

English-122S Composition II
Edison State Community College
3 Credit Hours

Instructor: Natalie McCollum

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M.A. English, Wright State University 2025

Course meeting: Online

Contact: Best way to reach me is by email. I'm also available by appointment via Zoom/video conference if needed. Communicate – let me know!

TEXTBOOKS

I Never Thought of It That Way: How to Have Fearlessly Curious Conversations in Dangerously Divided Times by Monica Guzmán. ISBN: 9781637746028

The Little Seagull Handbook, 5th edition by Bullock, Brody, and Weinberg. ISBN: 9781324060086

TESTING AND EVALUATION

Grading Scale:

A	90-100	D	60-69
B	80-89	F	0-59
C	70-79		

GRADING

The final course grade will be composed of the project grade of four major assignments worth 20%, and a collection of small exercises (Participation Points) that will make up the remaining 20% lumped together under Participation.

ASSIGNMENTS

Four major essays will be assigned during the semester. Each essay may require a pre-writing activity, a minimum of two drafts, or a peer workshop: all assignments will factor in to the total Project Grade. **All essays must have a final draft that meets assignment criteria submitted to pass the class.**

PARTICIPATION

Participation points will be earned throughout the semester by completing the Participation Points Exercises (PPE). The percentage of total points earned is your participation grade.

REVISIONS

Writing is a process. The first draft of a paper should not be the last. This course will ask that you take an active role in the revision process through peer workshopping and self-editing. Typically, our drafting process will be as follows:

1. First Draft

The first draft will be peer workshopped. To workshop essays, I'll provide a set of guidelines that you should use in offering feedback. Each student will be assigned two papers to review.

2. Second Draft

You should revise after the workshop. Your second draft should NOT be the same as the first draft. Submitting the same draft may result in forfeiting the completion points awarded for the first draft. I will provide feedback with a grade on this draft.

3. Third Draft

If you're satisfied with the grade, then there is no need for a third draft. If you are not satisfied, review my feedback and complete a Revision Worksheet. Then, revise accordingly. The Revision Worksheet must be submitted with a polished draft to receive a re-scoring. (There will not be an opportunity to revise the Critique assignment.)

4. Final Grade

The third draft must be submitted by the due date unless otherwise negotiated ahead of time. If no new draft is submitted, the second draft grade remains. If a third draft is submitted, the new draft is scored and, if higher, overwrites the second draft grade. There is always opportunity for feedback throughout the process by emailing the instructor, consulting with the embedded tutor, scheduling a conference, or completing class exercises.

COURSE POLICIES

Attendance & Class Participation: This is an online course, so it is essential that you complete and submit all the discussion questions (PPE) from our assigned reading as well as the essay drafts for completion credit and the graded final drafts. Because we don't meet in person to have class discussion, your responses to the posted discussions will substitute for that.

Grading: Your final grade will be based on completion credit for your responses to the posted discussion questions (PPE) from our assigned reading plus completion credit for a draft of each essay we write and a graded final copy of each essay (4 total essays). Assigned readings should be done before the class day they are listed so that you can respond to the relevant discussion question posted for that day by 11:59 p.m. (late responses may only receive partial credit).

ChatGPT and other AI Language Models: If you use AI, please use sparingly. Although there are beneficial uses of AI, such as to generate ideas and for brainstorming as a pre-writing activity, please be aware that relying on a computer to do your thinking for you will not benefit your development as a critical thinker or the quality of your education. **See the AI-Generated Text policy for this course below on page 4.**

1. Ensure you have all the necessary resources: access to a computer and the internet, Microsoft Word or software compatible with Microsoft Word files, a library barcode number, and the course textbooks.

2. This course requires self-guided learning. You will have to establish your own studying schedule and actively seek out additional clarification or feedback when necessary.

3. I'm available for conference by appointment. Please email me to set up a time/method (video conference or in person).

4. It is your responsibility to ensure that your work is submitted on time. Everything will be submitted via Blackboard. Double check that your submission went through. Verify with me if necessary. If I do not have it, I cannot grade it.

5. I will respond to emails within 24 hours Monday-Thursday. Emails sent Friday-Sunday may not be answered until Monday morning. Otherwise, I'll respond as I'm able. If it's urgent, politely request a quick response, and I will make time to reply.

6. Check your email and Blackboard regularly. Failure to see changes or missing instructions will cost you points. This is an online course. Consider Blackboard and your email the classroom. Not showing up to class will have a negative impact on your grade.

7. Proofreading is important. All assignments should be polished and written to the best of your ability. **Excessive mechanics, usage, grammar, or spelling (MUGS) errors may result in automatic failure of the assignment at my discretion.** Papers failed for MUGS may be resubmitted twice for re-grading.

8. Assignments must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. on the date assigned. Submitting late may cause your work to be docked up to 50% or in some cases, not accepted at all. Failing to submit a second draft of one of the 4 major assignments within one week of the due date, unless otherwise individually negotiated, will result in your failing of the course.

9. All work must be your own, produced by you and not by someone else.

10. Once submitted, I may use your work for demonstration purposes in this and other courses. If I do choose your work, it will be completely anonymous. If you're not OK with this, please send me an email immediately to document that you do not consent to having your work used for demonstration purposes.

Plagiarism and Academic Honesty:

Plagiarism is the use of someone else's writing and/or work without giving proper credit – or perhaps without giving any credit at all to the writer of the original material. Whether plagiarism is intentional or unintentional, it represents a serious academic offense that can be easily avoided by adhering closely to the following advice. A student must document his/her/their source of information whenever he/she/they:

- uses direct quotations
- copies a table, chart, or diagram
- constructs a table from data provided by others
- paraphrases a passage in his/her/their own words
- presents specific examples, figures, or factual information taken from a specific source and uses to explain or support his/her/their judgments (James M. McCrimmon, *Writing with a Purpose*, p. 499).

