**New York City College of Technology**

English Composition, Fall 2015

English 1101 LC03 & CL03 Midway 207

Tuesday: 2:30-3:45pm

Thursday: 2:30-3:45pm & 4-4:50pm (lab hour)

Professor Suzanne Miller

Office hours: Namm 524 ~ Tues. 4-5pm, Thurs. 12-1pm (and by appointment)

Email: Millercitytech@gmail.com

Course Description: This is a course in effective writing and basic research techniques, including use of the library. We will look at published work and student writing to discuss the elements and art of creating a coherent essay. Please note: learning how to read carefully is essential to your growth as a writer; therefore, *you must come to class prepared to discuss the assigned readings*. The course will also address barriers to the writing process and how to overcome them.

Prerequisite: CUNY certification in reading and writing

Required Course Materials:

* *The River Reader*, 11th edition. (Joseph F. Trimmer)
* An active Blackboard account
* A dictionary and thesaurus
* An organized notebook and folder
* A dedicated “Course Journal”

Note: This is a Learning Community course, which means that we will be working with Math 650. Many of our English classes will begin by writing a synopsis of what you learned in your morning math class. We will also do a shared assignment with Math 650.

Other Course Information:

* Attendance is mandatory. A good attendance record (which includes being on time) will be factored into your final grade. You are allowed three absences (excused or unexcused) without penalty. After that, points will be deducted from your grade. Chronic lateness will result in a lower grade.
* Participation in class discussion is expected. This is a workshop course, not a lecture. Also, the texts are not simply supplements to the class, but vital pieces of the puzzle; think of every author as an additional teacher. If you skip a reading, or do a superficial scan of the text, you are missing a chance to improve your reading and writing skills.
* Part of your participation grade will be based on being prepared for class. If that day’s reading is on Blackboard, please print it out and bring it to class. Likewise, if the day’s reading is from *The River Reader*,or if it is a hand-out, please remember to bring the textbook (or hand-out) to class.
* Cell phones: please do not use them in class for talking or texting—doing so will result in a lower grade.
* Please do not eat during class. You may bring in beverages, but remember to take trash with you when you leave.
* Plagiarism (turning in work that is not your own) will not be tolerated! Plagiarism is a serious offense and will be handled according to City Tech’s policy on academic integrity. Please see the policy statement on the last page of the syllabus.
* Tutoring: If I determine that tutoring is essential to your passing the class, I will inform you. Following through with tutoring is your responsibility— seeing a tutor (if required) will contribute to your participation grade.
* Summaries and responses should be hand-written in your course journal. Do these exercises as they are assigned, so that you will stay on track and get the most out of the course. I will collect the course journals randomly, so be sure to bring it to every class. You cannot make up journal work, since the point of the journal is to help you absorb and understand the readings as we go.
* Formal essays. You must submit formal essays by **5pm** on the due date. **If you feel you will be unable to submit your essay on time, please make an appointment to see me before the due date. If you do not speak to me about missing the deadline, and your paper is late, you will not receive credit for the essay**. I will give extensions at my discretion, and only if I feel your reason is valid. Please realize that if you have not kept up with assignments (such as journal entries etc.), it is unlikely that you will receive an extension for a paper. In addition, do not expect to receive more than one extension for the semester. Formal essays must be typed and follow MLA formatting. We will review all guidelines for formal essays. You may submit your essay (by 5pm on the due date) in one of the following ways:
* On Blackboard
* By email: [Millercitytech@gmail.com](mailto:Millercitytech@gmail.com)
* As a printed copy delivered to my mailbox in the English Department (Namm 512)
* Please note, that if you submit electronically, your paper is “time-stamped” and will be considered late if submitted after 5pm on the due date. Also, if you choose to submit a printed version, the English Department closes promptly at 5pm, and so you must have your essay in my mailbox by that time. If you have not spoken to me about a late paper, you will not receive credit for essays submitted after 5pm.
* *The safest thing to do is submit your essay by the class period on the day it’s due (either electronically or in paper form); that way, you can be sure that your paper is received well before the deadline (and if you have any technical difficulties, there is still time to deal with them).*

