New York City College of Technology

ENG 1101, Section D359, Spring 2014

Instructor: Danielle Blau

Email: DBlau@citytech.cuny.edu

Tues/Fri 11:30 –12:45 AM, Namm Rm. 604

Office Hours: Tues 12:45 – 1:45 PM and by appointment, Namm Rm. 604

Course Description

Welcome to English Composition I. In this class, you will learn to write clean, clear, natural-sounding prose. This takes a lot of practice, so we will be writing both in class and at home. You will hand in two formal essays, as well as the beginning stages of a longer research paper. Be prepared to share your work in class, read aloud often, and participate in discussions and class presentations. As we work on expressing our own thoughts on paper, we will be reading essays, articles, poetry, and fiction that can serve as guides and sources of inspiration.

Performance Objectives

* Demonstrate the ability to write clear, logical sentences, using correct spelling, grammar and syntax, and conventional punctuation.
* Paraphrase, summarize, and quote from articles competently.
* Arrive at the start of class, equipped with the appropriate materials for that day (e.g., copies of your work, textbooks, assignments), and ready to show that you have spent quality time with the readings.

Textbooks & Supplies

* *The Place Where We Dwell: Reading and Writing About New York City*. Juanita But, Mark Noonan, and Sean Scanlan. Dubuque, IA: Kendall/ Hunt Pub Co— **Make sure to get the 3rd Edition**.
* *Rules of Thumb: A Guide for Writers*. Jay Silverman, Elain Hughes, and Diana Roberts Wienbroer. New York: McGraw Hill— **Make sure to get the 9th Edition**.
* A college-level dictionary, such as the American Heritage Dictionary
* Computer access
* A folder for drafts and assignments
* A binder with loose-leaf paper and/or a notebook—for in-class assignments etc.
* A notebook—to be used as your Gumbayaya Journal

Summary Journal, a.k.a. The Gumbayaya

* Here, you will hand-write a one-paragraph summary of **every assigned reading** we do. As soon as you’ve finished your reading for class, write up a paragraph summarizing what you’ve read. This might feel like a chore at first, but writing short summaries of articles will eventually be second nature to you—or at the very least, it will be easier.
* Refer to your “Summarizing An Essay” handout for guidelines.
* This journal is worth **10% of your grade**. To get full credit for it, you must have one written paragraph per assigned reading—no more, no less. I will be collecting and reviewing journals on the day of the midterm, and then again towards the end of the semester.
* Though **I will only be grading your summaries**, I want you to feel free to also use the Gumbayaya to jot down more creative, personal responses to class readings—or to anything else in your life. Record your thoughts about last week’s episode of *Homeland*, a weird conversation you overheard on the subway, your idea for a new video game, anything you don’t want to forget.

Open Lab

This class will rely heavily on Open Lab. All readings that are not from the textbook will be posted on Open Lab, as will all written assignments—so it is crucial that you become a member of our Open Lab course group **within the first week** of class.

Essay Formatting

* All work must be typed and **double-spaced**. Use 12-point, standard, legible font (e.g. Times New Roman, Arial, Goudy Old Style), and 1-inch margins. It is important that you use this formatting so that I can easily read and make comments on your papers.
* **Staple your papers** to ensure pages aren’t lost.

Late Work Policy

You may request an extension in person or via e-mail **one week before the due date**. Without my direct consent, late work will be heavily penalized: Your grade for any given assignment will drop 10% for every day it is not turned in.

Attendance Policy

Attendance is mandatory. You are expected to arrive on time and attend all classes. City Tech’s attendance policy states that more than three absences will result in a WU grade. Arriving late or leaving early will count as a partial absence.

New York City College of Technology Policy on Academic Integrity

Students and all others who work with information, ideas, texts, images, music, inventions and other intellectual property owe their audience and sources accuracy and honesty in using, crediting, and citing sources. As a community of intellectual and professional workers, the College recognizes its responsibility for providing instruction in information literacy and academic integrity, offering models of good practice, and responding vigilantly and appropriately to infractions of academic integrity. Accordingly, academic dishonesty is prohibited in The City University of New York and at New York City College of Technology and is punishable by penalties, including failing grades, suspension, and expulsion. The complete text of the College policy on Academic Integrity may be found in the catalog.

Course Requirements & Breakdown

Gumbayaya Journal (Summaries) 10%

Essay 1 15%

Essay 2 15%

Research Project Annotated Bibliography 15%

Quizzes & Midterm 15%

Final Exam 15%

Participation (including Attendance and Homework Assignments) & Class Presentation 15%

Class Schedule: The following is subject change, but I will keep an updated syllabus on our Open Lab course site at all times. If you check Open Lab before every class, you’ll always know what’s due!

