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Composition I

Stephen Whitley
Collin College

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COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE INFORMATION

Composition I ENGL 1301 PW1

Plano West High School

Course Title: Composition I

Instructor: Stephen Whitley

Course Description: Intensive study of and practice in writing processes, from invention and researching to drafting, revising, and editing, both individually and collaboratively. Emphasis is placed on effective rhetorical choices, including audience, purpose, arrangement, and style. Focus on writing the academic essay as a vehicle for learning, communicating, and critical analysis. Lab required.

Course Credit Hours: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Lab Hour: 1

Prerequisite: Placement in ENGL 1301; College-Level Reading

Student Learning Outcomes:

- **State-mandated outcomes:** Upon successful completion of this course, students will:
 1. Demonstrate knowledge of individual and collaborative writing processes.
 2. Develop ideas with appropriate support and attribution.
 3. Write in a style appropriate to audience and purpose.
 4. Read, reflect, and respond critically to a variety of texts.
 5. Use Edited American English in academic essays.
- **Additional Collin Outcome:** Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to do the following:
 1. Demonstrate personal responsibility through the ethical use of intellectual property.

Withdrawal Policy: Last day to withdraw from this class is **Friday, October 20**

Collin College Academic Policies: See the current *Collin Student Handbook*

- **The College District may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of scholastic dishonesty.**
- Scholastic dishonesty may involve, but is not limited to, one or more of the following acts:

cheating, **plagiarism**, collusion, use of annotated texts or teacher's editions, use of information about exams posted on the Internet or electronic medium, and/or falsifying academic records (more on this below).

- **Collin faculty are required to report alleged violations of scholastic dishonesty** to the Dean of Student Development, who then investigates the case, and renders an administrative decision.
- **Faculty are not allowed to assign a grade to the work in question** until the Dean of Student Development renders a decision
- **Students found responsible for scholastic dishonesty offenses will receive an authorized disciplinary penalty from the office of the Dean of Student Development.**
- **Additionally, students found responsible for scholastic dishonesty will be assigned a penalty in this class that ranges from a grade of "F" on the assignment to a grade of "F" for the course**

Americans with Disabilities Act

Collin College will adhere to all applicable federal, state and local laws, regulations and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to contact the ACCESS office, SCC-G200 or 972.881.5898 (V/TTD:972.881.5950) to arrange for appropriate accommodations. See the current *Collin Student Handbook* for additional information.

Religious Holidays: Please refer to the current *Collin Student Handbook*.

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor's Name: Stephen Whitley

Office Number: L-211

Office Hours: MW 12:00-1:30 p.m.

T/R 10-11:30

Other times by appointment

Phone Number 972-578-5525

Email: swhitley@collin.edu

Class Information:

Section Number: ENGL 1301 PW1

Meeting Times: MW 8:00-9:00 a.m.

Friday we will meet online

Meeting Location:

Minimum Technology Requirement: Computer with internet access and printer

Minimum Student Skills: Student should have minimum proficiency with word processing and internet

Netiquette Expectations: Electronic discussions and emails to professor and other students should be considered an extension of class discussion. The same standards of

behavior expected of you in class apply to our interactions on the internet. What you write on the Internet is accessible by many people and can be printed or saved as a screen shot. Don't write anything online you don't want to haunt you for the rest of your academic career (or life).

Course Resources: *The Norton Field Guide to Writing, 4th ed.*

Attendance Policy

In order to be successful in any college course, you must attend that course. You are expected to attend each class and arrive at class on time. Of course, there are times that you must be absent because of illness or school activities. If you participate in college activities that require you to be absent, you should provide me with documentation regarding those absences and contact me to make up any work you may have missed. I will only require a doctor's note if you miss more than one week of consecutive classes.

Also, I understand that sometimes you have school activities that require you to be absent. Those will not count against you as long as you tell me before you're absent why you will be gone (via email please).

