

University of North Texas at Dallas
Fall 2012
SYLLABUS

Course Abbreviation/ Number/ Title/ Semester Hrs ENGLBB: College Writing I 3Hrs	
Department of	ENGLISH
Division of	<i>LANGUAGE/ COMMUNICATIONS</i>
Instructor Name:	<i>Sura P. Rath</i>
Office Location:	Bldg 1 Room 333
Office Phone:	972.338.1545
Email Address:	Surarath@unt.edu
Office Hours:	MW 9:00:10:00 A.M. 11:30-12:00 Noon; TTH by appointment
Virtual Office Hours:	<i>None</i>
Classroom Location:	<i>Dallas 2 304 and 326</i>
Class Meeting Days & Times:	Mondays: 10:00-11:20 a.m. (# 326); 5:30-6:50 p.m. (# 304). Wednesdays: classes will meet in the Writing Center, Bldg. 1336
Course Catalog Description:	College Writing I: Writing as a means of ordering and shaping experience, information and ideas. Emphasis on perfecting texts through several drafts.
Prerequisites:	None
Co-requisites:	None
Required Text:	<i>A World of Ideas</i> , 8 th . Ed. by Lee Jacobus Handout on Composition and grammar A good dictionary: <i>American Heritage Dictionary</i> (recommended)
Recommended Text and References:	
Access to Learning Resources:	UNT Dallas Library: phone: (972) 780-3625; web: http://www.unt.edu/unt-dallas/library.htm UNT Dallas Bookstore: phone: (972) 780-3652; e-mail: DLmgr@fhcg.follett.com
The easiest way to reach me is by e-mail. If you have any questions or concerns, send me a brief message, and I will reply to you within a few hours. Always use your UNT Dallas e-mail account. Mail from any other account will go to my spam folder and discarded. I don't open them.	

Course Goals or Overview:

The primary goals of this course are to help you read written texts critically, think about ideas logically, and write with clarity and conciseness. Secondary goals are to develop skills of generating ideas on a topic, taking a position on it, and presenting your arguments with supporting information (research).

Learning Objectives/ Outcomes: At the end of this course, the student will be able to

1	Explain key ideas in an essay
2	Demonstrate the ability to critically analyze them
3	Define important issues such as justice, gender, individualism, nature, and government
4	Identify reasons/ premises behind her/ his personal opinions
5	Write response essays using various techniques of invention and arrangement of ideas
6	Use multi-drafting to refine writing for unity, coherence, and emphasis

Course Outline (subject to change, if needed)

August 29

- Class introduction: Please introduce yourself to the class with the following information: your name, where you are from (your school or family location), where you plan to go (your career goal, your major field of study), and why you chose that area of study.
- Explanation of the syllabus: reading and writing assignments, grading policies, attendance policies
- Assignment for Monday, September 3: v-x, xiii-xiv, Table of Contents, I-II, B6-41

September 3 Labor Day

September 5: Quiz # 1, based on the pages v through the end of the Table of Contents

- Discussion, pp. I-II, B6-41
- Writing Assignment # 1 for September 5: Write a brief essay that attacks Philus's position in defense of injustice. Try to respond to each of his important points and use some of his own techniques, such as offering a historical survey and using argument by analogy. Bring your essay to class on September 10.
- Reading Assignment for September 10: Pages 157-71

September 10

- Quiz # 2, based on the pages 157-71
- Discussion of the reading "From *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave*"
- Writing assignment # 2 for September 12: Reading becomes the pathway to freedom for Douglass, and he is determined to learn to read despite his master's efforts to stop him. To what extent is Douglass right about finding the pathway to freedom? Is his insight still useful to us today? Does the experience of discontentment that Douglass felt contribute positively to improving the lot of those enslaved? Does he offer us a model for achieving justice?
- Reading assignment for September 17: pages 173-99

September 12

- Writing, discussion, and revising. After discussion, I will collect these essays.

September 17

- Quiz #3, based on “Civil Disobedience”
- Discussion of Thoreau’s essay
- Writing assignment #3 for September 19: Thoreau mentions a “wise minority” in paragraph 16. What does he mean by it? Is it possible to have a wise minority in the sense that he describes? If there is such a minority, what should government do? What should the wise minority do? How would a wise minority be likely to behave?
- Reading assignment for September 24: pages 21-31

September 19

- Writing, discussion, and revising. After discussion, I will collect these essays.

September 24

- Quiz #4, based on “Letter from Birmingham Jail”
- Discussion of the reading “Letter from Birmingham Jail”
- Writing assignment #4 for September 26: The class will be divided into two groups. Group A topic: Examine the letter for details that permit you to define the nature of Birmingham society during King’s lifetime. Develop an essay in which you describe it with details. Group B topic: Which method of development is dominant in King’s letter? Choose one, and then defend your choice by showing how often it is used.
- Reading assignment for October 1 pages 79-83

September 26

- Writing, discussion, and revising. After discussion, I will collect these essays.

October 1

- Quiz #5, based on pages 79-83
- Discussion of “Of the Pernicious Effects Which Arise from the Unnatural Distinctions Established in Society”
- Writing assignment #5 for October 3: Group A: Discuss how it is possible to compare women with property on the basis of this essay. Group B: Explain in what way the “unnatural distinctions” affecting women in society cause them to behave as Wollstonecraft says they do. Do you think it is a cause-effect relationship?
- Reading assignment for October 8: pages 83-93

October 3

- Writing, discussion, and revising. After discussion, I will collect these essays.