In addition to this definition, I consider plagiarism to include: (1) submitting the work of another student, (2) copying from another student, (3) using unauthorized notes or crib sheets to complete assigned work, or (4) submitting an essay generated in part or entirely by AI (adopted from a statement used by the Human Services program at James A. Rhodes State College).

AI-Generated Text: This is a writing intensive class, and I expect *all writing to be your own, not written by AI*. Although there are beneficial uses of AI, such as to generate ideas and brainstorming as a pre-writing activity, please be aware that relying on a computer to do your thinking for you will not benefit your development as a critical thinker or the quality of your education. It is still better to use your own brain and original thoughts as a human being, as a machine cannot replace the authenticity of the lived human experience. Therefore, if you copy any language or phrasing generated by AI into your essay (generally, 4 or more words in a row as produced by the model), **you must put quotation marks around the copied words** and provide a parenthetical citation at the end of your sentence identifying the AI model used. Failure to do so is considered plagiarism. **Any essay or assignment that is found to be partly or entirely written by AI and presented as your own original writing will receive an automatic zero, no exceptions.**

COURSE SCHEDULE:

Week	Monday	Wednesday	Friday
1	⇒ Start reading Guzmán, <i>I Never Thought of It That Way</i>		Due Aug 28 • Read excerpt from <i>They Say/I Say</i> • Discussion Board: Response to PPE 1
2	⇒ Finish Part 1/start Part 2 Guzmán book		Due Sept 4 • Discussion Board: Response to PPE 2
3	*Labor Day*	⇒ Read Part 3 Guzmán	Due Sept 11 • Discussion Board: Response to PPE 3
4	⇒ Read Parts 4 & 5 in Guzmán book		Due Sept 18 • Discussion Board: Response to PPE 4

5		Due Sept 23 • Book Review draft #1	Due Sept 25 • Book Review Peer Workshop @ 11:59 pm
6		Due Sept 30 • Book Review draft #2	
7			Due Oct 9 • DB: Response to PPE 5
8		Due Oct 14 • Editorial Analysis draft #1	Due Oct 16 • Editorial Analysis Peer Workshop @ 11:59 pm
Week	Monday	Wednesday	Friday
9	Due Oct 19 • Editorial Analysis draft #2	⇒ Start working on Annotated Bibliography	Due Oct 23 • DB: Response to PPE 6
10			Due Oct 30 • Annotated Bibliography
11		Due Nov 4 • DB: Response to PPE 7	
12		Due Nov 11 • Research Argument draft #1	Due Nov 13 • Research Argument Peer Workshop @ 11:59 pm

13		Due Nov 18 • Research Argument draft #2	
14	Due Nov 23 • DB: Response to PPE 8	Thanksgiving/ holiday break	
15		Due Dec 2 • Capstone draft #1	Due Dec 4 • Capstone Peer Workshop @ 11:59 pm
16			Due Dec 11 • Capstone Final Draft

Submitting substantially the same work:

Everything that you submit for this course should be developed specifically for this course. You should not reuse assignments, even if they were not submitted/accepted. This means that **if you have previously taken this course or have, in the past, taken other courses similar to this course, you cannot submit the same assignments you developed for those courses.**

Academic honesty:

All class members are assumed to be honest. Attempting to deceive, defraud, or use dishonesty for one's own gain will not be tolerated in any form. Cheating during any class activity is unethical and compromises the integrity of the college and subverts the process of education. Cheating may result in a grade of "0" for the activity.

Assistance for students with documented disabilities:

Edison State Community College will make reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities. If you believe you may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability, contact the instructor privately with your self-identification letter. If you do not have a self-identification letter, contact Accessibility and Disability Support Services by emailing disabilities@edisonohio.edu or by calling 937.778.7850. Accessibility and Disability Support Services is located on the Piqua Campus in Room 160.

Mental health services:

We have established partnerships with many local mental health providers. If you are struggling and need to speak with someone in person, please reach out to the Edison State Care Team, <https://www.edisonohio.edu/CARE-Team/>. If you are concerned about a student or colleague, please file a CARE Team form <https://www.edisonohio.edu/CARE-Team-Referral-Form/>.

Title IX statement – anti-discrimination, harassment, and bullying:

It is the policy of the College to maintain a learning environment free from bullying, discrimination, sexual harassment or sexual violence. Title IX federal law protects students, employees and third parties with a relationship to the college. All Edison State Community College employees are required to report all knowledge of incidents that violate the Title IX policy to the Title IX Coordinator or Deputy Title IX Coordinator immediately. Student and employee confidential consultation is available through the Coordinator of Health and Wellness Services. Title IX Policy and procedure language as well as contact information for the Coordinator of Health and Wellness, Title IX Coordinator and Deputy Title IX Coordinator can be found at www.edisonohio.edu/TitleIX/.

Testing Your Faith Act policy:

Edison State Community College is committed to providing an environment respectful of students' beliefs. Students are permitted to be absent for up to 3 days each semester based on their faith, religion, or spiritual belief system with no academic penalty. Students must complete the Testing Your Faith Act Accommodations Form, <https://www.edisonohio.edu/services-support/registration-records>, located in "Forms" and provide a copy to their individual faculty within 14 days from the start of the course. The entire policy can be found in the student handbook at <https://www.edisonohio.edu/services-support/student-resources>.