For each absence above 3, **I will decrease your attendance grade by 15 points.**

Late Work

I do not accept late work. The nature of this course is that each writing assignment builds upon the previous writing assignment; therefore, turning in a writing assignment late makes it difficult for you to use feedback from one assignment to the next. If you are unable for some reason to turn in an assignment on time, contact me **BEFORE** the assignment is due and we can discuss your options.

Method of Evaluation

I grade on a 1,000 point scale. The point values are listed below:

Labs 160 (16 labs at 10 points each)

WA1-100

WA2- 100

WA3- 100

WA4 100

Showcase piece 100

Attendance 100

Response Papers 80 (2@40 points each)

Friday Discussions 160 (16 @ 10 points each)

Your final grade will depend on the number of points you have at the end of the semester. The following is the final point value and corresponding letter grade value for your final grade:

900-1000 = A
800-899 = B
700-799 = C
600-699 = D
599 > = F

You will be able to check the number of points you have throughout the semester on Blackboard. I will be showing all of you how to check your grades on Blackboard.

Labs

You are required to complete one hour of lab work per week in English 1301. In the Course Calendar, I have listed all the labs for each week and their due date. Some labs will be completed or turned in online, some will be worksheets that you will need to complete and turn in on a specific day. Please keep up with your labs as I will not accept late lab work.

Writing Assignments (WA1, 2, 3, 4)

There are four writing assignments this semester. I will be passing out a prompt for each assignment. Generally, the papers are in MLA format, 12 point font, double spaced, left justified, no cover page, with a works cited.

Showcase Piece

At the end of the semester, during finals week, you will present a video that represents your time in English 1301. I don't put a lot of requirements or limits on what you can do, except:

- Must be a video essay
- Must be 3 minutes
- Must clearly tie into something we have covered in class this semester
- May be done collaboratively

I will be showing examples of past students' Showcase Pieces so you can get an idea of what you're doing.

Delivery Method of Feedback and/or Graded Material

We will develop a rubric as a class that outlines the standards the department, the college and I have for your papers. We will go over the rubric in class and I will answer any questions you may have about it. I will also provide you with my own written feedback and will also be meeting with each of you individually for student conferences so we can discuss your progress and your grades.

Plagiarism and Academic Honesty

Plagiarism is the stealing of someone else's ideas or work and passing it off as your own. Plagiarism includes everything from quoting a source without attribution, to purchasing a paper online or having someone else write your paper for you. It can also include someone helping you write your paper and giving you the words to write. I don't believe students are inherently

dishonest, but I believe that sometimes time constraints or fear lead them to make bad decisions. This being said, I take plagiarism very seriously. We will be doing a lot of in class writing and I will become familiar with your writing style (including the normal mistakes you make). Also, it's usually pretty easy to just type a few words of someone's paper into Google to find out if they've plagiarized. My advice to you is to refrain from doing it. You will be found out. If I find you have plagiarized or have had someone else write your paper, I will fail you for that paper and will also report you to the dean.

If you find yourself freaked out or afraid of an assignment and are considering doing something that could ruin your academic career, come see me. We can figure out how to walk you through any fear you may have. If you have waited until the last minute to write a paper and think it will be easy to just steal or buy one, ask yourself if you'd rather have a lower grade for turning in a late paper, or a F for turning in a plagiarized paper and possibly failing the course? Everyone, including me, has waited until the last minute to write a paper. It's normal. Stealing or passing someone else's work off as your own is not normal. It's cheating. As with anything, think before you act and come see me.

Classroom Technology/Deportment

I believe in the capability of technology to improve your learning and we will be using technology in and out of class a lot. HOWEVER, this does not mean that I think it's okay

- for you to text or receive texts in class
- to update your Facebook status or Instagram during class
- to Tweet during class
- to play games
- or engage in any other activity outside the scope of what we're doing in class while we're in class.

