

## English Composition I

Instructor: Ching Kang Liu

Office: 6F33 Humanity Hall (02-8674-6633)

Class time: Wednesday: 10:10-12:00

Office Hours: Wednesday: 13:00-15:00

### Course description:

The main goal of the course is to help students write unified, coherent paragraphs/essays containing sophisticated transitions in both words and ideas. Students are expected to be able to use various types of writing, such as narrative, descriptive, expository essays, in elaborating their ideas. Students are also expected to be able to use effective definition, description, illustration, classification, comparison, and causal relationship in their writing. More advanced rhetorical skills such as parallelism, repetition of key words, etc. will also be focused.

### Textbook:

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

<http://web.ntpu.edu.tw/~language/course/composition/composition1.htm>

### 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:** 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. **Pop quizzes will be given in the beginning of every class.**

**Writing assignment:** Students must show that their essays are **carefully drafted, revised and edited with "obvious" efforts**. 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 with an outline.

All assignments should be mailed to the address below:

[language@mail.ntpu.edu.tw](mailto:language@mail.ntpu.edu.tw)

(with **subject**: school no name, e.g., 98032211 Joe Wang

And filename: school no name, e.g., 98032211 Joe Wang).

### Grading:

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

**A tentative class schedule (subject to changes with notice)**

- 2/24 Welcome back to the composition writing; Grammar rules reviewing  
(*homework: read Ch. 11: Making Connections*)
- 3/03 Process  
(*homework: read Ch. 11; write the 1<sup>st</sup> draft for Essay #1, due on March 7*)
- 3/10 Process (continued); discussion on the 1<sup>st</sup> draft  
(*homework: read Ch. 11; finish the 2<sup>nd</sup> draft of Essay #1, due on March 14*)
- 3/17 Cause/Effect  
(*homework: read Ch. 11; write the 1<sup>st</sup> draft for Essay #2, due on March 21*)
- 3/24 Cause/Effect (continued); discussion on the 1<sup>st</sup> draft  
(*homework: read Ch. 11; revise the draft of essay #2, due on March 28*)
- 3/31 Cause/Effect (continued); discussion on logical fallacies regarding causality  
(*homework: read Ch. 12: Showing Relationships; completing essay # 2, due on April 4*)
- 4/07 Comparison/Contrast  
(*homework: read Ch. 12; write the 1<sup>st</sup> draft of essay # 3, due on April 11*)
- 4/14 Comparison/Contrast (continued); discussion on the 1<sup>st</sup> draft  
(*homework: read Ch. 12; revise the draft of essay #3, due on April 18*)
- 4/21 Comparison/Contrast (continued); discussion on false analogy and other logical fallacies  
(*homework: get ready for the midterm*)
- 4/28 Midterm** (on process, causality, comparison and contrast)
- 5/5 Division/Classification  
(*homework: read Ch. 12; write the 1<sup>st</sup> draft for Essay #4, due on May 9*)
- 5/12 Division/Classification (continued); discussion on the 1<sup>st</sup> draft  
(*homework: read Ch. 12; revise the 1<sup>st</sup> draft of essay #4, due on May 16*)
- 5/19 Division/Classification (continued); discussion on logical fallacies  
(*homework: read Ch. 13: Taking a Stand; complete the final draft of essay #4, due on May 23*)
- 5/26 Argumentation  
(*homework: read Ch. 13; write the 1<sup>st</sup> draft of essay #5, due on May 30*)
- 6/02 Argumentation (continued); discussion on the 1<sup>st</sup> draft  
(*homework: read Ch. 13; revise the draft of essay #5, due on June 6*)
- 6/09 Argumentation (continued); discussion on logical fallacies  
(*homework: read Ch. 13; complete the final draft of essay #5, due on June 15*)
- 6/16 **Holiday**
- 6/23 **Final exam**