

ADVANCED COMPOSITION

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”

NELSON MANDELA



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COURSE RESOURCES



Email:
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D2L & Microsoft Word or
Office 365



Textbook: *Great Writing 5:
From Essays to Research*



3-Ring Binder

WELCOME!

Your success in this class is important to me. I am looking forward to working with you over the next sixteen weeks. I understand that we all learn differently. If there are aspects of this course that prevent you from learning or that form barriers to your inclusion, please let me know as soon as possible. Together we'll develop strategies that can enable you to succeed in the course.

Let me share some information about myself. My hometown is Littleton, Colorado, but I have lived in New York, Boston, China, Cambodia, Bangladesh, and Somalia. I speak three languages (English, Chinese, and Khmer) and am currently learning Spanish. I attended the University of Colorado Boulder for undergrad and Columbia University for graduate school. In my free time, I love traveling, cooking, playing tennis, and reading science fiction. I look forward to getting to know you as well this semester!

I believe in the power of writing. Of course, the information you learn in this class will help you succeed in college. But more importantly, I hope this class will help you understand how writing can be a powerful tool for change. Through writing, we can **explore** our community, our world, and ourselves. Through writing, we can **change** our community, our world, and ourselves.

Best wishes for a great semester,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Amanda Meier', written in a cursive style.

Amanda Meier

COURSE DESCRIPTION

COURSE: Advanced Composition

CODE: ESL 053

CREDIT HOURS: 4

SEMESTER: Fall 2019

CRN: 33653

SECTION: 1N4

LOCATION: Classroom 205

DATES: Aug. 26 to Dec. 12, 2019

DAYS: Tuesday & Thursday

TIME: 12:30 pm - 2:10 pm

DROP AND WITHDRAW DATES:

- Last Day to Drop (with refund):
September 10, 2019
- Last Day to Withdraw:
November 21, 2019

DEPARTMENT / PATHWAYS

ADVISOR:

Svetlana Ehrhart

- Phone: 303-360-4717
- Email:
svetlana.ehrhart@ccaurora.edu
- Office: CentreTech Campus,
Administration building,
A-106 D

INSTRUCTOR: Amanda Meier

CONTACT INFORMATION:

You can contact me 4 ways:

D2L: ameier27@ucourses.com

Email: amanda.meier@ccaurora.edu

Text: (804) 818-6237

WhatsApp: (804) 818-6237

RESPONSE TIME:

I know that it's frustrating to send a message to a teacher and not get a response for days. Because I want to encourage you to ask questions and communicate with me, I strive to answer my messages quickly. On weekdays, I typically respond within three hours. During weekends, I usually respond within 24 hours.

WEEKLY OFFICE HOURS:

I will have online office hours on D2L chat every Wednesday from 5-6pm. You can use this time to ask questions about homework or assignments. For help using D2L chat, please see our course Help page or ask me.

APPOINTMENTS:

I am also available to help you with individual tutoring or just to listen if you need someone to talk to. There is no shame in asking for help

INDIVIDUAL CONFERENCES:

We will also schedule three individual conferences throughout the semester, where we can discuss your work and progress in the class. These conferences are required and part of your participation grade.

"Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today."

MALCOLM X

COURSE DESCRIPTION (CONTINUED)

ADVANCED COMPOSITION will review paragraph organization and develop the skill of writing essays using selected rhetorical modes. This class emphasizes accurate use of advanced grammatical structures and includes summarizing, paraphrasing, and research writing.

You will be given the opportunity to demonstrate the following **COURSE OUTCOMES**:

- Make use of a recursive process in writing course assignments
- Compose well-organized, clearly focused, well-developed essays
- Utilize common rhetorical modes in the development of essays
- Compose grammatically correct simple, compound, and complex sentences
- Demonstrate increased ability to use vocabulary from the Academic Word List in writing
- Use outside sources in an ethical, clearly documented way

Throughout the semester, we will cover the following topics:

I. Writing Process

- a. Pre-writing techniques
- b. Revision
- c. Audience awareness

II. Elements of the Expository Essay

- b. Thesis statement
- c. Introductory paragraphs
- d. Support Paragraphs
- e. Concluding paragraphs
- f. Coherence

III. Rhetorical Modes

IV. Grammatical

- b. Review of sentence structure
- c. Punctuation
- d. Editing
- e. Review grammar necessary for rhetorical modes
- f. Vocabulary development
- g. Writing from sources
 - i. Documentation
 - ii. Quotations
 - iii. Summarizing
 - iv. Paraphrasing

COURSE VALUES

INCLUSION: Classrooms are supposed to be safe environments. However, from personal experience, I know this is not always the case. Sometimes, students or teachers can make others feel unsafe or unwelcome. In our classroom, I want everyone to be accepted regardless of sex, race, gender, religion, age, size, class, physical or mental ability, or any other aspect of their identity. If you, at any time, feel unsafe or unwelcome in our classroom (or the College as a whole), I encourage you to speak with me in confidence.

