

**SOUTHERN MAINE COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
**ENGL 100: English Composition**

“The pen is the tongue of the mind”  
~ Cervantes

Title: English Composition

Credit Hours: 3

Instructor: Sybil Wilen

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Office hours: Please email personal questions to me directly.

Catalog Number: ENGL – 100 26

Meeting Time: T/Th 3-4:15

### **Course Overview**

#### **Course Description (from catalog):**

*English Composition is the introduction to college writing across the curriculum. In addition to any necessary review of grammar, sentence structure, and paragraph composition, this course covers the writing of personal essays in several rhetorical modes, academic papers, and research analysis. Emphasis will be placed upon writing multiple drafts with an eye toward revising, rewriting and editing, as well as the utilization of close reading and critical thinking as literacy tools. Prerequisite(s): ENGL-050, ENGL-075. Co-requisite(s): none.*

**Texts:** Models for Writers, 14<sup>th</sup> Edition

#### **Course Objectives (from catalog):**

*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, 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.*
- 8. Utilize technology to enhance the learning experience.*

#### **Coursework Requirements:**

1. Participation in the classroom environment, including logging in to the online course on a regular basis, a constructive attitude, attentiveness, following instructions, self-

discipline, and courtesy to both instructors and students. The student will also be required to demonstrate knowledge of college resources, and complete ongoing critical self-assessments.

2. Peer work is an integral part of this course. You will work with your peers throughout the semester in developing ideas, reviewing drafts, responding to each other as readers, and in helping to shape final drafts. Your prepared, respectful and constructive participation benefits every member of the class.

Writing is a skill that is more learned than taught, and this workshop atmosphere gives you ample opportunity to learn that skill well. In order to accomplish this:

- you must participate actively and productively in discussions, and
  - you must revise according to the feedback you receive in these discussions.
- The workshop atmosphere presents great benefit for writing instruction, but can, unfortunately, lead to an unproductive environment if even one person in the class is disruptive or unprepared. Don't be that person.
  - This type of class also requires you to manage your workload, to handle multiple priorities and to develop and rely on good, independent work habits. If you get behind on assignments, you will likely stay behind.
3. 3 essays of at least 750-1200 words in (single) rhetorical modes.  
Description/Narration Cause/Effect Persuasive/Argument
  4. Multiple drafts (2 to 3) at various stages of the above papers, using revision strategies.

**Attendance policy:**

SMCC's attendance policy for online classes requires students to complete a minimum of one task a week. This can be posting in a discussion forum and/or submitting an assignment. Simply logging into the classroom does not count as attending the course. If two weeks go by without a post, a grade of AF will be assigned. So, if something is preventing you from attending class, open up a portal of discussion and let me know what is going on. Oftentimes, there is a solution, the problem just needs to be looked at in a different way.

**Life happens clause:** We all juggle the demands of work, school, and personal lives. If personal or professional obligations intervene, we may be able to work something out. But please don't ask or expect to pass the class if you do not do the work. You may need to drop the class and take it again when you have more time to give.

**Late Work:** Essay One and Essay Two will be accepted late at a penalty of 10% per day up through 05/12/2022. Due to the length of our semester, discussions, peer reviews, and the final essay will not be accepted late.

## **Grading & Evaluation:**

**\* This class participates in the Early Warning System.**

- **Narrative Essay (20% of the final grade).**
- **Cause and Effect Essay (25% of the final grade).**
- **Persuasive Essay (30% of the final grade).**
- **Peer Reviews (15% of the final grade).**
- **Discussions (10% of the final grade).**

## **Final Grade Range**

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|----|---|--------|
| A  | = | 93-100 |
| A- | = | 90-92  |
| B+ | = | 87-89  |
| B  | = | 83-86  |
| B- | = | 80-82  |
| C+ | = | 77-79  |
| C  | = | 73-76  |
| C- | = | 70-72  |
| D+ | = | 67-69  |
| D  | = | 63-66  |
| F  | < | 63     |

## **Special Notes:**

- Plagiarized work will not be accepted for credit.
- **Always use your SMCC email.** It is through here that updates regarding class cancellations and other pertinent information is shared.

## **College Policies**

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

Students complete evaluations for each course attended at SMCC. Evaluations are submitted online and can be accessed through the student portal. Students can access the course evaluations beginning one week before the end of classes. The deadline for submission of evaluations occurs Monday at 5 p.m. following the last day of the class. You will receive an e-mail to your student e-mail account when course evaluations are available.

### **ADA Syllabus Statement**

Southern Maine Community College is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution and employer. For more information, please call (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.

