

## ENGLISH 108: COLLEGE WRITING AND RESEARCH

Fall 2005

Missouri Western State College  
School of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
Department of English, Foreign Languages, and Journalism

Section 05: TTH, 9:30-10:50, JGM 108

Instructor: Valorie Stokes  
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**ENG 108 College Writing and Research.** Instruction in researching and writing; emphasizes practice with writing effective papers using field and document research

### COURSE PHILOSOPHY

English 108 is about continuing your quest to be critical readers and thoughtful writers. In addition, the course is designed to help you become careful and critical researchers.

### REQUIRED MATERIALS

Weidenborner, Caruso and Parks, *Writing Research Papers: A Guide to the Process*, 7<sup>th</sup> ed. Boston, Bedford-St. Martin's, 2005.  
A three-ring binder exclusively for English 108 work with sections for class notes, reading response work, research journaling and reflecting  
Folders for Process Work on the major assignments  
A couple of computer disks

### COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Common departmental requirements can be found online at: <http://www.missouriwestern.edu/eflj/eng108.asp>

You will complete four research projects this semester. A student who does not complete all projects will not pass the course even if the grades achieved in other activities are satisfactory.

The project assignments will include:

- Research Project #1: An Annotated Bibliography
- Research Project #2: The Day You Were Born: Putting Yourself in Historical Context
- Research Project #3: American Classics: Evaluating a Pop Culture Icon
- Research Project #4: Research Paper – Persuasive in nature and very likely focused on a social Issue

You must use computer word processing for all your writing for this course.

All assignments must be submitted in person at the beginning of the class period on the date due. Assigned readings must be completed before the class meeting when the material will be covered and discussed.

All writing projects must be submitted according to the format instructions given or they will not be accepted.

Assignments that are not submitted by deadline will not be accepted for grading unless I determine that extenuating circumstances should allow you to do so. Such considerations will be a rarity.

### Course Grade:

Points will be awarded for all projects. At the end of the term, I will divide your points by the number of possible points and award grades on the basis of the following percentages:

90-99% Course Grade A  
80-89% Course Grade B  
70-79% Course Grade C  
60-69% Course Grade D  
Below 60% Course Grade F

I anticipate the following number of possible points for the term:

Up to 125 possible points for in-class discussions/activities and out-of-class reading responses and research journaling/reflecting. Typically these items will be worth 5-15 points per activity. No make-ups or late work will be accepted for these activities.

Writing Project #1 – 100 possible points  
Writing Project #2 – 200 possible points  
Writing Project #3 – 250 possible points  
Writing Project #4 – 400 possible points  
Final Exam – 150 possible points

**Final Exam:**

**The Final Exam for this class is scheduled for:**

**Thursday, December 15, 8:30-10:20 a.m.**

**Academic Honesty:**

Why anyone would enroll in a course and then go to the work of cheating or stealing in the guise of plagiarism is beyond me. If, however, I determine that such instances have occurred, the first incident will result in a failing grade, or 0-60% of the possible points on the assignment. The second incident will result in a failing grade for the course.

**Attendance:**

For you to have a successful experience in this class, your attendance is mandatory. My expectation is that you will be here on time and ready to participate for every class meeting. While occasionally “things” come up that make you run late, anyone not present when I take roll at the beginning of the class will be marked absent. You will need to see me after class to talk to me about any extenuating circumstances that might change the absence status. All students will be allowed one of these post-class conferences to allow for rare occasions and to eliminate the need for me to conference more than once with chronic or repeat offenders. If you arrive more than 15 minutes late to class, however, the absence will stand regardless of the reason for your tardiness.

Although occasional illnesses or emergencies will cause students to miss class, minimizing absences can only contribute to your success in this class. Therefore, you are allowed two absences before your course grade will be affected. Absences beyond that up to four in the TTH classes and five in MWF classes will result in deduction on your final grade. More than those allowable absences will fail you. Students who are in absence trouble by midterm should withdraw to avoid the F on their transcript.

If you miss a class session, you are responsible for all material covered and all assignments given during that absence. Please remember that all out-of-class assignments are due at the beginning of each class period and no late assignments will be accepted unless you have prior permission from your instructor.

**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.

**Student Disability:**

Anyone who has a disability that prevents the fullest expression of her or his potential to succeed in this course must notify me in writing as soon as possible so we may discuss course requirements, options, and accommodations.