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Composition I

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Collin College

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COLLIN COLLEGE

COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Information

Course Number: ENGL 1301/11825.201910

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: Buz Sawyers

Office Number: HCA Room 602

Office Hours: If the hours listed below do not work for you, email me to arrange an appointment.

MW – Before/After Class

Phone Number: TBA

Email: brsawyers@collin.edu

Website: www.cougarweb.collin.edu

CLASS INFORMATION

Section Number: 1301

Meeting Times: MW 7:20 AM – 8:35 AM

Meeting Location: HCA

Minimum Technology Requirement: Computer with internet access and ability to send emails and login to Canvas (You *must* check your CougarMail at least once a week – remember that you can forward it to your preferred email address. Here are instructions “how to do that”: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-MyDJTLEv1s> or you can look for “85 Seconds CougarMail” on YouTube). You will also need to use and/or create a Twitter account/handle for this class.

Minimum Student Tech Skills: Students are expected to be familiar with typing papers on a keyboard, surfing the internet, and other basic computer literacies

Netiquette Expectations: Students are expected to send emails with clear subjects and appropriate signatures for identification purposes; responses to emails should be expected within 48 hours during weekdays; emails will rarely receive responses on weekends.

Please compose emails as follows:

Subject [State the specific reason for this email, e.g. “Grade on Midterm”]

Dear/Hello Prof. Sawyers:

I wanted to ask/tell you.... [Be specific and brief]

Sincerely/Thank you/All the best/ Etc.

[Write your full name and class section—sometimes I have two or more students with the same name]

Course Resources

There are several books, but many can be found online for a cheaper price. The total cost for all books listed is far less than a regular anthology and other textbooks for similar classes.

The Norton Field Guide to Writing with Reading and 2016 Handbook; 4th edition, 2017
By Bullock, Goggin & Weinberg

- I will provide links and/or handouts for readings outside of the textbooks assigned. The majority of assignments will be from short story handout and/or films.

Supplies

- College Composition Book (Daily Writing Journal)
- Flash Drive to save all assignments
- A Google Docs, OneDrive, Dropbox or a similar “cloud” type of account to create backup files for your work. There are several free options
- Regular and reliable access to a computer and internet
- Money to make copies OR a reliable printer. You may be asked to make copies of your essays or additional readings throughout the course.

Method of Evaluation

Grade Scale:

A= 90 to 100

B= 80 to 89

C= 70 to 79

D= 60 to 69

F= 0 to 59

Participation– 10%

Your participation grade is based on two factors: 1) your attendance (please see my Attendance Policy below) and 2) your short daily writing assignments (this is what you are using that college composition book for). If you fall asleep in my class or are overly distracted by your phone/computer, you will not get credit for the day. I will not check your composition journals every day, but it is highly likely I will want to flip through them at one or two points during the class. I will adjust grades if you have not been writing as assigned, so keep up.

Attendance Policy:

Those with the best chance of doing well in this class and of passing this class are the students who attend and participate regularly. This will show in your work. In addition to the college’s requirements for attendance for those receiving financial aid (please refer to your *Collin Student Handbook* and/or your Financial Aid agreement).

Dual Credit Policies:

In general, the policies do not change between my on-campus classes and my dual credit classes. I have the same academic expectations of all of you. However, I understand that Dual Credit students have lots of campus obligations and I am willing to work with you so that you are not choosing one activity over another. You must let me know ahead of time for any scheduling conflicts, particularly long periods of missed classes (i.e. your team is traveling; you are in a play, etc.). **Please do not assume I know about your school’s schedule.** You have to keep me up to date. Also, I may ask for verification from a teacher or coach in writing.

Assignments (For the time being, the assignments will be added to the syllabus as the class progresses since the curriculum has changed. Only assignments in bold print are current for Fall 2018)

The First Four Assignments:

Assignment One: 20% “Flowers for Algernon” by Daniel Keyes

Online Short Story: www.sdfo.org/gj/stories/flowersforalgernon.pdf

There will be several assignments connected with short story, small group discussion, short answer discussion questions, and finally writing a persuasive essay. Students will receive a handout of the short story.

Assignment Two: 20% “The Blue Lense” by Daphne du Maurier

This story is of the science-fiction genre. Focus will be on the element of foreshadowing. The essay will be directed at identification and application of foreshadowing.

Assignment Three: 20% *12 Angry Men* (the play & movie)

This assignment will involve individual and group analyzation of juror characterization, theme, and supporting evidence opinion & verdict.

Assignment Four: 20% *The Monkey’s Paw* & *The Third Wish*

Two stories written on the same subject but in totally different themes, plot lines, genre, & style. Students will be writing an essay addressing the comparisons and contrasts of the two stories.

