

# English 165: Composition II Syllabus (spring'08)

Instructor: Deborah Greene

Office: Evans 410 (Spring 2008)

Phone: 294-3134 \*\* cell phone for leaving message: 936-668-6311

Email: Dgreene@shsu.edu

Office

Hours: MTWTH 9:00 - 12:00 pm and by appointment

## Course Description:

ENG 165, Composition II, continues the study of skills and methods used in writing university-level essays, with an emphasis on researched argument and persuasion. This course emphasizes the development and support of effective argumentation, including researching and using support from various sources. It also includes an oral report component. It is the second half of a two-semester sequence that constitutes freshman composition at Sam Houston State University.

## Course Objectives:

Through a sequence of writing, reading, and workshop assignments, you will:

- strengthen your composing process,
- strengthen your argumentation skills,
- strengthen your analytical reading and critical thinking skills,
- strengthen your ability to conduct research,
- strengthen your oral presentation skills, and
- use collaborative learning in various contexts.

## Required Texts:

Ronald F. Lunsford and Bill Bridges, *The Longwood Guide to Writing*, 3rd edition, Christine Hult and Thomas N. Huchin, *The New Century Pocket Guide to Writers*, and *Webster's Handy College Dictionary*, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition. "A" students will always have a thesaurus, an OED or knowledge as to how to use the online version, and a writer's handbook—like the MLA—so if interested in becoming an A student in this class, you will have to learn how to use these tools and make a commitment to utilize all tools throughout the semester.

## Required Tools:

Microsoft Word Software

Computer access to Blackboard

## Requirements:

- Daily attendance is required, recorded and rewarded. Quizzes at most class meets, and I give no make-up quizzes.

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- More than two absences will cause your grade to be lowered.
- **Three tardies=one absence.**
- **All work must be handed in on time. It is your responsibility to turn your work in on time even if you are absent.**
- **ALL assignments must be completed and timely to receive an A in this course.**
- Keep a Writer's Notebook, and create a portfolio/stylebook.
- Read and respond in writing to assigned readings.\*\* These responses will form one section of your Writer's Notebook, although they may be submitted digitally through Blackboard.
- Write five\*\* three-five page essays, including a 6- 10 page research paper.,).
- A take home mid-term exam (This is a research exam, as this is a research course)
- Give an oral report, (the oral report is a grammar/vocabulary presentation). These are ongoing throughout the semester. A sign up sheet is available at this time.
- Participate constructively in class activities, but especially in peer review group sessions.
- Take a mid-term exam, and a final exam.

\*\*these readings will often be electronic via the SHSU Newton Grisham Library webpage electronic reserves. The password is "argument."

## Materials:

- a 2"-3" 3-ring binder
- notebook dividers
- loose-leaf notebook paper
- plastic cover sheets
- a large (10" X 13") envelope
- 3 x 5 note cards (suggested) for root/vocabulary building

## Essay Grades:

- Each essay will be graded with a letter "A" through "F" basis and a numeric value that will generate points that reflect that letter. ( A=90, B=80, C=70, D=60, F=50).

## Course Assessment:

ENG 165 is a "Writing Enhanced" course, so that at least 50 percent of the semester's grade must be based on writing.

In this course, 90 percent of your grade is determined through writing.

## Here's a breakdown on grades:

Assigned essays=	500 pts (5 @ 100 each)	Portfolio	50
Abstract	50 pts	Oral report	50*(+100 RE)
Annotated Bib	50	Midterm Exam	100
Intro. letter	25	Participation	100
Résumé	25	Final Exam	100
memo	25	Attendance (2+ absences=	-100pts)
hard copy of email	25	<b>Lowered a full letter grade</b>	
Readings/quizzes	100		

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**COURSE TOTAL POINTS= 1200/A=1080-1200, B=960-1079, C=840-959, D=720-839, 719 AND BELOW=F**

### *Plagiarism and Academic Misconduct*

**Any instance of plagiarism will result in an automatic zero on that assignment and/or other disciplinary action.**

It is academically dishonest, and often illegal, to present someone else's ideas of writing as your own. You cannot use even short phrases or parts of sentences obtained from other sources unless you properly document those sources.

Documentation includes marking quotations as well providing notes, citations, and a reference list. If you receive assistance from a source other than your instructor, your colleagues in the class, or The Writing Center, then you must acknowledge that assistance. Identify the source and the nature of the assistance in an acknowledgments note at the end of the assignment.

Failure to acknowledge constitutes academic misconduct. In addition, it is academically dishonest to submit your own previously written work for a current assignment or to submit an assignment in more than one class without the prior permission of the instructors.

You will be held responsible for furnishing upon request all the sources and preliminary work (notes, rough drafts, etc.) that you use to prepare written assignments. If you cannot produce the materials upon request, the assignment will be considered incomplete and so will not fulfill the requirements, and you will be given the opportunity to redo the assignment on a different topic, one you negotiate with your instructor.

You are responsible for protecting your own work. It is your responsibility to ensure that other students do not copy your work or submit it as their own. Allowing your work to be used in this manner constitutes academic misconduct. Plagiarism and academic misconduct of any kind may constitute grounds for failing this course and may result in further disciplinary action according to university policy. Consult the SHSU Student Handbook regarding your responsibilities and rights concerning plagiarism and academic dishonesty. In addition, writing textbooks often contain useful discussion of plagiarism.) The Syllabus Defined: A syllabus is a living entity that grows from the first of the semester till the last and comprises every assignment and handout that you receive. Keep your syllabus in a separate section of your Writer's Notebook, so that you'll have everything together in one place.