

# English Composition 111

Instructor: Adam R. McKee

Office: 350 Olin Hall

Email:

MTWF 11:00-11:50

Room:

Office Hours: MWF 10-11 and App.

Office Phone:

## Course Texts

- *Writing Without Formulas*. Expanded Edition. William Thelin. 2008.
- *Quick Access*. Sixth Edition. Prentice Hall Publishers, 2010.

## Course Requirements

- Three Formal Essays (drafts, revisions, final)
- Group Essay (drafts, revisions, final)
- In-Class Essay
- Homework, Reading Quizzes
- Reflective Letter
- Final Portfolio

## Classroom Behavior

The design of this course will require student engagement both in the discussion of the reading assignments and the development of writing assignments. Therefore, when appropriate students will be required to participate in classroom discussions. Students will act appropriately when speaking in class, and respect other students in the classroom as well as the instructor. As a basic rule, if there is any question about the appropriate nature of a comment, do not say it as issues may be more sensitive to other students in the classroom than to yourself. Please keep cell phones on silent when in the classroom. Students are also required to leave laptops closed during class and keep from distracting other students.

## Formal Essays

During the semester students will be responsible for producing three formal essays on selected topics. The topics will be both from the class text and from independent sources. Students will be expected to writing between 4-5 pages on each essay and will be provided with detailed handouts for each essay.

## Group Essay

In the middle of the semester students will meet in groups to decide on a topic from section III of *Writing Without Formulas* to use for a group essay. Students will meet and discuss topic choices, who will be responsible for which section of the essay. Essay will be at least 5 pages and groups will present the essays to the class.

## In-Class Essay

During the 14<sup>th</sup> week of class students will be given one full class period to write an in-class essay. Students should respond with a coherent essay that demonstrates their preparation, organization, and editing.

### Homework/Reading Quizzes

Students will be required to prepare themselves for class. As part of this preparation, they should complete the appropriate readings and take-home assignments. Throughout the semester if students are not keeping up with the readings or homework, there will be pop quizzes and scheduled quizzes to ensure students participation.

### Reflective Letter

The reflective letter will introduce your portfolio. You will be explaining your thorough understanding of at least three rhetorical concepts listed on the portfolio grading rubric and demonstrate how you applied these concepts throughout your drafting and revising process. You must give specific references to the essays you have chosen in your portfolio to use as examples of your understanding, highlighting those areas with a marker, underlining, or something similar. Attention will be paid especially to revisions based on these concepts. You will also need to write about your strengths and weaknesses as a writer, as demonstrated through the portfolio.

### Portfolio

The portfolio will contain your reflective letter, two essays of your choice (plus the drafts), and your in-class essay. You will have the opportunity to revise these two essays further to highlight your understanding of key concepts you mention in your reflective letter.

### Attendance and Participation Policy

Students will be expected to attend class regularly and to participate while in class. While illnesses and other documented absences are sometimes unavoidable, missing class on a frequent basis will affect your grade. Also, attending class and simply sitting in your seat will also affect your grade. Therefore, in order to completely succeed and receive full credit in both of these areas, students must both attend and participate. One week of missed classes will be permitted with no damage to student grades, after one week students will lose one letter grade, after two weeks students will lose two letter grades, and after three weeks students will no longer be able to pass the course.

### Point Values

Formal Essays 10 points/ 3 essays = 30 points

Group Essay = 15 points

In-Class Essay = 5 points

Portfolios = 20 points

Homework/ Quizzes = 15 points

Participation = 15 points

### Grading Scale

A 100-91

A- 90-89

B+ 88-87

B 86-81

B- 80-79

C+ 78-77

C 76-71

C- 70-69

D+ 68-67

D 66-60

F 59-0

## Plagiarism Policy:

*The Composition Program in the Department of English at the University of Akron will enforce a strict policy regarding students submitting written work that constitutes Academic Dishonesty. Academic Dishonesty is defined as any of the following acts:*

- *Turning in a paper written in whole or in part by another person;*
- *Copying, inserting, downloading, or otherwise including paragraphs or sections from a professional source into a paper without properly referencing it, as determined by the MLA system;*
- *Cheating, including allowing a classmate to use or copy from your work and altering or interfering with grading;*
- *Submitting work presented previously in another course, if contrary to the rules of either course;*
- *Turning in a paper whose contents include the exact words or paraphrases from sources not properly documented through referenced quotations, parenthetical citations, and a Works Cited page, as determined by the MLA system;*
- *Knowingly misrepresenting or fabricating in a paper the ideas of another, the student's experiences, or facts surrounding an event, observation, or sequence;*
- *Failing to document through parenthetical citations and a Works Cited page statistics, ideas, or facts not commonly known in a paper.*