PRACTICE: I believe that the only way to develop your writing skills is to do a lot of guided practice in reading and writing. And that is exactly what we will do this semester.

PURPOSE: I understand that you have education and career goals. I hope you will share your goals with me so that I can ensure the information we learn in this course is relevant to your goals.

CURIOSITY: Good writing begins with curiosity. I encourage you to ask questions, express your views, try out new ideas, and make mistakes.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: How to be a responsible and ethical writer is a major part of this course. You will learn strategies to avoid unintentional plagiarism in your writing. All essays will be submitted to a plagiarism checker in D2L.

Turning in the same assignment for more than one class is a form of academic dishonesty and may result in a grade of "F" for the assignment. If you would like to write on a topic you have previously written about, please speak with me before beginning your assignment.

PARTICIPATION: I believe that our classroom is a place where you can take control of your education. I urge you to actively engage with the course materials, your classmates, and myself.

SOCIAL JUSTICE: People all over the world suffer because of discrimination and inequality. I believe education plays a huge role in improving society. Together, we will explore topics that help raise our awareness of the world around us and improve our understanding of social problems.

"Your voice needs to be heard."

DOLLY ROSARIO

GRADES

Your grade in this course will be determined by three categories:

Participation	15%
Informal Assignments	15%
Final E-Portfolio	70%
Total	100%

PARTICIPATION: A large amount of work this semester will be done in class with me and your peers. I hope you actively participate in this class because I have found it is the best way to engage you in learning. You will receive a weekly participation grade in D2L.

In addition to attending class regularly, see page 9 in this syllabus for how to be an active participant.

INFORMAL ASSIGNMENTS: This category includes short homework assignments (such as reading responses and writing exercises), in-class activities, and initial drafts of essays.

I will give you detailed guidelines and grading rubrics for all informal assignments.

The purpose of informal assignments is threefold:

- To get you thinking about the topics and ideas we are discussing so that you can develop informed opinions on them
- To give you the opportunity to practice the skills you need for each essay
- To reflect on your writing development after each formal essay

FINAL E-PORTFOLIO: The majority of your grade in this class will be determined by your final E-Portfolio.

Throughout the semester, your essays will go through multiple revisions as you share with me and your peers and get advice on revision. At the end of the semester, you will create an online portfolio that contains polished, revised versions of your work, marked up drafts and revisions, and a final Reflective Statement.

"If everything was perfect, you would never learn and you would never grow."

BEYONCE KNOWLES

GRADES (CONTINUED)

We will write three essays this semester. For each essay, I will give you detailed assignment guidelines and grading rubrics.

At the end of the semester, you will compile all your essays in your E-Portfolio on D2L.

Keep every version (hard copy and electronic, including feedback) of your writing for the E-Portfolio. In order to get full credit, you must have all drafts for each essay.

Don't worry! We will go through each step of the portfolio together in class. I will help you with each part of this process.

You can view an example student E-Portfolio here:

<https://sites.google.com/view/wanyucompositionportfolio/home>

On early drafts of essays, I will indicate whether your writing is *not passing*, *passing*, or *above passing*. As we progress through the semester, I will begin to put grades on drafts to give you an idea of how your drafts would do in the E-Portfolio.

However, no draft in this class is ever final until the Final E-Portfolio. You may continue to revise your drafts throughout the semester to improve your grade in the Final E-Portfolio.

FINAL GRADES: Grades for this course will be based on the standard college letter grade system:

A =	90-100%	Excellent
B =	80-89%	Good
C =	70-79%	Fair
D =	60-69%	Poor
F =	Below 60%	Failing

Grades will be posted in the D2L gradebook and your average grade will be provided.

“Do the best you can until
you know better.
Then, when you know
better, do better.”

MAYA ANGELOU

ABSENCES AND LATE WORK

ABSENCES: Because our writing class is a community and many of our activities are collaborative, your attendance is incredibly important to your success in this class.

I urge you to attend every class. However, I understand that sometimes problems arise that may prevent you from attending. Please contact me as soon as you know you will be absent. This helps me adjust my plan for the other students and we can discuss make-up options.

If you miss a class, you will receive a participation score of 0 for that day.

But, I understand that sometimes emergencies and traumatic events happen. These situations are difficult, but if you contact me within 24 hours of the event and provide documentation, you will not lose participation points.

LATE WORK: Unless you contact me before the due date and we discuss an alternative, late work is eligible for 60% of points.

