



South Portland, Maine 04106

**English Composition, Spring 2022**

**Catalog Number: Brightspace-ENGL-100-B1**

**Instructor: Shannon M. Parker**

**Office Hours/Location: Online/Brunswick Classroom**

**Credits: 3**

W 9:30 AM-10:45 AM; Midcoast Campus (Brunswick), Room & Bldg (to be announced)

**Contact Information: [sparker@smccme.edu](mailto:sparker@smccme.edu)**

**Please put ENGL-100-B1 in the subject line when sending e-mail to me.** I will respond within 24 hours, Monday thru Friday at a minimum.

## Course Syllabus

### Course Description:

English Composition is the introduction to college writing across the curriculum. We will review grammar, sentence structure, and paragraph composition while writing personal essays in several rhetorical modes (writing styles). We will work toward the completion of a research paper due near the end of the semester. Emphasis will be placed revising drafts and learning how to revise and rewrite in order to make the most compelling composition possible. Prerequisite(s): ENGL-050, ENGL-075. Co-requisite(s): none.

### Texts:

Models for Writers, 14<sup>th</sup> Edition

A Pocket Style Manual, Hacker and Sommers

### Other Materials:

Computer, Dependable Internet Access, Binder or Folder

### Course Objectives:

By successfully completing this course, students will be able to:

1. Exhibit learning skills and conduct appropriate to a college-level student.
2. Write effectively with a specific purpose and to a specific audience, using appropriate strategies for varying contexts.
3. Organize essays using thesis statements, logical and academic formats, and standard English conventions.
4. Write rough, exploratory drafts of papers, and then practice revision methods to achieve polished final drafts.
5. Locate and evaluate legitimate research sources, electronic, print, and other.
6. Show ability to use proper MLA documentation and an awareness of plagiarism issues.
7. Use writing as a critical thinking tool for learning.
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9. Utilize technology to enhance the learning experience.

**Coursework Requirements:**

1. Participation in the classroom environment is essential. This includes:
  - i. Attendance and engagement in Brightspace online discussions
  - ii. Maintaining a constructive attitude
  - iii. Fostering trust and respect within discussion forums
  - iv. Following instructions independently
  - v. Managing your time in order to complete weekly assignments
  - vi. Displaying courtesy to yourself, your peers and your instructor
2. Written compositions:
  - i. Reflections
  - ii. Summaries
  - iii. Essays
  - iv. Research Paper
  - v. Other writing as assigned

**Topics covered throughout the course:**

- The Writing Process
- Different Styles of Writing
- Purpose, Audience, and Strategy
- Grammar/Punctuation
- The Thesis Statement
- Topic Sentences/Main Ideas
- Organizing/Outlining, Revising, Editing, and Proofreading
- Information Literacy (conducting research and locating/evaluating credible sources)
- Using Resources to cite and quote outside sources

**Student Expectations:** By successfully completing this course, students will be able to:

- Write effectively with a specific purpose and to a specific audience, using appropriate strategies for varying contexts
- Demonstrate knowledge of rhetorical modes (different styles of writing) and identify appropriate uses for each
- Organize essays using thesis statements, logical and academic formats, and Standard English conventions
- Understand that writing is a process and revision is part of that process
- Evaluate legitimate research sources: electronic, print, and other sources.
- Engage effectively with peers in a written forum
- Upload completed assignments in proper format

**Attendance Policy:**

Since this is not a traditional on campus class the attendance policy is based on online participation. **YOU ARE REQUIRED TO LOG INTO THE CLASS EACH WEEK AND PARTICIPATE.** If you do not log in weekly you will miss assignments and discussions. **Assignments, readings and discussions are only posted for one week and disappear after the due date.** If you miss two weeks in a row you may be dropped from the course. You should schedule at least two hours a week to complete weekly assignments. You will need to spend additional time offline reading and studying.

**Course-specific Policies:**

- **I do not accept late work.** I will work hard to support you in this class and help you meet deadlines. If you need extra help on an assignment, reach out before the assignment is due, not the day before the assignment is due. I realize that everyone is busy and sometimes things get missed so I will drop the lowest quiz grade at the end of the course, which will work to your benefit.
- **I accept only PDF and Word documents.** If you submit a .pages or other file type, your work will receive an automatic zero. It is important to follow assignment directions closely.
- **You are expected to engage with peers.** Weekly discussion posts will ask you to engage with at least one peer in a constructive manner. Peer engagement counts for 50% of your discussion grade weekly.
- **Discussion Posts disappear after the week has ended. You must save your work.** This is particularly important as we begin the research paper and assignments like your thesis, outline, Works Cited page, etc. will be due in different weeks. It is your job to save these files as I cannot access them once the post is closed.