* GRADE BREAKDOWN:
* Participation grade: course journal, attendance, class engagement (15%)
* Summaries and responses (10%)
* Draft of Division and Classification Essay OR Process Analysis Essay (5%)
* Final draft of Division and Classification Essay OR Process Analysis Essay (15%)
* Learning Community project (10%)
* Mid-term exam (5%)
* Draft of Persuasive Essay (5%)
* Final draft of Persuasive Essay (10%)
* Hero’s Journey essay (10%)
* Final exam (15%)

*The syllabus is subject to adjustments as the class progresses. Any changes will be given to you in advance.*

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| UNIT I: The Writing Process & Writing a Summary | | | |
| Date | Assignment Due/Topic of Discussion | Lab Exercise/s | Materials Needed |
| Thurs. 8/27 | Class Discussion:   * Semester Overview   Note: Take a copy of “Chronicles…” (also posted on Blackboard) | * Writing: An Honest Reaction * Introduction to Purdue Owl | ---- |
| Tues. 9/1 | Due in class today:   * Read “Chronicles of a Once Pessimistic College Freshman” (Rahmani—photocopy)   Class Discussion:   * “Chronicles…” * What is the “Course Journal”? * Active vs. Passive Reading * Response pieces vs. summaries   Note: Take a copy of “Response Piece Guidelines” (also posted on Blackboard) | ----- | * Course Journal * Hand-out of “Chronicles…” |
| Thurs. 9/3 | Due in class today:   * Response piece to “Chronicles…” (in journal) * Read “The Scenic Route” (*The River Reader*— Ferguson, p. 28)   Class Discussion:   * The writing & revision process | * Read “Introduction” to *The River Reader* * Reverse outline “Chronicles…” | * Course Journal * *The River Reader* |
| Tues. 9/8 | Due in class today:   * *The* *River Reader* (pp. 1-10 & 99-105) * “When You Camp Out, Do It Right” (Hemingway—*The* *River Reader*, p.121)   Class Discussion:   * Readings * Writing a summary | ------- | * Course Journal * *The River Reader* |
| Thurs. 9/10 | Classes follow a MONDAY schedule: Eng. 1101 doesn’t meet today | ---- | ---- |
| Tues. 9/15 | No classes scheduled at City Tech today | ---- | ---- |
| Thurs.  9/17 | Due in class today:   * Read “Arranging a Marriage in India” (Nanda— *The River Reader*, p. 477)   Class Discussion:   * Paper topics   Note: Take a copy of “Outlining Your Paper” (also posted on Blackboard) | * Write summary of “Arranging a Marriage…” | * Course Journal * *The River Reader* |
| Tues. 9/22 | No classes scheduled at City Tech today. | ---- | ---- |
| Date | Assignment Due/Topic of Discussion | Lab Exercise/s | Materials Needed |
| Thurs. 9/24 | Due in class today:   * Read “Five Myths About immigration” (Cole—*The River Reader*, p. 227)   Class Discussion   * Paper topics (“Division and Classification” or * “Process Analysis”) | * Write summary of “Five Myths…” in course journal. | * Course Journal * *The River Reader* |
| Fri. 9/25 | (City Tech follows a Tuesday schedule today—we meet today)  “English to Algebra” workshop | ---- | * Course Journal * Math Textbook |
| Tues. 9/29 | Due in class today:   * Outlines for paper topics (on separate paper to hand in—typed or handwritten)   Class Discussion   * Discuss outlines for papers * Do research prep sheet for library | ---- | * Course Journal * Outlines of paper topics |

