideas; and excluding unnecessary details;
- Reading responsively, using prior knowledge and experience to identify questions at issue and to recognize bias;
• **Responding in writing to advanced-level material**—reflecting the positions and assertions of an author, identifying a question at issue for both the student and the author, and focusing comment on the question at issue;

• **Identifying and synthesizing the common questions at issue among readings** that represent various perspectives on a topic or solutions to a problem;

• **Drawing reasonable conclusions from information found in various sources**—whether written, oral, tabular, or graphic—and integrating those conclusions into the development of written projects;

• **Integrating multiple sources** by examining alternative solutions or perspectives and responding to source material. The writing may include a description of the research process.

**Writing Program Expectations**
The Program’s faculty recognize that writing is a process and that writers depend on a community of readers. We thus expect you to participate in your courses in the following ways:

• prewriting to inquire, reflect, focus, generate, and clarify content;

• revising to provide economy, clarity, unity, and balance;

• editing your own work and the work of others;

• writing polished prose that is purposeful, clear, and effective;

• understanding and using criteria to assess your own writing;

• working responsibly in writing groups;

• engaging critically and constructively in the exchange of ideas during class discussion, group activities, and conferences;

• demonstrating academic integrity in all written projects.

**Attendance Policy**
Students will be allowed no more than three absences. No more than three absences will be allowed, excused or unexcused. Period. This means that if you miss more than three classes (one week), your overall grade in the class will be lowered. On the fourth (and every subsequent absence), your overall grade will be lowered a half-step. So, at the end of the quarter, say you have four absences and a B+ in the class; your final grade will actually end up being a B. If you have five absences and a B+ in the class, your final grade will actually end up being a B-. In other words: **a half step is deducted from your overall grade for each absence after three.**

**Popular Questions**

• Can I make up work if I miss a class?
  
  o Papers: Yes. Ten points will be deducted from the final score on the paper each day it is late. It is best to email the paper to me on the due-date if you are going to
be absent the day a paper is due and arrange to hand in a hard copy when you return.

- Quizzes: No. Do extra credit.
- Grammar Homework: No. Do extra credit.
- Peer Reviews: No. Do extra credit.
- Journal: Yes. Five sample topics will be posted to Canvas; you need to choose one of these prompts (for each day missed) and write the journal entry/entries on your own time. Midterm and final journal checks will not be accepted late.
- Reading Questions: No. Do extra credit.

- What happens if a student has to miss a class for any reason?
  - You are expected to do extra credit to make up the points you miss. **Deadlines will not be extended**, and I will not re-teach the class just for you. You are expected to get class notes and assignments from a classmate or from the Canvas page.
  - Papers are still due on the assigned days, even if you have an excused absence. You should either email the paper to me or send it to class with a classmate. Not coming to class does not get you out of turning in a paper on time. If you don’t submit a paper on time, ten points will be deducted from the total score on the paper for each day it is late.

- What happens if a student misses more than three classes?
  - The student’s overall grade will be lowered a half-step for each day (after the three gimme days) that is missed.

- What happens if a student arrives late to class?
  - Tardiness is unacceptable behavior. This class starts at 11 a.m., not 11:15 a.m. or 11:20 a.m. Every three instances of tardiness will be counted as one absence. Additionally, if you are not present for roll call, you must check-in with me before you leave class, or else you run the risk of being marked absent.

**ADA Statement**
If you need disability-related educational accommodations, please meet with me and contact the Center for Disability Services at (509) 963-1202 or DS@cwu.edu.
Grading Procedures
Grades for this class are based on a point system, with the total points possible being 1000. Students must earn a minimum grade of C- to move forward into English 102. Individual assignments will be graded as follows:

Assignments*
Quizzes (5 @ 5 pts each) .....................25 points
Participation ..................................100 points
Summary Paper ..................................75 points
Summary Response Paper ..................100 points
Short Synthesis ...............................125 points
Synthesis ......................................175 points
Reading Questions (6 @ 10 pts each) ......60 points
Grammar Homework (6 @ 10 pts each) .........60 points
Peer Reviews (6 @ 10 pts each) ..............60 points
Journal (daily) ..................................40 points (20 @ midterm; 20 @ final)
Midterm ...........................................50 points
Final Portfolio ..................................60 points
MLA Exam .......................................50 points
Editing Test .....................................20 points
Total .............................................1000 points