This means that if you must be absent for a class, I encourage you to still turn your homework in on time to avoid a lower grade. You can always submit homework via D2L, email, or with a classmate.

If you have an emergency or traumatic event that prevents you submitting work on time, please contact me within 24 hours of the event and provide documentation. I will be happy to discuss alternatives to ensure your grade does not suffer.

“Sometimes, things may not go your way, but the effort should be there every single night.”

MICHAEL JORDAN

STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS

Your success in this course is important to me. This section details some suggestions for how to succeed in this course.

COMMUNICATE: I cannot emphasize enough that communication is key. I hope you feel comfortable contacting me about any questions or troubles you may have. I am here to help you, but I can only do that if you communicate openly with me.

PREPARE: Our readings and homework are designed to help you prepare for class discussions and papers. Completing these assignments before class will help your participation grade and ensure your success in the course.

ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE: Successful students are actively engaged in the classroom. This means asking questions, making meaningful contributions to in-class discussions, and working well in pairs and small groups.

Active participation also includes minimizing cell phone use in our classroom. Please be respectful of our time together.

MANAGE YOUR TIME: We have a lot of information to cover this semester, so good time management is crucial. I will help you by posting homework and due date reminders on D2L. You should get into the habit of checking D2L daily.

Please be sure to budget your time outside of class. Each week, you will have reading and writing assignments to complete before class. On average, please plan to spend at least 8 hours per week on reading and writing for this course.

USE ADDITIONAL RESOURCES: On D2L, I will post additional resources and tutorials related to MLA, grammar, reading skills, and vocabulary building.

As a CCA student, you can access many different college services. Please see page 14 in this syllabus for more information.

“Success in anything will always come down to this: focus and effort. And we control both of them.”

DWAYNE “THE ROCK” JOHNSON

COURSE SCHEDULE

This is a tentative course schedule. Depending on the needs and skills of you and your classmates, I may revise this plan throughout the semester. I will always announce changes in class and via D2L.

Please bring your textbook to class everyday. On days that a reading is due, please come to class with the reading annotated and be ready for a class discussion. Homework assignments are always due at the beginning the class unless otherwise noted.

Abbreviations

D2L = Desire 2 Learn
 GW = Great Writing Textbook
 MH = MLA Handbook

		Topics	Readings & Assignments Due
Week 1	Tues. 8/27	Course Introduction What is <i>College Composition</i> ?	☺
	Thurs. 8/29	Discuss Adichie Reading for Writing	Watch: Adichie, "The Danger of a Single Story" and take notes Write: Reflective Journal #1 (due via D2L before class)
Week 2	Tues. 9/3	Discuss Hinojosa What is an Essay? Understanding College Writing Assignments	Do: Buy textbook & bring to class Read: Hinojosa, "Coming to America, Finding Your Voice" (D2L) Write: Reflective Journal #2 (due via D2L before class)
	Thurs. 9/5	Comparison Essays & The Writing Process Discuss Essay #1	Read: Unit 2, pp. 28-33 & Unit 5, pp. 98-100 (GW) Write: (GW) Unit 2 Activities 1-3 & 6 (GW) 1-4
Week 3	Tues. 9/10	Outline, Introductions, & Thesis Statements	Read: Unit 1 pp. 8-10, Unit 5, pp. 103-107 (GW) Do: Unit 1, Activities 2 & 3, Unit 5 Activities 3- 5 (GW) Write: Reflective Journal #3 (due via D2L before class): Intro ¶
	Thurs. 9/12	Topic Sentences Revising: Ideas & Organization	Write: Comparison Essay: 1 st draft due (intro and 1 body ¶) Do: Upload 1 st draft to D2L before midnight

COURSE SCHEDULE (CONTINUED)