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| UNIT II: Research & Collaboration | | | |
| Date | Assignment Due/Topic of Discussion | Lab Exercise/s | Materials Needed |
| Thurs. 10/1 | Library | * Continue research in library * Work on essay drafts | * Course Journal |
| Tues. 10/6 | Due in class today:   * Draft of “Division and Classification” essay with research component, or “Process Analysis” essay with research component & MLA Works Cited page**\***   Class Discussion:   * Learning Community Group Projects   **\***formal essay—see submission guidelines on first page of syllabus | ---- | * Course Journal * Draft of essay**\***   **\***formal essay—see submission guidelines on first page of syllabus |
| Thurs. 10/8 | Review for mid-term | * Summary Workshop | * Course Journal |
| Date | Assignment Due/Topic of Discussion | Lab Exercise/s | Materials Needed |
| Tues. 10/13 | Mid-term | ---- | * Course Journal |
| Thurs. 10/15 | Due in class today:   * Read “Persuasion and Argument” (pp. 389-401) * Write summary on above reading | * Learning Community group projects | * Course Journal * *The River Reader* |

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| UNIT III: Investigating Rhetorical Modes | | | |
| Date | Assignment Due/Topic of Discussion | Lab Exercise/s | Materials Needed |
| Tues. 10/20 | Due in class today:   * Read “I Have a Dream” (King—*The River Reader,* p. 403) * Read “A Chinaman’s Chance” (Liu—*The River Reader*, p. 410) * In your course journal, write a response piece (see “Response Piece Guidelines”) comparing the two readings.   Class Discussion:   * Persuasion & Argument | ---- | * Course Journal * *The River Reader* |
| Thurs. 10/22 | Due in class today:   * Final Draft of “Division and Classification” or “Process Analysis” essay. *Your essay must include a research component and MLA in-text citations, as well as an MLA formatted Works Cited page.***\***   Class Discussion   * Persuasion and Argument * Outlining * Annotated bibliographies * LC Group Projects   **\***formal essay—see submission guidelines on first page of syllabus | * LC Group Projects * Peer editing * Receive mid-term grades | * Course Journal * Final Draft of “Division and Classification” or Process Analysis” essay**\***   **\***formal essay—see submission guidelines on first page of syllabus |
| Tues. 10/27 | LC Group Project presentations  Note: Take copy of “Persuasive Outline” and “Annotated Bibliography” guidelines | ---- | * Course Journal * Notes for LC presentation |
| Thurs.  10/29 | Class Work:   * Outline for Persuasive Essay   Class Discussion   * Annotated bibliographies * Strategies used in persuasive writing | * Work on drafts of Persuasive Essay | * Course Journal |
| Date | Assignment Due/Topic of Discussion | Lab Exercise | Materials Needed |
| Tues. 11/3 | Due in Class today:   * Outline for Persuasive Essay (hand-written or typed) * Annotated bibliography (typed) | ---- | * Course Journal * Outline for Persuasive Essay (hand-written or typed)   Annotated bibliography (typed) |
| Thurs.  11/5 | Class Work:   * Proof-reading Workshop | * Plagiarism Workshop | * Course Journal |
| Tues. 11/10 | Due in class today:   * Draft of Persuasive Essay with Works Cited page**\***   **\***formal essay—see submission guidelines on first page of syllabus | ---- | * Course Journal * Draft of Persuasive Essay   with Works Cited page**\***  **\***formal essay—see submission guidelines on first page of syllabus |
| Thurs. 11/12 | Individual conferences: Class does not meet as a group today; come to your scheduled conference (check schedule). | * TBA | * Course Journal * Draft of Persuasive Piece * *The River Reader* |
| Tues. 11/17 | Due in class today:   * Read “Women and the Future of Fatherhood” (Whitehead— *The* *River Reader*, p. 549) * In course journal, answer “Questions About Strategy” on p. 557   Class Discussion   * “Hero’s Journey” | ---- | * Course Journal * *The River Reader* |
| Thurs. 11/19 | Due in class today:   * Read “My name is Margaret” (Angelou—*The River Reader*, p. 42) * Write summary of “My Name is Margaret”   Class Discussion   * The Hero’s Journey | * Brainstorm ideas for “Hero’s Journey” essay * Use mind-mapping strategy | * Course Journal * *The River Reader* |
| Tues. 11/24 | Due in class today:   * Final Draft of Persuasive Essay with MLA Works Cited page (and revised annotated bibliography, if required)**\***   Class Discussion:   * The Hero’s Journey (cont’d.)   **\***formal essay—see submission guidelines on first page of syllabus |  | * Final Draft of Persuasive Essay with MLA Works Cited page (and revised annotated bibliography, if required)**\***   **\***formal essay—see submission guidelines on first page of syllabus |
| Date | Assignment Due/Topic of Discussion | Lab Exercise | Materials Needed |
| Thurs. 11/26 | Thanksgiving Break—no classes | ---- |  |
| Tues.  12/1 | Due in class today:   * Read “Digging”(Dubus– *The River Reader*, p. 69) * Write summary of “Digging” * Read “The Myth of Latin Women” (Ortiz Cofer— *The River Reader,* p. 60)   In course journal, answer “Questions About Strategy” on p. 68  Class Discussion:   * MLA review | ---- | * Course Journal * *The River Reader* |
| Thurs. 12/3 | Due in class today:   * Read “Remembering My Childhood on the Continent of Africa” (Sedaris— *The* *River Reader*, p. 172) * Write summary of “Remembering…”   Class Discussion:   * Comparing and contrasting * The use of humor in writing | * Read sample exam article and discuss strategies for constructing exam essay (including checklist) | * Course Journal * *The River Reader* |