*The enforcement will be as follows:*

- *In cases involving the submission of work wherein 20% or more of the content contains the work of non-referenced others and where the intent to deceive has been established, the student will receive an "F" for the course and be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for further disciplinary action.*
- *In cases involving the submission of a paper written in whole or in part by another person, the student will receive an "F" for the course and be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for further disciplinary action.*
- *In cases involving cheating or submission of a paper presented previously to another course, the student will receive an "F" for the paper and be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for further disciplinary action.*
- *In cases involving the submission of work wherein less than 20% of the content contains the work of non-referenced others and where the intent to deceive has been established, the student will receive an "F" for the assignment.*
- *In cases involving misrepresentation or fabrication of ideas, experiences, or facts, the student will receive an "F" for the assignment.*
- *In cases involving inadequate or missing documentation for individual sentences or paragraphs, the student will be allowed to revise but can receive no higher than a "C" on the final revision.*

Acknowledgement of Understanding  
Academic Dishonesty Policy

My signature below affirms that I understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. If I have any questions about the use of sources or how to document, I will ask my instructor for clarification before turning in any work for a grade. I understand that serious acts of academic dishonesty will result in my receiving an “F” for the course and that I could be subject to further disciplinary action.

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Signature of Student

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Date

*Tentative Daily Schedule*

<b>1</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>Intro, Syllabus</b>	
	<b>T</b>	<b>Intro to Quick Access</b>	
	<b>W</b>	<b>Chapter One, “Malcolm X”</b>	<b>Discussion pg 11</b>
	<b>F</b>	<b>“TrueMajority”/ Essay 1 Intro</b>	<b>Collaborating pg 17</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>Chapter Two, “Luciano”</b>	
	<b>T</b>	<b>“Hertz”</b>	<b>Collaborating pg 28</b>
	<b>W</b>	<b>“Kinsley”</b>	<b>Collaborating pg 38</b>
	<b>F</b>	<b>“Meyer”</b>	<b>Discussion pg 50</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>No class</b>	
	<b>T</b>	<b>Essay 1 Due/ Chapter Three/ “Blake”</b>	
	<b>W</b>	<b>“Quindlen”</b>	<b>Writing pg 59</b>
	<b>F</b>	<b>“Mellix”</b>	<b>Collaborating pg 86</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>Chapter Four/ “Singer &amp; Wise”</b>	<b>Collaborating pg 100</b>
	<b>T</b>	<b>“Toufexis”</b>	
	<b>W</b>	<b>“Jackson”</b>	
	<b>F</b>	<b>“Kaplan”</b>	
<b>5</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>Chapter Five/ “Guang”</b>	<b>Discussion pg 129</b>
	<b>T</b>	<b>“King”</b>	<b>Writing pg 137</b>
	<b>W</b>	<b>“Bass”</b>	<b>Collaborating pg 143</b>
	<b>F</b>	<b>“Lutz”</b>	
<b>6</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>Essay Two Due/ Chapter Six/ “Lau”</b>	
	<b>T</b>	<b>“Tompkins”</b>	
	<b>W</b>	<b>Chapter Seven (Collaboration)</b>	
	<b>F</b>	<b>Chapter Seven (Cont...)</b>	
<b>7</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>“Laffey”</b>	
	<b>T</b>	<b>“McCarthy”</b>	
	<b>W</b>	<b>“Corliss and Lemonick”</b>	
	<b>F</b>	<b>Group Essay Intro</b>	<b>Collaborating pg 202</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>Group Essays</b>	
	<b>T</b>	<b>Group Essays</b>	
	<b>W</b>	<b>Group Essays</b>	
	<b>F</b>	<b>Group Essays</b>	
<b>9</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>Group Essays</b>	
	<b>T</b>	<b>Group Essays</b>	
	<b>W</b>	<b>Group Essays</b>	
	<b>F</b>	<b>Group Essays Due</b>	
<b>10</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>Chapter Eight/ “Rasmus”</b>	<b>Collaborating pg 214</b>
	<b>T</b>	<b>“NY Times”</b>	

	<b>W</b>	<b>“ODPS”</b>	<b>Discussion pg 224</b>
	<b>F</b>	<b>“Brunvand”</b>	
<b>11</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>Chapter Nine/ “Turner (draft &amp; revisions)”</b>	
	<b>T</b>	<b>“O’Rourke”</b>	
	<b>W</b>	<b>“Roberts”</b>	
	<b>F</b>	<b>“Shepard”</b>	
<b>12</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>Chapter Ten/ “Project Censored”</b>	<b>Discussion pg 263</b>
	<b>T</b>	<b>“Green Party”</b>	
	<b>W</b>	<b>“Reilly”</b>	
	<b>F</b>	<b>“Peltier”</b>	
<b>13</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>Essay Three Due</b>	
	<b>T</b>	<b>Movement Day</b>	
	<b>W</b>	<b>Movement Day</b>	
	<b>F</b>	<b>Movement Day</b>	
<b>14</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>In-Class Writing</b>	
	<b>T</b>	<b>Portfolio Requirements</b>	
	<b>W</b>	<b>Thanksgiving Break</b>	
	<b>F</b>	<b>Thanksgiving Break</b>	
<b>15</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>Student Conferences</b>	
	<b>T</b>	<b>Student Conferences</b>	
	<b>W</b>	<b>Student Conferences</b>	
	<b>F</b>	<b>Student Conferences</b>	