

Missouri Western State College, Division of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Department of English, Foreign Languages, and Journalism

English 100-04: Introduction to College Writing

Class: 12:00-12:50 MWF A202

Writer's Workshop: 2:00-2:50 TTh JGM 105, 303

Spring 2001

Teacher: Dr. Stacia Bensyl

Office: JGM 207-I

Phone: x5936

Office Hours: 8:00-9:00 and 11:00-12:00 MWF, and by appointment

E-mail: bensyl

Attendance Policy:

This class has a very strict attendance policy in Writer's Workshops as well as in class. If you miss seven class periods or three Writer's Workshops, you will receive an F in the class. Ordinarily, there are no exceptions and no "makeups" for this attendance requirement. If you know of any circumstances likely to make this policy difficult for you this semester, you should consult with your advisor and your teacher to review your options.

If you miss a class session, you are responsible for all material covered and assignments given during your absence. All out-of-class assignments are due at the beginning of the class period. No late assignments will be accepted unless you have received prior permission from your teacher.

Required Texts and Course Materials:

Dietsch, Betty. *Reasoning and Writing Well*. 2nd edition. Mountain View, CA: Mayfield, 2000.

English 100 Writer's Workshops. Spring 2001 ed.

3-1/2" floppy disks and a disk storage box

Photocopies for group work as requested

Course Goals and Class Assignments:

Reading Goals:

At the completion of ENG 100 students should be able to

- Read actively for greater understanding;
- Use reading to improve their writing by drawing ideas and information from written material;
- Use texts to understand their own and others' experiences;
- Read writing assignments effectively as a guide to creating better papers;
- Recognize good writing by actively reading good prose.

Writing Goals:

At the completion of ENG 100 students should be able to

- Move easily from writing for self-expression to writing for readers;
- Write at greater length more easily, more quickly, and more usefully;

- Structure their writing to fit the assignment, purpose, and audience;
- Develop their ideas and concepts with specific details, examples, and explanations;
- Craft more effective and polished sentences and paragraphs;
- Use effective planning, invention, revision, and editing to complete successful writing tasks.

General Studies Goals:

In ENG 100 students should improve their ability to

- Think critically and reason analytically;
- Write and speak clearly and effectively;
- Gain a greater awareness of the present through an understanding of other cultures and times;
- Understand and appreciate moral values and ethical choices;
- Understand and enjoy aesthetic experiences and share in related creative activities.

Civility and Cooperation

Missouri Western requires all students to help us maintain good conditions for teaching and learning. All students will treat their classmates, teachers, and student assistants with civility and respect, both inside and outside the classroom. **Students who violate this policy may, among other penalties, be counted absent and asked to leave.** You should review your Missouri Western student handbook for further information.

Grading Policy:

Your grade will be determined on the basis of your progress as a writer, the writings you submit, and your class participation over the course of the semester. The components of your grade in the course are:

Writing. You will complete four major writing tasks that will be graded by your teacher. A student who does not turn in complete responses to all four tasks will not pass the course even if the grades achieved in the other writing tasks are satisfactory.

Progress as a writer. Your progress as a writer will be assessed through an end-of-semester portfolio in which you must put revised responses to writing tasks. Your portfolio must receive an "acceptable" evaluation in order for you to pass ENG 100.

Writer's Workshop. Throughout the course of the semester, you will attend the once-a-week, small group Writer's Workshops (listed as "labs" in the class schedule). Some of your Writer's Workshop materials may be used in class, and some of your class papers will be critiqued and proofread in Writer's Workshops. You must ensure that you have the right materials in the right place. Your teacher may also consider your Writer's Workshop participation as part of your grade.

Due Dates for Formal Writing Assignments:

Task One: Friday, February 2

Task Two: Friday, February 23

Task Three: Friday, March 30

Task Four: Friday, April 20

Student Disability:

Any student in this course who has a disability that prevents the fullest expressions of abilities should contact Missouri Western's special needs coordinator, Lois Fox, for possible certification of special needs and expert recommendations for assistance. You should also contact your teacher personally as soon as possible so that the two of you can discuss class requirements.

Academic Honesty Policy:

If your teacher finds evidence of cheating or plagiarism, you have the burden of showing that the paper has in fact been written by you. You should keep thorough evidence of your writing processes for all papers so that you can meet this burden of proof. You will receive a grade of F for any paper that shows sufficient evidence of cheating and/or plagiarism. Stronger evidence proving flagrant cheating and/or plagiarism may lead to even stronger penalties. Please note carefully the statement on plagiarism on the departmental website, found at <http://www.missouriwestern.edu/EFLJ/plagiarism.asp> .

Daily Writing, Portfolio, and Grading Scale:

Although you will be writing in class daily, your daily assignments will be turned in at the same time as each of your task assignments in a portfolio which documents the skills you have developed and your practice of those skills for each task. I will give each of you a folder in which to keep your Task Portfolio. Please turn in the complete portfolio to me, including rough drafts (with peer reviews) and final drafts of your task paper. Each Task Portfolio is worth twenty-five percent of your grade.

Grading Scale:

100-90% --A

89-80% --B

79-70% --C

69-60% --D

59-0% --F

Remember--you must earn a grade of "C" or higher in order to advance to English 104 next semester.

Task One Assignment Schedule:

Please read the following assignments prior to the date listed and be prepared to discuss them in class on the day indicated.

January 17 introduction and instructions

19 read Chapters One and Two

22 read Chapter Three

24 read Chapter Ten

26 read "How to Get Out of a Locked Trunk" page 556

29 read Chapter Thirteen

31 read Chapter Four--Rough Draft of Task One due in class

February 2 Task One Portfolio Due