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| UNIT IV: Semester Review | | | |
| Date | Assignment Due/Topic of Discussion | Lab Exercise | Materials Needed |
| Tues. 12/8 | Due in class today:   * Sample exam essay (two printed copies)   Class Discussion:   * Proof-read sample essay w/checklist | ---- | * Course Journal * Sample exam article * Your sample exam essay (two printed copies) |
| Thurs. 12/10 | Due in class today:   * Revised sample exam essay   Class Discussion:   * Identify Thesis and supporting details for readings we’ve done this semester | * Choose an essay and develop exam questions (like the sample) that might go with it. | * Course Journal * Revised sample exam * *The River Reader* |
| Tues. 12/15 | Classwork:   * Take peer’s “exam” * Receive my feedback on sample essays. | ---- | * Course Journal |
| Thurs. 12/17 | Classwork:   * Read actual final exam article * Write summary in course journal * Hand in course journals * Individual Feedback on sample essays (cont’d.) | * Individual feedback on sample exams (cont’d). | * Course Journal |
| Tues. 12/22 | * Final Exam * Receive final grade for course journal | ---- | * Exam article |

**Grading Guidelines**

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**Proficiency: 50%**

*Your proficiency in reading and writing is based on the following assessment tools:*

* Essays/Papers
* Research assignments
* Short responses
* Summaries

*I will look carefully at your progress in the following areas in order to assess your proficiency in reading and writing:*

* Grammar
* Spelling
* Punctuation
* Sentence Structure
* Vocabulary
* Understanding of essay modes (e.g. compare & contrast essays, persuasive essays etc.)
* Reading comprehension
* Use of MLA formatting and citation for essays and research assignments

**Class Engagement: 25%**

*This part of your grade is assessed using the following criteria:*

* On-time attendance
* On-time submission of essays and assignments
* Following assignment directions
* Participation in group work and discussions
* Being a respectful and responsible member of the class (i.e. not texting or talking on cell phones, respecting your classmates’ contributions to the discussion etc.)

**Style & Ideas: 25%**

*This component is based on the following categories:*

* Varied word choice
* Varied sentence structure
* Transitions (between ideas, sentences, and paragraphs)
* Original ideas in writing and discussion
* A unique perspective in your writing and in discussion
* Interesting connections within the work we are discussing, or between various pieces, or between your work and other work that we discuss (e.g. comparing your ideas to a published essay that we discuss or to another student’s ideas)
* Dedication to research

**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.