	Topics		Readings & Assignments Due
Week 4	Tues. 9/17	Introduction to MLA: Paraphrasing, Quoting, & Summarizing	Watch: "Citation: A (Very) Brief Introduction," "What is Plagiarism?" Avoiding Plagiarism" & "What are In-Text Citations?" (D2L) Read: Unit 3, pp. 50-61 (GW) Write: Unit 3 Activities 1-4 (GW) ** Future notes: I don't like how little time we have with MLA this week, jumping right into conferences. Also, this class did the essay much faster – probably could cut out a week if necessary.
	Thurs. 9/19	Individual Conferences	Write: Comparison Essay 2 nd draft & outline 1 st draft due Do: Upload to D2L & bring hard copies to conference
Week 5	Tues. 9/24	Revising: Conclusions & Parallel Structure	Read: Unit 1, pp. 16-18 and Unit 5 pp. 111-112 (GW) Write: Unit 1 Activities 8 & 9 & Unit 5 Activities 8 & 9 (GW)
	Thurs. 9/26	Overview: Reaction Essays	Write: Comparison Essay 3 rd draft & outline 2 nd draft due Do: Upload 3 rd draft and outline to D2L (before 11:59pm)
Week 6	Tues. 10/1	Discuss "The Shocking Truth about Food Waste"	Read: Unit 6, pp. 122-124 (GW) & "The Shocking Truth about Food Waste" (GW p. 126) Do: Activities 1-4 Write: Reflective Journal #4 (due via D2L before class)
	Thurs. 10/3	Research Skills: Finding and Evaluating Sources	Watch: " Google or the Library? " & " Evaluating Credible Sources " Do: Research Quiz (D2L)
Week 7	Tues. 10/8	Research Skills & MLA Workshop (Student Example & Thesis Statements)	Read: Choose and read a topic/article from D2L; GW p. 129 Do: Find 1 more article about the same topic Write: Reflective Journal #5 (due via D2L before class) & Unit 6 Activity 5 Do: outline for essay 2
	Thurs. 10/10	Revising: Ideas, Organization, & MLA	Write: Reaction Essay 1 st draft due Do: Upload 1 st draft to D2L and bring 1 hard copy to class

COURSE SCHEDULE (CONTINUED)

		Topics	Readings & Assignments Due
Week 8	Tues. 10/15	Individual Conferences SWAPPED THESE DAYS	Write: Reaction Essay: 2 nd draft and outline 1 st draft due Do: Upload to D2L
	Thurs. 10/17	Revising; Grammar & Vocabulary	Read: Unit 6, pp. 130-134 (GW) Write: Unit 6 Activities 6-10 (GW)
Week 9	Tues. 10/22	Writing Workshop Revise essay 1	Watch: "What is an E-Portfolio?" (D2L) Do: Unit 6 Activities 11, 13, 14, and 16 Write: Work on conclusion and research
	Thurs. 10/24	E-Portfolio Workshop	Write: Reaction Essay 3 rd draft due & outline Do: Upload 3 rd draft to D2L (before 11:59pm) Watch: "What is an E-Portfolio?" (D2L)
Week 10	Tues. 10/29	Overview: Argumentative Research Papers Discuss Example Student Essay	Read: Unit 7, pp. 144-151 (GW) Write: Unit 7 Activities 1-3 (GW) SNOW DAY...
	Thurs. 10/31	Topics & Thesis Statements & Brainstorm Key Words for Research <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss guidelines Read student example Practice arguing 2 sides Thesis statements 	Read: Unit 7, pp. 152-153 (GW) Write: Activity 5 & topic due
Week 11	Tues. 11/5	Research Workshop: Outlines & Analyzing Credible Sources	Write: Reflective Journal #7 (due via D2L before class) & key words for research & 1 articles about your topic <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Credible source evaluation? https://youtu.be/xainsyk5T5A CRAAP video Look at 2 sources for homework and decide which one is credible and why – Reflective Journal #7, keywords for searching your topic online
	Thurs. 11/7	Using Supporting Evidence & Outlines & Intros	Do: Find 1 more article related to your topic & bring to class Write: Begin outline for essay #1 Write: Reflective Journal #8 (Works Cited)
Week 12	Tues. 11/12	Revising: Ideas, Organization, & MLA	Write: Argumentative Research Paper 1 st draft due Do: Upload to D2L before 11:59pm.
	Thurs. 11/14	Counterarguments Sign up for conferences	Read: (GW) Unit 7, pp. 154-158 Write: (GW) Unit 7 Activities 6-9

COURSE SCHEDULE (CONTINUED)

		Topics	Readings & Assignments Due
Week 13	Tues. 11/19	Individual Conferences	Write: Argumentative Research Paper 2 nd draft & outline 1 st draft due Do: Upload to D2L
	Thurs. 11/21	Revising: Grammar & Vocabulary	Read: Modals & Adverbs, GW Unit 7 pp. 158-161 Write: GW Unit 7 Activities 11 & 12
Week 14	Tues. 11/26	No Classes: Fall Break	
	Thurs. 11/28	No Classes: Fall Break	
Week 15	Tues. 12/3	E-Portfolio Workshop	Write: Argumentative Research Paper 3 rd draft & outline 2 nd draft due Do: Upload to D2L (before 11:59pm)
	Thurs. 12/5	Writing Workshop	
Week 16	Tues. 12/10	E-Portfolio Workshop	Do: Bring all E-Portfolio materials to class Write: Final Reflective Statement 1 st draft due
	Thurs. 12/12	Course Wrap-Up	Do: Final E-Portfolios due before midnight

“Nothing is impossible. The word itself says *I’m possible!*”

AUDREY HEPBURN