October 8

- Quiz 36, based on pages 83-93
- Discussion of Virginia Woolf’s “Shakespeare’s Sister”

- Reading assignment for October 15: pages 889-902

October 10

- **NO class meeting today. Read “The Death of the Moth”** (available on the Internet)

October 15

- Quiz #6, based on pages 889-902
- Discussion of “Masculinity” and “The Death of the Moth”
- Reading assignment for October 29: pages 855-72

October 17 **Mid-term Exam**

October 22

- **Research methods. Use of the library and its resources.**

October 24 Discussion of mid-term exam essays and grades

- Reading assignment for October 29: pages 856-72
- Writing assignment #6 for October 31: What role do popular magazines play in aiding society to fashion male and female personalities? Choose a group of men’s or women’s magazines and analyze them to determine precisely what kind of behavior the magazines promote, expect, and inculcate in their reader.

October 29

- Discussion of Margaret Mead’s “Sex and Temperament”

October 31

- Writing, discussion, and revising. After discussion, I will collect these essays.

November 5 “The Qualities of the Prince,” p. 37

November 7 Writing about Ideas: An Introduction to Rhetoric

November 12 “The Origin of Civil Society,” p. 55

November 14 Writing about Ideas: An Introduction to Rhetoric

November 19 “Of our Spiritual Strivings,” p. 287

November 21 Grammar Review

November 26 “The Oedipus Complex,” p. 475

November 28 Grammar Review

December 3 “The Personal and the Collective Unconscious,” p. 487

December 5 Summing up (Last Class day)

Final Examination will be a Take-Home test. Due on Monday, December 10.

Course Evaluation Methods

This course will utilize the following instruments to determine student grades and proficiency of the learning outcomes for the course.

- Comprehensive tests (quiz): designed to test your reading and comprehension
- Exams – written tests designed to measure knowledge of presented course material
- Short essays– written assignments designed to supplement and reinforce course material
- Class Participation – daily attendance and participation in class discussions

Grading Matrix: *(sample given)*

Instrument	Value (points or percentages)	Total
Comprehensive tests (Quiz)5	10 points each	50
Short Essays 5	40 points each	200
Mid-Term	One	50
Final Examination 12/ 10/ 20 12	One	100
Attendance + Class participation	50 50	100
Total:		500

University Policies and Procedures

Students with Disabilities (ADA Compliance):

The University of North Texas Dallas faculty is committed to complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students' with documented disabilities are responsible for informing faculty of their needs for reasonable accommodations and providing written authorized documentation. For more information, you may visit the Office of Disability Accommodation/ Student Development Office, Suite 115 or call Laura Smith at 972-780-3632.

Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness Policy:

The Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness (SETE) is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. This short survey will be made available to you at the end of the semester, providing you a chance to comment on how this class is taught. I am very interested in the feedback I get from students, as I work to continually improve my teaching. I consider the SETE to be an important part of your participation in this class.

Assignment Policy:

All assignments are due in class on the day specified. After the class hour, the late submission penalty applies. Penalty is 10 points per day including weekends and holidays.

Exam Policy:

Exams should be taken as scheduled. No makeup examinations will be allowed except for documented emergencies (See Student Handbook).

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity is a hallmark of higher education. You are expected to abide by the University's code of conduct and Academic Dishonesty policy. Any person suspected of academic dishonesty (i.e., cheating or plagiarism) will be handled in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to the Student Code of Conduct at http://www.unt.edu/csrr/student_conduct/index.html for complete provisions of this code.

Bad Weather Policy:

On those days that present severe weather and driving conditions, a decision may be made to close the campus. In case of inclement weather, call UNT Dallas Campuses main voicemail number (972) 780-3600 or search postings on the campus website www.unt.edu/dallas. Students are encouraged to update their Eagle Alert contact information, so they will receive this information automatically.

Attendance and Participation Policy:

The University attendance policy is in effect for this course. Class attendance and participation is expected because the class is designed as a shared learning experience and because essential information not in the textbook will be discussed in class. The dynamic and intensive nature of this course makes it impossible for students to make-up or to receive credit for missed classes. Attendance and participation in all class meetings are essential to the integration of course material and your ability to demonstrate proficiency. Students are responsible to notify the instructor if they are missing class and for what reason. Students are also responsible to make up any work covered in class. It is recommended that each student coordinate with a student colleague to obtain a copy of the class notes, if they are absent.

Diversity/ Tolerance Policy:

Students are encouraged to contribute their perspectives and insights to class discussions. However, offensive & inappropriate language (swearing) and remarks offensive to others of particular nationalities, ethnic groups, sexual preferences, religious groups, genders, or other ascribed statuses will not be tolerated. Disruptions which violate the Code of Student Conduct will be referred to the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities as the instructor deems appropriate.

Optional Policies:

- *Use of WebCT/ Blackboard: I do not use the Blackboard.*
- *Use of Cell Phones & other Electronic Gadgets in the Classroom: **All cellphones must be switched off while the class is in progress. Going in and out of the classroom to answer phone calls is not acceptable.***
- *Texting: **You must leave the class if you need to text. It is a distraction to your fellow students and to me.***
- *Food & Drink in the Classroom: **Please do NOT bring food/ drinks to class.***
- *Use of Laptops: **Laptops are NOT to be used in the classroom. I would like you to pay attention to discussions and participate in the conversation.***
- *Grade of Incomplete, "I": **I do NOT allow INCOMPLTE ("I") grades except for medical reasons.***