ENGLISH COMPOSITION II

ENC1102.0043, 0414, and 0412
3 credit hours
MWF
Fall 2004

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Course Objectives
• To develop critical reading, thinking, and research skills
• To engage in writing as a deliberate and recursive process
• To analyze and construct arguments
• To shape an effective public voice for specific audiences

Texts and Materials
A reading journal (a spiral notebook is fine; a three-ring binder is better).
A reliable Internet connection and a reliable e-mail address (both are provided by UCF).

Course Description
This course is designed to help you become a better writer. You will learn how to present your ideas, and therefore yourself, in the best possible light, through appropriate rhetorical choices for specific audiences. You will be able to construct arguments in a clear, reasonable, and highly persuasive manner.

ENC1102 differs from ENC1101 in one key aspect: this second-level class focuses on college-level research and argumentation. Expect to do a great deal of critical reading, which requires heavy annotation and active written responses to the material. You will be reading two textbooks in their entirety, and you will be conducting research on a popular-culture topic of your choice.

What this focus means, for you, is that you will be picking a topic early on, and that you’ll have to stick to it through the entire semester.

Do yourself a favor: pick something that you truly care about, not a topic you think will be easy. It won’t be. You’ll be bored stiff. Instead, look around. What do you watch? What do you listen to? What do you like to wear? Where do you like to go? These are good starting points.

Grading Scale
A......................................... 95-100
A-....................................... 90-94
B+..................................... 87-89
B ........................................ 83-86
B-....................................... 80-82
C+....................................... 77-79
C ........................................ 73-76
C-....................................... 70-72
D+ ..................................... 67-69
D ........................................ 63-66
D- ...................................... 60-62
F*......................................... >59

Evaluation: There will be periodic, unannounced quizzes on the readings, as well as frequent prompts to respond to readings on your journal; these prompts will sometimes be assigned in-class and they will sometimes be homework. We often don’t see what we think until we start writing—the prompts and the quizzes will help out in that regard. The quality and quantity of these responses will be factored into your participation grade.
The rest of your grade depends on a combination of drafting, thinking, writing, and speaking, and will reflect the degree to which your work done during that assignment period conforms to the expectations of the course and individual core objectives. The work—four core assignments each resulting in a polished draft—will be computed as follows:

- **Analysis of an Argument** .......... 20%
- **Inquiry and Discovery** ............... 20%
- **Creative Positioning** .................. 20%
- **Arguing a Workable Truth** ............ 20%
- **Participation** .......................... 10%
- **Final** .................................... 10%

Rough Drafts and Final Drafts are 4-5 pages long

**Final:** The final will be a presentation on your research topic. You will be required to use multimedia, some form of mime, a song of your own composition, finger-puppets, or a combination of any of the above. The very shy may, if they wish, turn in a six-page report on a book of the instructor's choosing.

**Format:** Use standard MLA formatting. You will not be turning in hard copies of your assignments. Instead, you will be e-mailing them as MS-Word attachments to the instructor (jmmartin@pegasus.cc.ucf.edu). All assignments should be e-mailed before 7:30 am of the due date. Your e-mail account should be reliable, and web-accessible. No excuses, not even catastrophic server failures, will be accepted.

**Missed/Late Assignments:** Obtain assignments and class notes from other students in the class or from the web. Most handouts and assignments will be available online. Assignments are due at the beginning of the assigned class period. Core essays turned in as much as a class period late will earn, at the most, a “C.” Assignments more than a class period late will not be accepted. All core essays must be submitted to pass this class. All your drafts and final papers must be word processed.

**Makeup Exams:** There will be none.

**Attendance:** Every absence after three will negatively affect your grade. Nine or more will result in automatic failure. Tardiness will not be tolerated—three tardies equal one absence. Show respect for your classmates and our work by arriving on time.

**Participation:** Participate. Respect the right of others to participate. No cell phones, no chatter, no disruptions of any kind—these will decrease your participation grade. You will, on the other hand, be rewarded for being actively engaged in the class; any comments that further discussion (without being digressive, rude or otherwise disruptive) are welcomed and encouraged and received with much joy.

**Plagiarism:** Plagiarism is not acceptable academic behavior and is grounds for failure in the course.

**Disability Statement:** UCF is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. Students with disabilities who need accommodations must be registered with Student Disability Services at Student Resource Center Room 132, (407) 823-2371. If you need assistance and use a TDD, dial (407) 823-2116. (See *The Guide to First Year Writing* for more information.)

**Gordon Rule:** Because of the Gordon Rule requirements, you must write a minimum of 6,000 words in each Composition course and earn a grade of C or better to receive course credit.

*Detailed assignments will be posted on the class website. Read and print all assignments well ahead of time.*