

ENG 101 – FRESHMAN ENGLISH I (4 credits)

Course Description

The aims of this course are to consolidate and expand on writing and reading skills in order to increase the student's capacity to read and write correctly and logically. Various rhetorical principles and techniques, including argument and persuasion, are discussed, analyzed in readings, and incorporated into students' essays. Writing in response to reading, summary and incorporating material from outside texts are also important components of the course.

Course Objectives

- To teach students to practice critical reading and thinking skills
- To teach students about the writing process and academic discourse
- To teach students to apply revision strategies to written compositions
- To teach students to connect the writing process with research skills
- To teach students to perform library and Internet research
- To teach students to recognize and avoid errors in standard written English (grammar, mechanics, and stylistics)

Textbooks/Required Materials

The Generation of Ideas by Quentin Miller
A Pocket Manual of Style by Diana Hacker
Additional handouts may be given.

Course Format

Students are expected to prepare required reading assignments prior to the class session. There will be a mid-term and final exam. Quizzes will also be given frequently and may be announced or unannounced. Students will be asked to complete three 4-5 page essays and one 10 page research paper in the MLA style.

Grading Criteria

Class preparation, participation	10%
Exams and quizzes	20%
Essay assignments	30%
Research Project	40%

Participation and Attendance

Participation in class is essential to a positive learning experience. Your participation grade will be based upon your attendance, quiz scores, as well as your contribution to class discussion and group activities. Attendance is mandatory and any unexcused absences in excess of two will result in the lowering of the final grade by one point per absence (i.e. a "B" grade will automatically become a "B-"). Excessive absences (excused or unexcused) will result in automatic failure. Tardiness will also count as absence and a latecomer may not be permitted to enter class as this is often disruptive to the

other students. **Please note:** *I take attendance every class day and participation points may not be made up if you are absent.* So please hand in any material due on a day that you may be absent in advance. In sum, please participate and attend class because it counts in your grade, and, more importantly, you will learn more.

Class Behaviour

Students are expected to come to class equipped with a copy of the required texts and other pertinent materials. Correct classroom behaviour is also expected. Eating and drinking (with the exception of water) are forbidden; likewise, trips to the rest room are not permitted. Mobile phones should be turned off or put into the “silent” mode.

Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty

Please see the Suffolk Student Handbook regarding the penalties for plagiarism. Cheating on examinations, plagiarism, and/or improper acknowledgement of sources in essays or research papers, and the use of a single essay or paper in more than one course, without the permission of the instructor, constitute unacceptable academic conduct. It is dishonest to download, buy, borrow or lend papers. It is unacceptable to make up or falsify data that are supposed to be collected from survey, experimentation or other means. Work that is represented as yours should be your own; otherwise, the source should be properly identified. If you have any questions about using someone else’s work in your essay, *please check with me first.*

Writing Assignments

Essay 1: “Reacting to Authority”

Essay 2: Transition essay: working towards an expository style incorporating Summary and Critique

Essay 3: Synthesis assignment

Essay 4: Research project (argumentative/persuasive)

Class discussion of assigned readings and critique of sample student essays will offer opportunities to study and understand the writing process. Final drafts of essays must be typed: size 12 font is approximately 250 words per page. The final draft of the Research Paper must be 10 pages long and should incorporate 10 secondary sources. The topic of your paper should be original and cover new ground for you as a reader, writer and critical thinker. **A passing grade on the Research Paper is mandatory in order to pass the course.**