**New York City College of Technology**

**English Composition I**

**English 1101C330 & D330**

**Tues. 9-9:50am & 10-11:15am & Thurs. 10-11:15am**

**Namm 606**

Professor Suzanne M. Miller

Office: Namm 524

Office Hours:  Tuesdays & Thursdays, 11:30am-12:30pm; and by appointment.

Email: [Millercitytech@gmail.com](mailto:Millercitytech@gmail.com)

**Course theme:** "Liminal Spaces: Walls and Borders, Real and Imagined"

**Course Description:**

This is a course in effective writing and basic research techniques. The course also addresses the fear of writing and how to produce an organized, coherent, and engaging piece of writing!

We will look at published work and student writing to discuss the elements and art of the essay. 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*.

**Electronic Devices in Class:**

Electronic devices are not permitted in class. (Only on designated research days are cell phones, laptops, and tablets permitted.) **The policy is strict and as follows**:

**Cell Phones:**

Cell phones are an incredibly wonderful and useful tool, and intrinsic to our daily lives... but in a classroom setting, they are distracting and disruptive. Therefore, I follow the Alamo Drafthouse policy when it comes to cell phones during class: The first time you use your phone, you will be asked to put it away. If you decide to use your phone again, I will ask you to leave (and you will be marked absent for that day).

If you feel you cannot be without your phone for the class period (9-9:50am and 10-11:15am on Tuesdays; and 10-11:15am on Thursdays), then you should consider dropping the class. *Please note: If you have an extraordinary circumstance on a given day requiring you to have your phone on, please discuss this with me.*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1K9g18kEx-0>

**Laptops and Tablets:**

These, along with all other electronic devices, are not to be used during class. Please take notes using pen/pencil and paper. *If you have an extraordinary circumstance that requires you to take notes with an electronic device, please discuss this with me.*

<https://www.npr.org/2016/04/17/474525392/attention-students-put-your-laptops-away>

**Required Text:** *They Say/I Say: The Moves that Matter in Academic Writing (with readings) 4th edition,* by Cathy Birkenstein, Gerald Graff, and Russel Durst

* Available at the **City Tech Bookstore** and from other vendors-- be sure to get the correct version





* Text is also available at the reserve desk at the City Tech library (must be read on the library premises).
* If you wish to read digital versions of the text at home, you must *print* out the chapter or reading we are using for class as electronic devices are not allowed in class. Remember, the college offers free printing in the library and computer labs.

**Other requirements:**

* A gmail account-- for submitting Google docs.
* An OpenLab account: https://openlab.citytech.cuny.edu/millereng1101spr2019/
* A Blackboard account

**Writing Assignments:** Carefully review guidelines for each assignment. Major assignments must be typed and follow MLA formatting; they will be due online by 5pm on the due date. Late work will be penalized.

Major assignments will be submitted to me at Millercitytech@gmail.com as a Google doc via a shared folder that you will create in Google drive. Please label your folder like this: Yourfirstname.Yourlastname.Eng1101 **Example: Joe.Smith.Eng1101** (If you want to use a pseudonym, please let me know.)

**Grade Breakdown**

*To keep track of your grade as the course progresses, please consult Blackboard*

* You will write three formal papers. Three drafts each. The grading works as follows:
  + - * Brainstorm blurbs-- for every project, you will write 3-4 pages of a very rough draft: 20%
      * Blueprints -- drafts where you organize your ideas: 20%
      * Final Drafts-- drafts that are carefully proof-read, edited, and corrected: 20%
* Class Engagement/In-class Writing/Group Work: 20%
* Mid-term: 10%
* Final Exam 10%

**Attendance:**

This class depends heavily on in-class discussion and in-class writing. In other words, the class is a collaborative effort, and your attendance is required in order for the course to be worthwhile to you and for you to succeed! In addition, we do a fair amount of "in the moment" writing, which cannot be made up and which figures significantly into your class engagement grade. Therefore, after three absences, we will meet to discuss you should proceed with the class or if you should drop it. Likewise, if you are chronically late, we will meet to discuss whether or not you should drop the class.

**Part of your class engagement grade is based on being prepared for class:**

* Be ready to discuss the day’s reading.
* Submit assignments on time.
* Check the syllabus to see if we are meeting in a location other than the classroom that day (for example, the library).
* Pay attention to announcements that are sent to you via OpenLab.
* Do not use electronic devices during class.
* Follow basic classroom etiquette (see below).