Week 1 August 27

Monday	Introductions, syllabus, course overview
Wednesday	What is Literacy? Deborah Brandt "Sponsors of Literacy" PDF
Friday	<i>Norton</i> p 3 "Rhetorical Situations"

Week 2, September 3

Monday	No Class—Labor Day Holiday
Wednesday	<i>Norton</i> p 73-93 "Writing a Literacy Narrative"

	<i>Norton</i> , P 649 Amy Tan “Mother Tongue” <i>Norton</i> p 640 Daniel Felsenfeld “Rebel Music”
Friday	<i>Norton</i> p 645 Tanya Maria Barrientos “Se Habla Espanol”

Week 3, September 10

Monday	Christopher R Beha “Leveling the Field” PDF
Wednesday	Deborah Brandt “Drafting U.S. Literacy” PDF
Friday	Stanley Fish “What should Colleges Teach?” PDF

Week 4, September 17

Monday	Mike Rose “Blue Collar Brilliance” PDF
Wednesday	Lynn Z Bloom “Freshman Composition as a Middle Class Enterprise” PDF Workshop WA1
Friday	WA1 Due <i>Norton</i> p 759 Grant Penrod “Anti-Intellectualism: Why we Hate the Smart Kids”

Week 5, September 24

Monday	<i>Norton</i> p 188 Annotated Bibliographies <i>Norton</i> , p 716 Jonathan Kozol “Freemont High School”
Wednesday	<i>Norton</i> p 976 “Finland’s School Success...”
Friday	<i>Norton</i> p 735 “Is Google Making us Stupid?”

Week 6, October 1

Monday	<i>Norton</i> p 885 “Living Simply in a Dumpster” <i>Norton</i> p 905 “At This Academy,
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	the Curriculum is Garbage”
Wednesday	<i>Norton</i> p 849 David Sedaris “Us and Them
Friday	<i>Norton</i> p 765 “Wikipedia as a Site of Knowledge Production”

Week 7, October 8

Monday	<i>Norton</i> p 710 “Homeless on Campus”
Wednesday	<i>Norton</i> p 675 “Changing the face of Poverty”
Friday	WA2 Due Discussion of writing process (online)

Week 8, October 15

Monday	<i>Norton</i> p 857 “My Father Was a Writer”
Wednesday	<i>Norton</i> p 216 “All Over but the Shoutin’”
Friday	<i>Norton</i> p 813 “Sonny’s Blues”

Week 9, October 22

Monday	“Hunting Rebecca Francis” PDF
Wednesday	Gender Boxes
Friday	<i>Norton</i> p 198 “Juno: Not just another feel good movie”

Week 10, October 29

Monday	“Why I Left my Children” PDF
Wednesday	<i>Norton</i> p 137 “Throwing like a Girl” Workshop WA3
Friday	WA3 Due

Week 11, November 5

Monday	<i>Norton</i> p 664 “Well Behaved Women Seldom Make History” <i>Norton</i> p 876 “Myth of the Latin
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	woman”
Wednesday	<i>Norton</i> p 156 “Arguing a Position <i>Norton</i> p 940 “Guys vs Men”
Friday	<i>Norton</i> p 131 “Black Friday: Consumerism Minus Civilization”

Week 12, November 13

Monday	<i>Norton</i> p 625 “Gettysburg Address” <i>Norton</i> p 693 “A Spirit Reborn”
Wednesday	<i>Norton</i> p 265 “Write for your Life”
Friday	<i>Norton</i> p 298 “Drafting”

Week 13, November 19

Monday	<i>Norton</i> p 922 “Don’t Make English the Official Language—Ban it”
Wednesday	Thanksgiving Holiday
Friday	Thanksgiving Holiday

Week 14, November 26

Monday	<i>Norton</i> p 866 #11187-424
Wednesday	<i>Norton</i> p 984 “What my Bike has Taught Me about White Privilege”
Friday	<i>Norton</i> p 953 “We Are All Quants Now”

Week 15, December 3

Monday	Confirmation
Wednesday	Confirmation
Friday	“6 Harsh Truths that will Make You a better person” PDF

Week 16, December 10 (Final Exam Week)

Monday	WA4 Due
	Showcase Piece Due