

Eng-121 COMPOSITION I COURSE SYLLABUS

Edison State Community College-Piqua Campus (Ohio)

FALL SEMESTER, 2026
Eng. 121S 812, 813, 814, 815

Credits: 3 Credits

Course Meeting: Online

Course Location: Online

Instructor: Matthew Horn, PhD in Literary Traditions from Kent State University, 2005

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Office Hours: TTH via Blackboard Messaging, and other meetings can be arranged through web-conference or by telephone.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Involves writing based on the study of logic, primary research techniques, and the student's own personal experiences. Such writings may include explanation, commentary, interpretation, analysis, and review.

All writing will stress standard English, organization, and style. Prerequisite: Satisfactory assessment scores in reading and writing or ENG 091D and ENG 093D. Lab fee.

COURSE GOALS

The student will:

1. Recognize that writing, and the study of it, is a significant part of a college education.
2. Produce personal writing based on memory, reflection, and observation.
3. Produce academic writings based on observation, interviewing, analysis of reading, inductive
4. reasoning, and primary and periodical research.
5. Model the writing process of critical thinking, composing, revising, editing, and publishing.
6. Apply critical thinking to the evaluation of his/her own arguments and those of others.

7. Use the library and research databases as a significant source of information for college courses.
8. Write clearly organized, well developed, essays fulfilling specific assignments.
9. Read for summary, example, analysis, and application.
10. Accept responsibility for finished drafts that use standard American English sentence structure,
11. grammar, punctuation, and mechanics.
12. 10. Choose written organization and style appropriate to college work.
13. 11. Follow M.L.A. guidelines for documenting source material.

CORE VALUES

The Core Values are a set of principles which guide in creating educational programs and environments at Edison. They include communication, ethics, critical thinking, human diversity, inquiry/respect for learning, and interpersonal skills/teamwork. The goals, objectives, and activities in this course will introduce/reinforce these Core Values whenever appropriate.

TEXTBOOKS

The Word, by Monique Babin, Carol Burnell, Susan Pesznecker, Nicole Rosevear, Jaime Wood,
URL: <https://openoregon.pressbooks.pub/wrd/>.

The Little Seagull Handbook, Bullock, Brody and Weinberg. ISBN: 978-0-393-93581-3

ATTENDANCE

I take attendance based on how you log in to the class. You'll need to log in to the class at least three times a week, and you need to spend at least a total of 2 hours logged in. Every week that this does not happen will be counted as 3 traditional absences. If you have a total of 6 unexcused or unallowed absences, you cannot receive more than a B+ in the class. If you have 7-9, it will be some sort of C, etc.

Please email, call, or text me (I prefer a text because it is so much faster than an email) to let me know if you will not be able to do work in the class during a certain non-holiday week.

ORIGINALITY IN WRITING

It is generally accepted that academic writing consists of the author's thoughts which are supported by properly cited sources through paraphrasing, summary, and quotations. At the

instructor's discretion, papers with excessive quotations, where quotations make up 10% or more of the paper, may not meet the assignment requirements, and be dealt with accordingly.

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.

NETIQUETTE

We will be communicating a lot with each other. You will need to be respectful of the instructor and each other. Your classmates' ideas and beliefs may differ from your own, be polite! When in doubt, you can agree to disagree. You will be expected to communicate with your classmates and your instructor using appropriate language and style, which includes written/typed communication. Remember: the way you communicate can reflect the level of respect you have the people with whom you communicate. You will want to practice good e-mail etiquette when typing questions/responses to the instructor and classmates, such as avoiding using all caps when typing or using an accusatory tone.

COMMUNICATION POLICY

E-mails sent to me by 4:00 p.m. Monday-Friday with course name and section number (ENG 121 811FS in the subject line from your Edison e-mail will be answered within 48 hours unless the school is closed (breaks/holidays). Assignments submitted through course messages or e-mail will not be accepted for a grade without prior written authorization from the instructor. If you are given permission to submit via e-mail, it must be submitted through your Edison e-mail.

LATE WORK

All work should be submitted on time. With the exception of major essays, no late work will be accepted after 48 hours of the assigned deadline. Major essays, with the exception of the final, may be submitted up to one week past the due date with a letter grade penalty. The final essay will NOT be accepted after the term has officially ended. I reserve the right to make exceptions due to extreme circumstances at my discretion. *Any extension given for extreme circumstances will require documentation submitted to the instructor.

GRADES

The class is out of 100 pts.

Grading scale:

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

ESSAYS

Summary Essay, 5 pts

Analogy Essay, 10 pts

Rhetorical Analysis, 10 pts

Interpretation Essay, 10 pts

Critique, 10 pts

Research Proposal Essay, 10 pts

QUIZZES

The class has eight work folders. Every work folder has a quiz over the readings and work in that folder. The quiz is the last assignment in each folder. Each quiz is worth 5 pts. This is a total of 40 pts.

LIBRARY ASSIGNMENT

You will complete an assignment that shows me you know how to navigate the digital resources of the library. This assignment will be worth 5 pts.

REVISIONS

Writing is a process. As such, you will be given an opportunity to get feedback on your writing and to improve it and resubmit it. Please watch my video on revision, posted in Work Folder 1. Since revision is a major part of writing, I will allow you to revise your essays once they have been graded. You get one attempt at a revision for each writing assignment. I must receive the revision by the assigned deadline. I expect revisions to go beyond simply addressing my comments by carefully examining and trying to meet the grading criteria. You are welcome to submit a revision before the assigned deadline; however, the assignment may not be graded before this assigned date.