**Etiquette in and out of the classroom:**

* Respect your classmates: listen to them when they are talking. And make an effort to learn their names.
* Do not eat during class. You may bring in beverages, but be sure to take bottles, cans, and cups with you when you leave.
* Do not sleep during class. If you are not feeling well, please inform me that you need to leave due to illness.
* Please turn off all electronic devices (and stow in bags) when class starts
* Remove earbuds, Airpods, or other headphones before class starts.
* When emailing me, use standard letter-writing etiquette ("Dear Prof. Miller..." not "Hey...")
* If you are absent, check OpenLab for announcements and check in with me after class or during office hours. It is a good idea to email a fellow student for notes. Please do not email me to find out what you missed. While I am happy to talk to you in person about what you missed in class, I will not send you a summary via email.

**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 class engagement grade. Likewise, not following through on tutoring meetings will negatively affect your class engagement grade.

**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. See the policy statement. Simply put, if you plagiarize you risk failing the class and being “written up.” (See “Academic Dishonesty” form posted below.)

**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.

**Accommodations Policy**:

Qualified students with disabilities will be provided reasonable academic accommodations if determined eligible by the Student Support Services Program (SSSP). Prior to granting disability accommodations in this course, the instructor must receive written verification of a student’s eligibility from SSSP, which is located in A-237. It is the student’s responsibility to initiate contact with the SSSP staff and to follow the established procedures for having the accommodation notice sent to the instructor.

**Nondiscrimination Policy**:

This class does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, gender, marital status, disability, or status as a veteran.

**C O U R S E C A L E N D A R**



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| **Class** | **Date** | **Assignment/Activity** |
| 1. | Tues. 1/29 | In class:   * Overview * Writing Exercise: Rumi poem * Group Exercise: Brainstorming with the terms "borders" and "barriers" (PG= Participation Grade) |
| 2. | Thurs. 1/31 | HW Due:   * "The 'Other Side' Is Not Dumb" by Sean Blanda (in *They Say/I Say*) * "Hat on a Hat" exercise for article (bring **handwritten or printed exercise to class**-- do not email it) (PG)   In class:   * Discuss "The 'Other Side' is Not Dumb" |
| 3. | Tues. 2/5 | **Lab: Short Story Club assignments**  HW Due:   * "Minority Student Clubs: Segregation or Integration" by Gabriela Moro (in *They Say/I Say*) * "Hat on a Hat" exercise for article (bring **handwritten or printed exercise to class**-- do not email it) (PG)   In class:   * Discuss "Minority Student Clubs..." |
| 4. | Thurs. 2/7 | HW Due:   * Letters to Blanda and Moro (handwritten or printed) (PG)   In class:   * Receive peer and instructor feedback on letters * Work on response to Blanda and Moro—“Brainstorm Blurb” draft (graded)). |
| 5. | Tues. 2/12 | No class |
| 6. | Thurs. 2/14 | Short Story Clubs |
| 7. | Tues. 2/19 | In class: View film *The Visitor* |
| 8. | Thurs. 2/21 | In-class   * Discuss The Visitor * In-class writing exercise re: *The Visitor* (Participation Grade) * Look ahead to “Blueprint/Outline” drafts * Review “templates”   HW Due: (any time on Thursday 2/21)   * Brainstorm Draft of paper (either online or hard copy) |

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| **Class** | **Date** | **Assignment/Activity** |
| 9. | Tues. 2/26 | Lab:   * Write Amazon Reviews. Choose new stories based on the reviews.   HW:   * Read “Is Google Making Us Stupid?” (pp. 424-440)   In-class:   * Letter to Nicholas Carr * Receive feedback on brainstorm drafts * Discuss organization and blueprint drafts |
| 10. | Thurs. 2/28 | HW: Blueprint Draft  In-class   * Essay checklist (group review) |
| 11. | Tues. 3/5 | Lab:   * Short Story Clubs   In-class:   * Grammar & MLA workshop   ~~HW: (due any time on Tues.)~~   * ~~Edited draft due online.~~ |
| 12. | Thurs. 3/7 | HW Due:   * Thesis & Blueprint/outline (due online) * Read: “Smarter Than You Think: How Technology is Changing our Minds for the Better” (pp.441-461)   In-class:   * Review for mid-term |
| 13. | Tues. 3/12 | Due online: Final version of Essay #1  Lab:   * Story club   In-class:   * Mid-term Exam |
| 14. | Thurs. 3/14 | * CONFERENCES: We will not meet as a class today. Instead, we will have individual conferences in my office (Namm 524). Only come to your conference time. Please sign up on the sheet provided. **Note: If you sign up for a conference on Friday, 3/15, you will not see me on Thursday, 3/14. In other words, no regular class on 3/14.** |
| 15. | Tues. 3/19 | Lab:   * Short Story Clubs   HW:   * Brainstorm Draft Essay #2 |
| 16. | Thurs. 3/21 | TBD |

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| 17. | Tues. 3/26 | Lab:   * Short Story Clubs—work on presentation   10am:   * Library Visit (post-library visit—presentation work) |
| 18. | Thurs. 3/28 | In-class:   * Short Story Club Presentations |