

## English Composition I

Instructor: Ching Kang Liu

Office: 6F33

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Office Hours: Monday: 3:00-5:00; Wednesday: 8:00-10:00

### Course description:

The main goal of the course is to help students develop

1. critical reading and writing skills
2. development and organizational strategies for writing
3. abilities to synthesize information from different sources into writing
4. abilities to utilize different modes of writing (e.g., description, comparison and contrast, cause and effect...) to fulfill writing assignments, and
5. revision and grammar editing skills

### Textbook:

Anderson, Marilyn. (2002). *Keys to Successful Writing*. Longman.

### Instruction:

The instruction of this course will focus mainly on class activities including

1. discussion of assigned readings
2. practice on various writing processes and strategies, such as brainstorming, outlining and paraphrasing
3. peer review of essays written by classmates, and
4. in class writing—This is usually done immediately after the discussion of the readings and is done within a time limit.

Students' regular attendance and full participation are required and **NO EXCUSES OF ANY KIND FOR ABSENCE WILL BE ACCEPTED**. Absence from class is pardoned only for irresistible causes (e.g., hospitalization) on condition that all assignments are done.

### Assignment:

**Reading assignment** for every meeting is required. Students should finish the assigned readings before class and share their views on the readings with the rest of the class in class discussion time.

**Writing assignment:** Students must show that their essays are carefully drafted, revised and edited. The first draft will be reviewed by peers in class. The second and final versions of the essay will be evaluated by the instructor, and handed back to the students with comments. All essays must be typed and accompanied by an outline.

### Grading:

Essays	60%
Reading assignment and discussion	20%
Peer Responses and participation	20%
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Total	100%

## **A tentative class schedule**

- 9/17 Introduction to the course
- 9/24 Chapter 1: Thinking and Writing for College
- 10/1 Chapter 2: Defining the Essay and the Composing Process
- 10/15 Chapter 3: Discovering through Prewriting (homework: preparing for the 1<sup>st</sup> draft)
- 10/22 Chapter 4: Writing Thesis Statement (homework: preparing for the 2<sup>nd</sup> draft)  
*Essay #1 first draft due; Peer Response*
- 10/29 Chapter 4: Drafting  
*Essay #1 second draft due*
- 11/5 Part Five: Practice 1-5 (pp. 427-440)
- 11/12 Chapter 5: Writing Topic Sentence (homework: complete the final draft of essay 1 and preparing for the 1<sup>st</sup> draft of essay 2)  
*Essay #1 final draft due*
- 11/19 Chapter 5: Developing Body Paragraphs (homework: preparing for the 2<sup>nd</sup> draft)  
*Essay #2 first draft due; Peer Response*
- 11/26 Chapter 6: Writing the Introduction of an Essay  
*Essay #2 second draft due*
- 12/3 Chapter 6: Writing the Conclusion of an Essay
- 12/10 Chapter 7: Revising and Polishing the Essay (homework: complete the final draft of essay 2 and preparing for the 1<sup>st</sup> draft of essay 3)  
*Essay #2 final draft due*
- 12/17 Chapter 7: Revising and Polishing the Essay (homework: preparing for the 2<sup>nd</sup> draft)  
*Essay #3 first draft due; Peer Response*
- 12/24 Chapter 8: Using Various Sources  
*Essay #3 second draft due*
- 12/31 Chapter 8: Documenting Sources (homework: complete the final draft of essay 3)
- 1/7 *Essay #3 final draft due*