Plagiarism Policy

My plagiarism policy is in sync with the policy laid out in the *Collin Student Handbook* (be sure you check it out). If you turn in work that I suspect to be plagiarized, I will refer you and the paper to the Dean of Students. You will receive a grade on the paper after your situation is resolved with the Dean of Students’ office. If it turns out this is not your first instance of plagiarism at the college or if I must refer you to the Dean of Students a second time in the same semester, you will receive an F in the class. I believe most students do not plagiarize intentionally. If you have a question about citation or you just want to make sure you are on the right track, please make an appointment and discuss your concerns with me. It is *always* better to request more time or lose some points rather than risk a failing grade for plagiarism.

MLA Format Expected for All Work (except your blog... and twitter...)

We will discuss MLA format in some detail the first week or so of class. Afterward, I expect you to have a basic knowledge of MLA formatting. Later in the semester, we will spend some time discussing citation. If you forget our initial MLA talk, I strongly suggest you get yourself to the interwebs (**Purdue OWL MLA** is a great place), YouTube, and/or the Collin College Writing Center for help. “I did not know” will not fly in this class. The basics: One-inch margins, 12 point font (Times New Roman, Arial, Calibri, and Garamond are acceptable), double-spacing at 0 point (you will usually need to change this since most Word programs default to 8 or 10 point spacing), name and page number in header top right, informational header on first page only top left, in-text citations when appropriate, title on first page, works cited page. Nothing underlined. Nothing in **bold**. No other font sizes. No other fonts but the ones suggested above (particularly comic sans). No title pages. No extra spacing after/before paragraphs or sentences.

Lab Unit – 10% (100 points of extra credit)

The lab unit of this course is meant for you to work independently, to find time during your week to study on your own. A copy of your Dual Credit Study Group Action Form will count towards your Lab assignment.

English Department Statement Regarding Lab Unit:

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 typically 8 selections from a list of activities provided by your professor. 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. (Rather than “8 selections,” you all will be turning in the one assignment. You’re welcome.)

Extra Credit

At my discretion, I may offer extra credit opportunities throughout the semester. You should not *expect* to be offered extra credit opportunities, though they are likely.

Conferences

If you would like to have a one-on-one conference, you may email me or get with me before or after class and we can set a time.

Late Work Policy

I understand that things happen. I will accept any late assignment as long as you:

- Notify me in advance that the assignment will be late (email up to the day the assignment is due) AND
- In the same email, provide a date when you WILL be able to turn it in. This should be a reasonable date—probably no more than a week later.

Grading/Return Policy

My policy is generally to return major grades at least two weeks after the assignment has been submitted, not including assignments accepted after the deadline or works to be rewritten. On rare occasions, there may be an exception to this return policy, but I will alert you immediately if such an occasion occurs. If you have not received an assignment by the two week deadline, please contact me. I want you to know how you are doing in the class at all times. A quick email or conversation with me can easily clarify most situations, so please don't hesitate to contact me with your concerns.

Your tentative lesson plan for the semester is on the following page...

Fall 2018

Due to a change in curriculum, only the assignments in bold are current. Students will be made aware of changes. For the beginning, assignments are given in class until the syllabus can be completed.

No Class

Assignment Due

	Monday	Wednesday	ASSIGNMENT DUE
Week 1 Aug 27-31	Introductions/Read “Algernon”	Discussion/Persuasive essay formatting	Wed 9/5
Week 2 Sept 5	<i>“The Blue Lense</i>	<i>The Blue Lense</i>	No class Monday 9/3 Labor Day
Week 3 Sept 10-14	Labor Day Holiday	<i>Twelve Angry Men</i>	
Week 4 Sept 17-21	<i>Twelve Angry Men</i>	<i>Twelve Angry Men</i>	
Week 5 Sept 24-27	<i>The Monkey’s Paw & The Third Wish</i>	<i>The Monkey’s Paw & The Third Wish</i>	
Week 6 Oct 1-5	The Lady or the Tiger?	The Lady or the Tiger?	
Week 7 Oct 8-12	<i>Redeployment (271-288)</i>	Using the Collin College Library Databases	
Week 8 Oct 15-19	Plano West Student Holiday	Marvel’s Misfits <i>This is Writing (159-160)</i>	
Week 9 Oct 22-26	Discuss privilege	<i>Ms. Marvel</i>	
Week 10 Oct 29-Nov 2	<i>This is Writing (229-245)</i>	<i>This is Writing (246-261)</i>	
Week 11 Nov 5-9	<i>Citizen (1-38)</i>	<i>Citizen (39-80)</i>	
Week 12 Nov 12-16			
Week 13 Nov 19-23	NO CLASS	NO CLASS	THANKSGIVING BREAK
Week 14 Dec 3-7			
Week 15 (Finals Dec 10-14			DONE