English 164W.02
Courtney: Evans 406 / 936 2941416 / eng_lfc@shsu.edu
Hours: 9-10 (and by appointment)

Text: Lunsford and Bridges: The Longwood Guide to Writing (Second Custom Edition)

Note: Beginning Friday, July 11, be sure to bring LGW to class daily. At every meeting, there will be some significant in-class use of the text.

Description of the Course: English 164W.02 is another embodiment of one of the most enduring traditions of American college life: the freshman composition course. It endures because it has value. At the core here is the personal essay, a kind of writing which derives from the author's own experiences, observations, judgments, and feelings. By planning and composing several such essays, by reading and reacting to my analyses of them, and by completing the other, related class assignments, you can become a much more effective writer.

About Your Grade: There are four major writing assignments, each providing a quarter of your semester average: three 600-1000 word essays, all written in class, and an end-of-semester exam which features both essay and objective elements. The first two essays may be revised for higher grades.

In Addition: Every class day (other than those on which essays are composed), there will be a short assignment of some kind (always open-book, open-note), graded on a 1 to 5 basis. At the end of the semester, I'll divide your accumulated bonus points by the number of bonus exercises and add the quotient to your semester average. Here, a 90 is an A, an 80 a B, and so on.

Attendance: The best policy is regular on-time, full-time attendance. There will be no bonus make-ups.

Conferences: There will be two rounds of compulsory conferences.

The Early Schedule:

July 8 Lecture / Qualities of the Essay: Unity
July 9 Specificity
July 10 Accessibility
July 11 Interest Inventory (11-13 in LGW) / Essay I Assigned

July 14 Conferences
July 15 Essay I
July 16 Marisol Vargas: "Mirror Image," 100-102,
Chris Miller: "Gringos on Safari," 197-199
July 17 Datus Proper: "Dark Hollow," 154-157
Elisabeth Kubler-Ross: "On the Fear of Dying," 204-207
July 18 Essay II Assigned