**English Composition Assignment Schedule**

Each week will consist of online work. **Coursework is due on the Sunday of each semester week. For example, Semester Week 1 runs from January 19<sup>th</sup> to January 24<sup>th</sup>.** This means that the Week 1 work is due by the end of the day (11:59PM) on Sunday, 1/24. I will send announcements with a summary of the work expected each week, as well as a mid-week announcement to keep you on track. These announcements will appear in Brightspace and in your SMCC email.

**THIS IS THE UPDATED ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE FOR THE 13TH EDITION OF MODELS FOR WRITERS**

**\*Please note the MFW is an acronym for the textbook Models For Writers.**

[Week 1](#)Tasks

Brightspace Orientation / Syllabus Introduction & Student Introduction / The Writing Process pg. 9-34  
MFW (Models For Writers)

Due Sunday

Post Writing Inventory & Student Introduction Discussion  
Upload: Brightspace Orientation

[Week 2](#)Tasks

Timed Writing Sample, Essay Parts, Paragraph Work pg 162-164 MFW  
Read "Be Specific" (e-HANDOUT)

Due Sunday

Timed Writing Sample  
Reading Response #1: Answer "Be Specific" Questions for Study and Discussion (e-HANDOUT)

[Week 3](#)Tasks

Read Compare and Contrast Information 445-449 MFW  
Read Beginnings and Endings 136-144 MFW  
Read "Two Ways of Seeing a River" page 450-454 (MFW)

Due Sunday

Reading Response #2: Answer Questions for Study and Discussion on page 452 for Twain's "Two Ways of Seeing a River" page 454 (MFW)  
Essay #1 Discussion: Thesis and Introduction Due for Compare & Contrast Essay

Week 4Tasks

Comma Splices

Compare and Contrast Transitions

Thesis Work

Designing Documents

Essay #1 (Compare and Contrast) Assignment due

Due Sunday

Compare & Contrast Essay Due

Grammar Quiz #1 – Comma Splices

Week 5Tasks

Sentence Fragments

Writing with Sources, Summary Information, Definition Essay Information pg. 402-405 MFW

Due Sunday

Grammar Quiz #2: Sentence Fragments

Summary Discussion

Week 6Tasks

Subject Verb Agreement

Read: “On Being Tentbound” by John Krakauer (e-Handout)

Due Sunday

Grammar Quiz #3: Subject Verb Agreement

Definition Discussion based on “On Being Tentbound” by John Krakauer (e-Handout)

Week 7Tasks

Complete and edit Essay #2: Definition Essay

Due Sunday

Essay #2: Definition Essay

Week 8Tasks

Guide to Writing a Research Paper 595-606 MFW

Read “Preserving Winter Access” handout

Reading Response #3

Due Sunday

Reading Response #3: On Yellowstone Park “Preserving Winter Access”

Week 9Tasks

Research Paper Information, Writing with Sources pg. 225-242 MFW, Read

"Cell Phones in the Hands of Drivers: A Risk or a Benefit?" to help create outline for your research paper: <http://srjstaff.santarosa.edu/~jfilkins/Hacker-Levi-MLA.pdf>

Due Sunday

Discussion Research Project Outline

Week 10Tasks

Homonyms, Grammar

Read the Christopher Knight story here:

<https://www.theguardian.com/news/2017/mar/15/stranger-in-the-woods-christopher-knight-hermit-maine>

Or another version here if you have trouble opening The Guardian:

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/news/2017/04/north-pond-hermit-maine-knight-stranger-woods-finkel/>

Due Sunday

Grammar Quiz #4: Homonyms

Discussion Board post on Christopher Knight

Week 11Tasks

Read Source Information Provided

Read: MFW, Works Cited Page Information pg. 609-616

Upload: Works Cited Page Assignment

Due Sunday

Works Cited Page Assignment for Research Paper

Week 12Tasks

Read: Unity information pg. 91 - 94

Subject/Verb Agreement e-handouts

Due Sunday

Continue to work on your Research Paper, which is due after Thanksgiving Break next week

Grammar Quiz #5: Subject/Verb Agreement

Week 13Tasks

Update: Works Cited Page based on feedback

Read: "Final Research Paper Editing Information" document

Finalize: Research Paper & Works Cited

Due Sunday

Research Paper & Works Cited

Week 14Tasks

Narration Essay Information pg. 340 - 344

Read "White Lies" pg. 209-213 MFW,

Reading Response #4 – Questions for Study and Discussion pg. 211-212

Due Sunday

Reading Response #4

Week 15Tasks

Grammar Review \*THURSDAY DUE DATE AS CLASSES END SATURDAY

Grammar Review Quiz

Complete and edit Narration Essay  
 Essay #3: Narration Essay due

### **Grades and Assignments:**

Quizzes:	20%	Assignments:	25%
Reading Responses:	25%	Research Paper:	15%
Brightspace Discussions:	15%		

### **College Policies**

#### **End-of-Course Evaluation:**

In order to gain access to final course grades, students must complete evaluations for each course attended at SMCC. Evaluations are submitted online and can be accessed through the student portal site. Students can access the course evaluation report beginning two weeks before the end of classes. The deadline for submission of evaluations occurs 24 hours after the last day of classes each semester. Instructors will announce when the online course evaluation is available.