*Special Grading Addendum: Participation
It is expected that you are prepared for class every time we meet. If you do not have a required text with you or do not bring material that you are required to print from Canvas, you will lose points in this category. If you do not bring texts and assignments and you draw or do homework for another class or play on your phone under the table/desk and you fail to participate when prompted to do so,--or you just plain act like a schmuck to instructor or classmates--I reserve the right to give you a zero in this category. Also, if you act inappropriately, you will be asked to leave and be marked absent for the day. So don’t be unprepared and don’t be a schmuck.
Please. It can leave you with a tremendously low participation score, and since participation is worth 100 points, it really can make or break a grade.

Canvas
All assignments will be posted on Canvas. Hard copy printouts will not be provided. It is your responsibility to check Canvas regularly and download your assignments. It is your responsibility to print grading rubrics for all writing assignments. You must submit a rubric with each hard copy paper you submit; also, each paper must be submitted to Canvas through Turnitin. Also, you can check your grade in the class at any time on Canvas, but it is your responsibility to keep track of your absences. I will update the scores about once a week (usually
over the weekend). Additionally, class cancellations due to instructor illness or bad weather will be sent out as an announcement on Canvas, usually 30 minutes prior to the class start time.

Words of Warning

Plagiarism is against the university’s academic honesty policy. Any egregious (purposeful) plagiarism will result in disciplinary action. You will fail the class. Your name will be submitted to the University Disciplinary Committee. Your permanent record will be flagged. You will have to attend an academic integrity workshop. We will go over intentional and unintentional plagiarism in class; after we have gone over the differences, if you unintentionally plagiarize and it scares me more than Stephen King’s IT, you will receive a 0 on the paper unless it is re-written within the specified timeframe (see Paper Revision guidelines below).

Intentional plagiarism will not be given the same kind of second chance. You will receive a 0 and will not be given the chance to re-write the paper. If you are caught plagiarizing more than once while you are a student at CWU, you will be expelled from the university.

Cell phones, laptops, iPads, iPods, MP3 players, and other electronic devices are banned in this class. You won’t need them in class in order to be successful. If you are caught using any banned electronics during class, you will be asked to turn in the devices to me. You may reclaim your device(s) at the end of the class period. If you argue with me, you will be asked to leave, and you will be counted absent for the day. Let me know before class begins if you are expecting a phone call because of an emergency situation. Leave the room quietly to take the phone call. Return to class with as little distraction as possible.

Sleeping in class is prohibited. If you fall asleep in class, I will draw attention to you and let your classmates laugh at you.

Food and drink are allowed in class, but try to be reasonable about it, please. You may bring something to drink and a snack, but please don’t attempt to eat a full meal in class. Don’t bring anything so smelly that it will offend those sitting next to you (onions, sauerkraut, etc.).

Late papers will be accepted. However, ten points will be deducted from the final grade on the paper for each day it is late. None of the homework (including but not limited to Reading Questions and Grammar) will be accepted late. Instead, do extra credit to help balance out your score.

- The Synthesis Essay and Portfolio cannot be accepted late; these assignments are due at the specified time without exception.
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**Paper revisions** are not accepted. Please submit your best work, learn from any/all mistakes, and strive to do better next time around.

- The only exception to this policy is if I ask you to revise a paper due to a) inability of instructor to understand what has been written, or b) a plagiarism issue. In either of these cases, you will be given one week from the time the paper is handed back to you and your paper will be worth half credit.

