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# Composition I

Michael Baker  
*Collin College*

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# COLLIN COLLEGE COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Information
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**Course Number:** ENGL 1301

**Course Title:** Composition I

**Course Description:** Intensive study of and practice in writing processes, from invention and researching to drafting, revising, and editing, both individually and collaboratively. Emphasis 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:** Meet TSI college-readiness standard for Reading and Writing; or equivalent

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

- **State Mandated Outcomes:** Upon successful completion of this course, students will:
  1. Demonstrate knowledge of individual and collaborative writing processes. (Teamwork, Communication Skills)
  2. Develop ideas with appropriate support and attribution. (Communication Skills)
  3. Write in a style appropriate to audience and purpose. (Communication Skills)
  4. Read, reflect, and respond critically to a variety of texts. (Critical Thinking)
  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. (Personal Responsibility)

**Withdrawal Policy:** See the current *Collin Registration Guide* for last day to withdraw.

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

**Americans with Disabilities Act Statement:** 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 educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to contact the ACCESS office, SCC-D140 or 972.881.5898 (V/TTD: 972.881.5950) to arrange for appropriate accommodations. See the current *Collin Student Handbook* for additional information.

## INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

**Instructor's Name:** Michael Baker

**Office Number:** L-215

**Office Hours:** By appointment only

**Phone Number:** 972-881-5756

**Email:** MBaker@collin.edu

### **Standards for Instructor Response and Availability:**

E-mail is the best way to reach me if you have any questions, comments, or concerns. I will respond to all emails within 24 hours of receiving it. If the email is sent over the weekend or holiday it could take longer.

### **Class Information:**

**Section Number:** ENGL 1301 S61

**Meeting Times:** Saturday 9-11:30 am

**Meeting Location:** SCC B126

### **Course Resources:**

Bullock, Richard, Maureen Goggin, and Francine Weinberg. *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*. 4th ed. New York: W.W. Norton, 2016.

### **Course Repeat Policy:**

Beginning Fall 2016, Texas residents attempting a course more than twice at Collin College are subject to regular tuition plus an additional \$50 per semester credit hour. Please see the "Repeating Courses" section of the Registration Guide for more information.

### **Supplies:**

- Writing utensils
- Paper for in-class writing assignments and note-taking

### **Attendance Policy:**

For a class that meets 16 weeks, students should not miss more than three (3) classes per semester. After the third absence, your final grade will drop by a letter grade. For example, if you end the semester with 4 absences and you have a B in the class, you would receive a C as a final grade. Students are expected to come to class prepared and on-time. There is no such thing as "partial attendance"—students are either present for the entire class or they are absent. Excessive tardiness will be penalized as an absence. You do not need to email me with regards to missing class (you can keep up by following the course calendar).

### **Late-Work Policy:**

All assignments (except the final exam) should be turned in by 11pm on the day they are due via Blackboard. Because accidents happen and internet connections have a habit of going out when we really need them, you have a grace period of 24 hours in which to submit an assignment. This means that if a paper is due January 18, and your internet goes out at 10pm, you can submit the assignment up to 11pm on January 19. Do not abuse the grace period, as no assignments will be accepted after it expires. No emailed assignments will be accepted.

### **Method of Evaluation:**

*Grading:*

WA 1	10%
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WA 2	15%
WA 3	15%
WA 4	20%
Participation	10%
Labs	16%
Final Exam	14%

*Grading Scale:*

90-100	A
89-80	B
79-70	C
69-60	D
59 and below	F

### Course Calendar:

Week 1 September 1	<b>Course Introduction and Syllabus</b>
Week 2 September 8	<b>An Introduction to College Writing</b> <i>Read: Chapter 1-4, 25</i>
Week 3 September 15	<b>Editing, Peer Editing and Plagiarism</b> <i>Read: Chapter 27-31</i>
Week 4 September 22	<b>No Class</b> <i>(Plano Balloon Festival)</i>
Week 5 September 29	<b>Reading Challenging Texts</b> <i>Read: Chapter 5-9</i> <b>*WA 1 Due*</b>
Week 6 October 6	<b>Reading and Writing Autobiography</b> <i>Read: Chapter 10 and 18</i>
Week 7 October 13	<b>Writing Informative Essays/Peer Review</b> <i>Read: Chapter 11</i>  <b>*October 19 is the last day to withdraw from the class*</b>
Week 8 October 20	<b>Analyzing Data</b> <i>Read: Chapter 12</i> <b>*WA 2 Due*</b> <i>Lab 1/2 Due</i>
Week 9 October 27	<b>Literary Analyses</b> <i>Read: Chapter 17</i>