#### **ADA Statement:**

Southern Maine Community College is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution and employer. For more information, please call [207-741-5798](tel:207-741-5798). If you have a disabling condition and wish to request accommodations in order to have reasonable access to the programs and services offered by SMCC, you must register with the Disability Services Coordinator, Sandra Lynham, who can be reached at 741-5923. Further information about services for students with disabilities and the accommodation process is available upon request at this number. Course policies about online testing are modified to suit each individual's accommodations.

#### **SMCC Pay-for-Print Policy/Per Page Costs**

Each semester students receive a \$20 printing credit. The balance resets at the end of the semester and any remaining credits are removed. The cost varies depending upon page size and whether printing is done in black and white or color.

- There is a \$0.10 per page fee for standard 8.5" by 11" black and white documents.
- The reverse sides of duplex (double-sided) documents are free.
- There is a \$.50 per page fee for standard 8.5" by 11" color documents.
- There is a \$.20 per page fee for 8.5" by 14" (legal) or 11" by 17" (tabloid) black and white documents.
- There is a \$1.00 per page fee for 8.5" by 14" (legal) or 11" by 17" (tabloid) color documents.

Duplex charges (printing on both sides of a page) work in the following fashion: One page is \$0.10, two pages are \$0.10, three pages are \$0.20, and four pages are \$0.20, etc. The flipsides are free, but another sheet of paper is \$0.10. Please be aware that a document with any color at all (when printed to a color printer) will by default be printed in color. You are responsible for setting the print job to print black and white if you do not need color. For directions, please go to the IT Help tab in My SMCC.

#### **How does it work?**

The College's pay-for-print system monitors printing on all printers (including those in general access labs, library printers, the Academic Achievement Center, Noisy Lounge and technology labs). Students can check the number of pages they have printed by using the Printing Balance tool available on SMCC computers (located in the lower right corner of the screen, near the clock). Departments with work-study

students who need to print documents for the department should contact the Help Desk at 741-5696 to have a special account set up.

### **Refunds**

Print jobs are eligible for a refund in the event of mechanical or electronic error on the part of the printer, print server, or software used to submit the job. Jobs are not eligible for a refund in cases where the job was not set up correctly, was submitted multiple times, or the student is not satisfied with the result. To request a refund, please bring the offending print to the IT Department in the basement of the Ross Technology Center. Refunds will be granted in the form of a credit to the student's account.

### **Why is SMCC charging for printing?**

The pay-for-print system is an effort to control escalating printing costs. Charging for printing helps offset the increasing cost of supplies and encourages students to conserve resources. To find ways to reduce your printing charges, please go to the IT Help tab on My SMCC. If you have questions about the pay-for-printing policy or your printing charges, please contact the Help Desk at 741-5696 or send an email to [helpdesk@smccme.edu](mailto:helpdesk@smccme.edu).

Be sure to log OUT of the system when you've finished your printing, to prevent unauthorized access to your account.

### **Add-Drop Policy**

Students who drop a course during the one-week "add/drop" period in the fall and spring semesters and the first three days of summer sessions receive a 100% refund of the tuition and associated fees for that course. Please note any course that meets for less than the traditional semester length, i.e., 15 weeks, has a pro-rated add/drop period. There is no refund for non-attendance.

### **Withdrawal Policy**

A student may withdraw from a course only during the semester in which s/he is registered for that course. The withdrawal period is the second through twelfth week of the fall and spring semesters and the second through ninth week of twelve-week summer courses. This period is pro-rated for shorter-length courses. To withdraw from a course, a student must complete and submit the appropriate course withdrawal form, available at the Enrollment Service Center (no phone calls, please). The designation "W" will appear on the transcript after a student has officially withdrawn. A course withdrawal is an uncompleted course and may adversely affect financial aid eligibility. Failure to attend or ceasing to attend class does not constitute withdrawal from the course. There is no refund associated with a withdrawal.

### **Plagiarism Statement**

Adherence to ethical academic standards is obligatory. Cheating is a serious offense, whether it consists of taking credit for work done by another person or doing work for which another person will receive credit. Taking and using the ideas or writings of another person without clearly and fully crediting the source is plagiarism and violates the academic code as well as the Student Code of Conduct. If it is suspected that a student in any course in which s/he is enrolled has knowingly committed such a violation, the faculty member should refer the matter to the College's Disciplinary Officer and appropriate action will be taken under the Student Code of Conduct. Sanctions may include suspension from the course and a failing grade in the course. Students have the right to appeal these actions to the Disciplinary Committee under the terms outlined in the Student Code of Conduct.