**Writing Tutors** are available to help you with all written work here at CWU. To meet with a writing tutor, please make an appointment through the Academic and Research Commons (ARC):

  Office Hours: 11:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m., Monday-Thursday; 11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Friday 2:00-4:00 p.m. Sunday
  Location: Library 190-C
  Contact Information: (509) 963-1270 umwdesk@cwu.edu

**Extra Credit Opportunities**

1. You can make up some of the points you miss if you are absent on the day of a quiz by writing a one-page excuse. Explain why you missed class. Lie to me. Make it an interesting story. (10 points—may be done once)
2. Write a one-page fairy tale. Tell me a story about a great adventure. Make me laugh. (10 points—may be done one time)
3. Visit the Writing Center and work with a tutor for at least 30 minutes. You can only visit the Writing Center for extra credit once per week. You must have the writing tutor e-mail the report to me (Melissa Brouwer) in order to receive credit for a visit. (10 points—may be repeated three times)
4. I'm a sucker for folklore. Go to the database J-STOR and access the Journal of American Folklore. Find an article on folklore from that journal that interests you, print it, and annotate it according to the methods we learn in class. (10 points—may be done twice)

**Please note: I usually upload extra credit verrrrrry slowly to Canvas. Don't be at all surprised if it does not show up until toward the end of the quarter.**
Course Schedule
The following schedule lists homework, due dates, and daily topics. Please remember to bring your books to each class session along with paper and pen/pencil.

WEEK ONE
Wednesday, January 7th
   In Class: Introductions; syllabus
   **Due Today: Show up! 😊**
   Homework: Review syllabus and buy textbooks

Friday, January 9th
   In Class: Editing Test
   **Due Today: Bring MLA handbook for Editing Test**
   Homework: Print and read "Lola in Kamola" from Canvas and bring to class on Monday
WEEK TWO
Monday, January 12th
In Class: Reading Comprehension & Annotation; Summary Paper assigned
**Due Today: Be familiar with syllabus and class rules**
Homework: Annotate the article “Lola in Kamola”

Wednesday, January 14th
In Class: Summary techniques and MLA style; Plagiarism
**Due Today: Annotated copy of “Lola in Kamola” from Canvas**
Homework: Work on Summary Paper—Draft due Friday, Jan. 16th for Peer Review

Friday, January 16th
In Class: MLA Citation and Documentation; Peer Review of Summary Paper
**Due Today: Rough draft of Summary Paper**
Homework: Final Draft of Summary Paper due on Wednesday
WEEK THREE

Monday, January 19th

NO CLASS

Due Today: Nothing!

Homework: Reading Questions #1, Grammar Homework #1, and Summary Final Draft due Wednesday

Wednesday, January 21st

In Class: Reading Discussion; Summary Response Assigned

Due Today: Summary Paper Final Draft; Reading Questions #1; Grammar Homework #1

Homework: Prep for Quiz #1

Friday, January 23rd

In Class: MLA Citation/Documentation exercise; Summary Response assigned; Quiz 1

Due Today: Be prepared for our first quiz! No topics off limits.

Homework: Print out "Documentary Notes" from Canvas and bring with you to class on Monday.
WEEK FOUR
Monday, January 26th
In Class: Response Techniques; Documentary
Due Today: Bring "Documentary Notes" (not filled out, just printed) to class today.
Homework: Begin writing summary portion of Summary Response assignment

Wednesday, January 28nd
NO CLASS
Homework: Continue working on the summary portion of Summary Response

Friday, January 30th
In Class: Documentary
Due Today: Bring "Documentary Notes" with you to class to continue notation of the film.
Homework: Study for Quiz on Monday
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WEEK FIVE
Monday, February 2\textsuperscript{nd}
Class Cancelled

Wednesday, February 4\textsuperscript{th}
   In Class: Quiz #2; Thesis Statements; Review for Mid-Term
   \textbf{Due Today: Be prepared for Quiz #2}
   Homework: Draft a thesis to connect summary and response for Summary Response and write this on the 3x5 note card you will use for the Mid-Term; Study for Mid-Term

Friday, February 6\textsuperscript{th}
   In Class: Mid-Term
   \textbf{Due Today: Thesis statement written on note card; 3x5 note card for mid-term}
   Homework: Rough Draft of Summary Response for Peer Review; Reading Questions #2 and Grammar Homework #2
WEEK SIX