Tues 1/28 In Class: Introductions; Sentence Fragment Exercise, Syllabus, Open Lab,

“Summarizing an Essay” handout

Fri 1/31Reading Due: “The Colossus of New York” by Colson Whitehead (*The Place Where*

*We Dwell* p. 6)

In Class: “Class Presentations” handout & Sign Up, Whitehead Listening Questions

Tues 2/4 **Make sure you are a member of our course’s Open Lab group by this date!**

Reading Due: “Take the F” by Ian Frazier (*PWWD* p. 24)

In Class: “Take the F” close reading

Fri 2/7 Quiz #1 Due: Take-Home Grammar

Reading Due: “Is Our Children Learning Enough Grammar to Get Hired?”/ “Good

Applicants With Bad Grammar” articles

In Class: 5-Paragraph Essay Outline, Why Good Grammar/ Cover Letter Exercise

Tues 2/11 Reading Due: “Where I’m From” by Willie Perdomo (*PWWD* p. 29)

Writing Due: 5-Paragraph Cover Letter OR Response to “Grammar Debate” Articles

In Class: Travel Ad

Fri 2/14 Reading Due: “A Living Museum of Sad Stories” article, “Twist in Eviction Fight:

Charity as Landlord” article

In Class: Eviction Debate

Tues 2/18 Quiz #2: In-Class Grammar

Reading Due: “My Lost City” by Luc Sante, through p. 2

Writing Due: “Where I’m From” Writing Task (*PWWD* p. 30) AND “My Lost City”

Reading Comprehension Questions 1 – 12

Fri 2/21 Reading Due: “My Lost City,” through p. 4

Writing Due: “My Lost City” Reading Comprehension Questions 13 – 18

Tues 2/25 Reading Due: “My Lost City,” through p. 6

Writing Due: “My Lost City” Reading Comprehension Questions 14 – 26

Fri 2/28 Reading Due: Finish “My Lost City”

Writing Due: Finish “My Lost City” Reading Comprehension Questions, **Essay #1**

**Outline**

Tues 3/4 **Writing Due: First Draft of Essay #1**

Fri 3/7 Reading Due: “Bushwick Gets a Fresh Coat” article

Tues 3/11 **Essay #1 Due**

Fri 3/14 Quiz #3 (Take-Home) Due: “From Doo Wop to Hip Hop” Reading Questions

Reading Due: “From Doo Wop to Hip Hop” by Mark Naison (*PWWD* p. 162)

Tues 3/18 Writing Due: A Paragraph about the Message of your Favorite Song— Make sure to

bring in the lyrics!

Fri 3/21 Midterm Prep

Tues 3/25 Midterm

Fri 3/28 Reading Due: “In Tunnel, 'Mole People' Fight to Save Home” article, “At the End of

the Tunnel, a Home” article

Tues 4/1 Reading Due: “Homes for the Invisible” op-ed article

**Writing Due: Essay #2 Outline**

Fri 4/4 Quiz #4 (begin in class)

**Writing Due: First Draft of Essay #2**

Tues 4/8 Quiz #4 Due

Reading Due: Make sure you’re caught up on “In Tunnel, 'Mole People' Fight to Save Home,” “At the End of the Tunnel, a Home” and “Homes for the Invisible” (above)

Fri 4/11 **Essay #2 Due**

Fri 4/25 Library Visit

Reading Due: “Thinking Critically About Research” by Steven Krause sections—

“What is ‘Research’ and Why Should I Use It?”, “What’s Different about

Academic Research?”, “Primary versus Secondary Research” (till top of p. 5)

Writing Due: Your Research Project Question, a List of at least two possible Sources

Tues 4/29 Reading Due: “Thinking Critically About Research” sections—“Scholarly versus Non-

Scholarly Sources”, “Sources That Are Both Scholarly and Non-Scholarly?” (through p. 8), and **Begin reading your Research Project Sources**

Writing Due: List of at least four possible Sources

Fri 5/2 Reading Due: Continue reading your Research Project sources, and Finish

“Thinking Critically About Research”

Writing Due: List of at least two possible Thesis Statements (i.e., two possible

answers to your Research Question)

Tues 5/6 Writing Due: Annotated Bibliography Worksheet, and Your Thesis Statement (one

or two sentences)

Fri 5/9 **Annotated Bibliography Due**

Tues 5/13 Quiz #5: Practice Final Exam

Fri 5/16 Quiz #5 Review/ Final Exam Prep

Tues 5/20 Final Exam