### **The Learning Commons:**

The SMCC Learning Commons are designed to bring together all the resources you need to grow your learning and improve your academic skills. The Learning Commons provide you with access to an incredible array of in-person and online resources including free tutoring, free writing assistance, and more. Click on the links above to learn about what is available to you and to make sure you are making the most of your education.

The Learning Commons is located on the second floor of the Campus Center in South Portland, and will soon have a second location in the L.L.Bean Learning Commons and Health Science Center at the Midcoast Campus.

### **SMCC Pay-for-Print Policy**

Each semester students receive a \$20 printing credit. The balance resets at the end of the semester and any remaining credits are removed. The College's pay-for-print system monitors printing on all printers (including those in general access labs, library printers, Tutoring Services, Campus Center Lounge and technology labs). Be sure to log OUT of the system when you've finished your printing, to prevent unauthorized access to your account. 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. 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 e-mail to [helpdesk@smccme.edu](mailto:helpdesk@smccme.edu).

### **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.

### **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, usually 75 percent of course meeting times; please check with the Registration Office. To withdraw from a course, a student must complete and submit the appropriate course withdrawal form, available at the Registration Office. This process must be completed either in person or by using SMCC e-mail accounts.

### **Plagiarism Statement**

If an instructor suspects that a student has knowingly committed a violation defined in the Maine Community College System Policy on Student Grade Appeals and Academic Misconduct, the instructor has the authority to review the alleged misconduct and determine the grade that the student should receive for the assignment and the course. The instructor may assign a failing grade for the assignment or course and may require the student to complete additional work for the course. The instructor may consult with the department chair and/or the College's chief academic officer prior to making such decisions. If a student seeks to challenge an instructor's determination, the student should submit a grade appeal. Grade appeal forms are available in the Advising Office on the South Portland Campus or in the administrative offices in the Learning Commons on the Midcoast Campus. An instructor may also refer the matter to the College's disciplinary officer for review under the procedures of the MCCS Student Code of Conduct.

## Course Calendar

\*This calendar is subject to change.

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| <b>Week One</b>   | <b>Get to know the online classroom. Read through the announcements and syllabus. Answer the Week One question on the discussion board.</b>   |
| <b>Week Two</b>   | <b>Read pages 27-36 (The Writing Process – Writing a Narrative Essay: A Student Essay In Progress), 37-49 (Reading Actively and Critically, stop before the next section), Dick Gregory’s “Shame” p. 142 – 147 and Erin Murphy’s “White Lies” p. 207 – 211. Respond to the Week Two Discussion prompt by Tuesday and two of your classmates’ posts by Thursday.</b> |
| <b>Week Three</b> | <b>Read pages 365-368 (Narration), “What’s in a Name” by Henry Louis Gates Jr, p. 369 – 373.</b><br><br><b>Respond to the Discussion prompt by Tuesday and two of your classmates by Thursday.</b>  |
| <b>Week Four</b>  | <b>Narrative Essay Peer Review</b>  |
| <b>Week Five</b>  | <b>Read pages 69-72 (Thesis) and “Against Meat” by Jonathan Safran Foer, p. 104-109.</b><br><br><b>Respond to the Week Five Discussion prompt by Tuesday and two of your classmates by Thursday.</b><br><br><b>The final Draft of the Narrative Essay due Thursday.</b>   |
| <b>Week Six</b>   | <b>Read pages 110-114 (Organization), pages 495-497 (Cause and Effect) and “Why We Crave Horror Movies” by Stephen King, p. 498-504</b><br><br><b>Respond to the Week Six Discussion prompt by Tuesday and two of your classmates by Thursday.</b>  |
| <b>Week Seven</b> | <b>Read “Black Men and Public Spaces” by Brent Staples, p. 504 -510 and “Sexism Starts in Childhood” by Melinda Wenner Moyer, p. 511-520.</b><br><br><b>Respond to the Week Seven Discussion prompt by Tuesday and two of your classmates by Thursday.</b>  |
| <b>Week Eight</b> | <b>Cause and Effect Essay Peer Review</b>   |

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| <b>Week Nine</b>   | <b>Read “We Need to Talk About Kids and Smartphones” by Markham Heid, p. 246-254, pages 265 – 270 and “We Should All Be Feminists” by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, pg. 282 - 287.</b><br><br><b>Respond to the Week Nine Discussion Prompt by Tuesday and two classmates by Thursday.</b><br><br><b>Final draft of the Cause and Effect Essay is due Thursday.</b> |
| <b>Week Ten</b>    | <b>Read pages 591 -625. Brainstorming for final paper topic. Choose a topic and discuss it in the discussion forum.</b>   |
| <b>Week Eleven</b> | <b>Final Essay Peer Review</b>  |
| <b>Week Twelve</b> | <b>Final Essay Due.</b>   |