ESSAY ORIGINALITY AND ACADEMIC HONESTY

Edison State Community College expects students to submit original work for each assignment. The Student Handbook <https://www.edisonohio.edu/digipub/StudentHandbook/index.html>, pages 28-29 clearly defines academic dishonesty and how Edison handles cases of academic dishonesty. Using peer support and tutoring services is not considered academic dishonesty, as long as the work is original and in your own voice, meaning you didn't submit work you did previously or "borrow" words/ideas without crediting the source. The same policy goes for AI-

generated text. For example, you may use predictive text to fix spelling errors. You may not tell an AI software to write a critique of an essay for you and copy/paste the text. Any use of AI (outside of spell-checker) must be approved by the instructor and noted with the following at the bottom of the assignment:

“The author generated this text in part with <insert name/URL of AI platform>. Upon generating draft language, the author reviewed, edited, and revised the language to their own liking and takes ultimate responsibility for the content of this submission.”

Any final draft exhibiting the use of AI without permission and crediting the source will be counted as plagiarism. Any assignment that is plagiarized (whether intentional or unintentional) or lacks appropriate citations will automatically receive a failing grade. Intentional submission of someone else’s work as your own will result in automatic failure for the course. Whereas, assignments that simply fail to cite in MLA format will have points deducted accordingly.

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>.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

For Blackboard Assignment issues, the Instructor should be the first point of contact
For Log-in or other technology issues:

There are several steps you can follow if you have issues logging in to Blackboard or Office.
During business hours:

- 1) Password reset: Log onto office.com with your Edison email and follow the “forgot password” prompts.
- 2) Reach out for help during regular business hours (9-5 Monday-Thursday, 9-4 Friday)
email to support@edisonohio.edu
call 937-778-8600 and ask for IT Help Desk After hours
- 3) Password reset: Log onto office.com with your Edison email and follow the “forgot password” prompts
- 4) Go to www.edisonohio.edu into the Resources tab and click "IT Help Desk" then click "Chat".
- 5) Call 937-778-7957 and talk to the off-campus Blackboard company to get help.

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 the Office of Disability Services by emailing disabilities@edisonohio.edu or by calling 937-778-8600. The Office of Disability Services is located on the Piqua Campus in Room 160. For additional information, visit the Disability Services web page at <http://www.edisonohio.edu/disability>.

SCHEDULE OF ASSIGNMENTS

The class is divided into 8 work folders. Each work folder has a due date clearly stated in the folder's title, and all work in that folder is due by 11:59pm of that day.

Work Folder 1 (Due 5 Sept)

To Do: (1) Watch all the intro-to-the class videos. (2) Read the instructions for the summary assignment. (3) Watch the video on writing a summary. (4) Read pp. 42-45 in The Little Seagull handbook. (5) Read the editorial "Being Green at Ben and Jerry's." (6) Write your summary paragraph on this essay. (7) Take the Work Folder 1 quiz.

Work Folder 2 (Due 15 Sept)

To Do: (1) Watch my video on rhetorical analysis. (2) Listen to Garrison Keillor's audio performance called "The Prophet." (3) Watch my video on the specific instructions for the rhetorical analysis essay. (4) Watch the YouTube video on Super Bowl commercials. (5) Read the "Watching More Commercials" file. (6) Conduct your own research into more SB commercials. (7) Write and submit your rhetorical analysis on the collection of commercials you develop. (8) Take the Work Folder 2 quiz.

Work Folder 3 (Due 1 Oct)

To Do: (1) Read the story "The Fly." (2) Watch the video on "The Fly." (3) Read the story "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty." (4) Watch the video on "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty." (5) Read the story "Marionettes, Inc." (6) Read the instructions on how to write the interpretation essay on "Marionettes, Inc." (7) Write and submit your interpretation essay. (8) Watch the video on starting the proposal essay (due at end of course). (9) Take the Work Folder 3 quiz.

Work Folder 4 (Due 15 Oct)

To Do: (1) Watch my video on final grades, revisions, and incompletes. (2) Watch my video on how to write a critique. (3) Read David Foster Wallace's "Consider the Lobster" and watch my video on this article. (4) Read (or listen to) David Foster Wallace's piece "This Is Water." (5) Write

and submit a critique on "This Is Water." (6) Watch my video on humor in homeless signs. (7) Take the Work Folder 4 quiz.

Work Folder 5 (Due 1 Nov)

To Do: (1) Watch my video on the proposal work for homeless signs. (2) Read pages 1-10 and 38-42 in the pdf on humor in discussions about the homeless ("You're Lying to Jesus"). (3) Watch my two videos on "Come In, CQ." (4) Read the pdf "Come In, CQ." (5) Watch my video on why I give affirmation quizzes. (6) Take the Work Folder 5 quiz.

Work Folder 6 (Due 15 Nov)

To Do: (1) Catch up with any late work. (2) Watch my video about sports writing. (3) Read the short pieces on Babe Ruth and Jay Dean. (4) Take the Work Folder 6 quiz.

Work Folder 7 (Due 1 Dec)

To Do: (1) Watch my two videos on how to write the proposal essay and read the instructions file. (2) Begin your proposal essay. (3) Watch my video on the connection technique for essay writing. (4) Read the selection from the book Freakonomics. (5) Take the Work Folder 6 quiz.

Work Folder 8 (Due 12 Dec)

To Do: (1) Watch my video on late work and incompletes. (2) Read the Final Exam document. (3) Write and submit your proposal essay. (4) Take the Work Folder 8 quiz.