Monday, February 9th
   In Class: Reading Discussion; Peer Review of Summary Response
   Due Today: Reading Questions #2; Grammar Homework #2; Rough Draft of Summary Response Paper
   Homework: Final Draft of Summary Response Paper due on Monday

Wednesday, February 11th
   In Class: Short Synthesis Paper assigned; Writing intros, conclusions, and transitions
   Due Today: Final Draft of Summary Response Paper
   Homework: Reading Questions #3 and Grammar Homework #3 due Wednesday; begin drafting the Short Synthesis Paper

Friday, February 13th
   In Class: Reading Discussion & Grammar Lecture
   Due Today: Reading Questions #3; Grammar Homework #3
   Homework: Continue drafting Short Synthesis Paper; bring a draft for peer review on Friday
WEEK SEVEN
Monday, February 16th
NO CLASS—PRESIDENT’S DAY
   Homework: Draft of Short Synthesis (5 paragraphs minimum) due for Peer Review #1 on Wednesday; Reading Questions #4 and Grammar Homework #4 due Friday

Wednesday, February 18th
   In Class: Peer Review #1 of Short Synthesis Paper
   **Due Today: Rough draft of Short Synthesis Paper**
   Homework: Reading #4 & Grammar #4 due on Friday; Journals (Jan. 6-Feb.20th) due Friday

Friday, February 20th
   In Class: Reading Discussion, Grammar
   **Due Today: Reading Questions #4; Grammar Homework #4; Journals (Jan. 6 – Feb. 20th)**
   Homework: Revised rough draft of Short Synthesis Paper (completed) for Peer Review on Monday
WEEK EIGHT
Monday, February 23rd
In Class: Peer Review #2 of Short Synthesis Paper
   Due Today: Rough draft Short Synthesis Paper
   Homework: Final draft of Short Synthesis Paper due on Wednesday

Wednesday, February 25th
   In Class: Synthesis Essay assigned; Questions @ Issue and Thesis Practice
   Due Today: Final draft of Short Synthesis Paper
   Homework: Grammar Homework #5; Reading Questions #5 for Friday

Friday, February 27th
   In Class: Grammar Lecture; Reading Discussion
   Due Today: Grammar Homework #5; Reading Questions #5
   Homework: Study for Quiz #3 on Monday; begin drafting Synthesis
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WEEK NINE
Monday, March 2nd
   In Class: Quiz #3; Using Sources/Building a Synthesis
   Due Today: Be prepared for Quiz #3
   Homework: Reading Questions #6 and Grammar Homework #6 due Wednesday; keep drafting Synthesis

Wednesday, March 4th
   In Class: Reading Discussion & Grammar Lecture
   Due Today: Reading Questions #6; Grammar Homework #6
   Homework: Rough draft of Synthesis Essay (3 pages and 3 sources minimum) for Peer Review #1 on Friday; Study for Quiz 4

Friday, March 6th
   In Class: Peer Review #1 of Synthesis; Quiz #4
   Due Today: Rough draft Synthesis Essay (3 pages, 3 sources on WC page)
   Homework: Continue drafting Synthesis Essay
WEEK TEN
Monday, March 9th
   In Class: Editing Test
   **Due Today: Show up ready for the test**
   Homework: Keep writing Synthesis essay; prepare for MLA Exam

Wednesday, March 11th
   In Class: MLA Exam
   **Due Today: Bring 3x5 note card for test**
   Homework: Revise draft of Synthesis for Peer Review on Friday; Study for Quiz #5;
   Second set of journals due on Friday

Friday, March 13th
   In Class: Peer Review #2 of Synthesis; Quiz #5
   **Due Today: Rough draft of Synthesis; Journals**
   Homework: Review guidelines for the Portfolio/Reflection assignment as posted to Canvas

FINAL PORTFOLIO/REFLECTION + SYNTHESIS ESSAY are due DURING FINAL’S WEEK; NO EXCEPTIONS!

FINALS WEEK

   **Due Date of Portfolio TBD**