

English 164 Composition I – Honors

CID#7005 MWF 8:00-8:50

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Office Hours: MWF 9:00-11:00 or by appointment Classroom: AB4, Room 202

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

This course is designed to help students:

- ★ Develop skill in expressing themselves in writing
- ★ Learn to analyze and critically evaluate ideas, arguments, and points of view
- ★ Gain a broader understanding and appreciation of literature
- ★ Acquire an interest in learning more by asking questions and seeking answers

REQUIRED TEXTS:

- ★ *A Pocket Style Manual*, 4th edition, by Diana Hacker, ISBN 0-312-40684-3 (Spiral bound)
- ★ *Perrine's Literature, Structure, Sound and Sense* by Thomas Arp, 9th ed. ISBN

ASSESSMENT:

- ★ Essays/Tests: 60%. These will be scheduled. Emphasis will be on writing.
- ★ Research Paper: 20%. More on this later.
- ★ Quizzes: 20%. Quizzes on scheduled readings are generally unannounced; no make-ups are given. There will be enough grades to compensate for one or two that you have missed or failed. Other types of assignments in this category will be announced.
- ★ Both in- and out-of-class essays will be judged as follows:
 - 100-90: Uniformly excellent work for an honors freshman
 - 89-80: Strong work with small but significant weaknesses
 - 79-70: Adequate work but having meager content and/or significant flaws
 - 69-60: Weak work where reader is not engaged or is distracted by flaws
 - 59-0: Unacceptable; first or second paper may be revised for a higher grade
- ★ Late papers will be penalized 10 points per calendar day.

The Diana Hacker book is an excellent guide to standard English and should be kept for your college years. I expect a high standard of usage and mechanics on all typed work. In-class writings will be judged more leniently.

ATTENDANCE:

Attendance will be taken at every class. A doctor's excuse does not remove an absence, so be selective about absences. For special circumstances, see me. Tardies are disruptive and are in effect after the roll is taken. Two tardies = one absence. My policy:

<u>Absences</u>	<u>Effect on Final Course Grade</u>
0	3 points added
1	2 points added
2	1 points added
10	Failure

PLAGIARISM:

Plagiarism is defined as identifying someone else's words or ideas as if they were your own. This can range from submitting a paper written by someone else as if it were your work, to copying words or sentences from someone else without putting them in quotation marks and properly citing the source. Please leave help notes (Cliff, Monarch, Spark, etc.) at home and never quote them in your work.

STATEMENT OF REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS: If you have a disability that may adversely affect your work in this class, you may register with the SHSU Counseling Center and to talk with me about how I can best help you. This will be kept confidential. NOTE: No accommodation can be made until you register with the Counseling Center. Please contact the Chair of the Committee for Continuing Assistance for Disabled Students and Director of the Counseling Center, Lee Drain Annex, or by calling (936) 294-1720.

RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS: A student desiring to absent himself or herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) must present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). This request must be made in the first 15 days of the semester or the first 7 days of a summer session in which the absence(s) will occur. Absences include class attendance or other required activities including examinations and travel. A student whose absence is excused may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence. The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed.

Q-DROPS:

A Q-drop is a drop made after the last date for tuition refunds (12th class day for fall/spring; 4th class day for summer) but before the date for which a drop would result in the grade of 'F' as published in the Academic Calendar. Students will be allowed no more than five Q-drops during their academic career at Sam Houston State University. Classes dropped prior to the Q-drop date will not count toward the limit. Any class dropped by the 12th class day (4th in summer) will not appear on the student's transcript. Students who have used their limit of five Q-drops will need to petition their respective dean to drop a class. If the dean refuses to grant permission to drop a class, a student will be required to remain in the class. This limit will take effect with the start of the fall 2004 semester. Any drops accumulated prior to the fall 2004 semester will not be included in the five Q-drop limit, nor will Q-drops from other universities.

OTHER:

- a) Cell phones must be off unless you are given permission in advance for an emergency.
- b) Leave your earphone(s), iPods, and other listening devices in your backpack or at home.
- c) Laptops are not really needed because this is a discussion, rather than lecture, class.
- d) Please check with me in advance about bringing guests to the classroom.
- e) You will be asked to complete a course/instructor evaluation form toward the end of the semester.

FINAL NOTES:

I expect to be in Albuquerque for one or two weeks for the birth of my first grandchild. Arrangements have been made for the class to be taught by other professors. For this reason, your class schedule is not yet complete; additional assignments will be given to you in ample time for you to prepare.