Week 10 November 3	<b>Evaluating Texts</b> <i>Read: Chapter 16</i>
Week 11 November 10	<b>Analyzing Images</b> <i>Read: Chapter 54</i> <i>Lab 3/4 Due</i>
Week 12 November 17	<b>Analyzing Multimodal Texts</b> <i>Lab 5/6 Due</i> <i>*WA 3 Due*</i>
Week 13 November 24	<b>Thanksgiving Week</b> <b>*No Class*</b>
Week 14 December 1	<b>Reflection Essays</b> <i>Read: Chapter 21</i>
Week 15 December 8	<b>Review and Workshop Day</b> <i>*WA 4 Due*</i> <i>Lab 7/8 Due</i>
Week 16 December 15	<b>Final Exam Week</b>

### **Assignments:**

#### *Writing Assignment 1: The Plagiarism Essay*

For this assignment, you will demonstrate your understanding of plagiarism, ethical research techniques, and editing. Pick a topic of your choosing and locate two-three different sources which discuss that topic. Merge the sources you find into a plagiarized essay that flows and reads as if it was something entirely new. Then write a reflection on the process, including what you learned about finding information and incorporating it.

#### *Writing Assignment 2: The Narrative Essay*

For this assignment, you will consider the story you have to tell about yourself as a **writer** and as a **reader**. How are these two events, if at all, connected for you? How do they involve critical thinking? Some additional ideas to consider when writing this essay are:

- What are some positive experiences you have had with reading and writing?
- What are the benefits of critical thinking?
- When, what, and where do you like to read and write? How does that affect your critical thinking process?

#### *Writing Assignment 3: The Multimodal Essay*

Now that we've read more about the writing process, it's time to analyze it in detail. For this assignment, you will write a critical analysis of a film that we watch in class. Pick something that fascinates you in the film (it could be a theme or a metaphor), and examine it from multiple viewpoints. You are not to give me a summary of the scenes, and likewise you are not to give me a list of terms from class.

#### *Writing Assignment 4: The Analysis Essay*

Write a critical analysis of an image, song, poem, or other medium.

### *Final Exam: The Reflective Essay*

For your final exam, you will write a reflective essay over a topic announced in the last week of class.

### *Participation:*

In order to receive full credit in this class, you must participate in class discussion and demonstrate you have properly prepared for the day's discussion. This includes having read the required text and completed any assignments before class starts. There will also be times in class when we will have in-class writing assignment (response papers) that will count as participation grades. These will not be announced and cannot be made up if you miss class.

### *Lab Unit:*

Sixteen units of lab work are required for this class—each unit is equal to 2% of your final grade in this class. The lab component is an integral part of this writing course. Over the course of the semester, you will need to complete a combination of **eight** selections from the list below. This lab is not the same as regular daily course work that you must complete to stay on track in the class; it is, instead, designed as additional writing-focused activities that will help improve your writing throughout the term. During the semester, you will need to track and provide evidence of completing these lab requirements outside of class.

- Conference with professor
  - Please schedule via email in advance
- Writing Center visit (**Not available for labs 7/8**)
- Writing Center workshop
- Library workshops
- Online library tutorials
- Study skills seminars
- Additional writing assignments:
  - Annotating an article
  - Keeping a journal of regular writing
- Optional revision on any writing assignment:
  - Revise one of your previously graded essays, paying special attention to the professor's comments and submit it for lab credit.
- College resource lab
- College familiarity completion assignment
  - Find the library
  - Find the counseling center
  - Find the writing center
- Outside of class peer review

**Labs are 16% of your grade and are due at the times indicated on the course calendar. Missing one lab will result in a deduction of maximum credit. For example, if you complete 7 of the 8 required labs and make a 100 on each, you will receive an 85.7 as 16% of your final grade. If you have any questions on labs, please contact your professor.**