

Macomb Community College

Official Course Syllabus

Course Description

Credits:

Pre & Co Requisites:

Prerequisite: Placement, or ENGL-0055 or EAPP-1500 with grade C- or better

No credit after ENGL-1210. The focus of this course is college-level expository and argumentative writing. This course places extensive emphasis on organization and development of essays along with the study of grammar and mechanics. This course develops competence in English sentence elements and skill in organizing, proofreading, and revising essays. Students who have completed ENGL-1210 successfully should NOT take ENGL-1180. Students will NOT receive credit for both. (4 contact hrs)

Outcomes and Objectives

OUTCOME 1: Upon completion of this course, students will be able to use various forms of discourse, such as narration, description, exposition, and argument.

OUTCOME 2: Upon completion of this course, students will be able to write full essays that incorporate a controlling idea stated in an introduction, developed in the essay, and summarized in a conclusion.

OUTCOME 3: Upon completion of this course, students will be able to write sentences that are reasonably free of run ons, comma splices, fragments, and agreement errors, and will demonstrate a satisfactory mastery of standard spelling, diction, and usage.

OBJECTIVES:

In the final essays written for the course the student should be able to fulfill the following requirements:

1. Include an introduction that coherently leads to a statement of the main idea (thesis) of the essay.
2. Paragraph the essay by a logical plan (e.g. by general steps to a process, by causes, by effects, etc.).
3. Link the body paragraphs by transitions, repetition, leading sentences, or parallelism.
4. Include topic sentences that accurately state the subdivisions or supporting generalizations of the essay's main idea.
5. Include in body paragraphs only that development which is governed by the topic sentence.
6. Use examples, details, definitions, or comparisons to develop the paragraph.

7. Include a conclusion that either restates the main idea or summarizes the subtopics or suggests the implications of the subject.
8. Avoid sentence structure errors (awkwardness, comma splices, fused sentences, fragments, misplaced modifiers, faulty parallelism, illogical subordination).
9. Avoid grammatical errors (agreement, case, pronoun reference, verb forms).
10. Maintain a consistent point of view.
11. Apply the conventions of punctuation (commas, semi-colons, colons, apostrophes, italics, quotation marks).
12. Avoid misspellings.
13. Maintain an appropriate level of diction.
14. Use conventional manuscript form.
15. Abide by deadlines.

Common Degree Outcomes

1. The graduate can integrate the knowledge and technological skills necessary to be a successful learner.
2. The graduate can demonstrate how to think competently.
3. The graduate can demonstrate how to employ mathematical knowledge.
4. The graduate can demonstrate how to communicate competently.
5. The graduate is sensitive to issues relating to a diverse, global society.

Course Assessments

Student work scored with departmental rubrics.

Course Content Outline

1. Organization of Essays

Introduction

Definition of Introduction

Function of Introduction

Tone in the Introduction

Definition and function of thesis

Scope of thesis

Relationship of the thesis to the organizational structure of the essay

Placement of thesis in Introduction

Length of introduction

Middle paragraphs

Definition and function of topic sentences

Placement of topic sentences in paragraph

Relationship of middle paragraphs to the introduction and to the thesis

Length of middle paragraphs

Conclusion

Function of the conclusion

Length of the conclusion

2. Development of Essays

Patterns of development

a) Exposition (required)

causation

classification

definition

analogy

comparison

illustration

process analysis

b) Narration

c) Argumentation

Description

Transitions

Define and illustrate adequate detail

Define and illustrate specific detail

Define devices of emphasis

Sentence variety

3. Grammar and Punctuation

Define and illustrate fragments

Identify ways of correcting fragments

Define and illustrate run-ons

Identify ways of correcting run-ons

Define and illustrate comma splices

Identify ways of correcting comma splices

Identify common usage errors and illustrate ways of correcting them.

Require standard spelling in essays

Show students how to use spelling checkers and grammar checkers in Word or other word processing programs

Point out problems and cautions with using these checkers

Define and illustrate agreement errors (subject-verb; pronoun-antecedent)

Identify ways of correcting agreement errors.

Define and illustrate simple, complex, and compound sentences

Illustrate the use of each type of sentence

Explain the connection of sentence type to logic (i.e. compound sentences are used for ideas of equal importance; complex sentences subordinate less important ideas).

Define, illustrate, and explain when to use parallel structure

Encourage the development of vocabulary and precision in word choice

Explain denotation and connotation

Define trite phrasing, jargon, slang, euphemism, and vulgarity suggesting ways to avoid or correct these problems

Define and illustrate figurative language