English 1101 Sample Syllabus 1

English Composition I
English 1101 (CRN #)
(semester and year)
Georgia State University

Time: Classroom:

Instructor:
Office:
Office Hours:
Phone:
Email:

Course Description
This course is designed to increase the student’s ability to construct written prose of various kinds. It focuses on methods of organization, analysis, research skills, and the production of short argumentative and expository essays; readings consider issues of contemporary social and cultural concern. A passing grade is C.

Learning Outcomes:
· engage in writing as a process, including various invention heuristics (brainstorming, for example), gathering evidence, considering audience, drafting, revising, editing, and proofreading
· engage in the collaborative, social aspects of writing, and use writing as a tool for learning
· use language to explore and analyze contemporary multicultural, global, and international questions
· demonstrate how to use writing aids, such as handbooks, dictionaries, online aids, and tutors
· gather, summarize, synthesize, and explain information from various sources
· use grammatical, stylistic, and mechanical formats and conventions appropriate for a variety of audiences
· critique their own and others’ work in written and oral formats
· produce coherent, organized, readable prose for a variety of rhetorical situations
· reflect on what contributed to their writing process and evaluate their own work

Texts

Course Work–Assignments and Evaluation

The grades for this course will be weighted as follows:
1. Journal 15 %
2. In-Class Assignments 15 %
   This grade includes class participation, responses to writing prompts, written and oral feedback of others’ papers in peer groups, and timed essays.
3. Three Essays, 3-5 pages (15 % each) 45 %
   This grade includes both drafts and final papers.
4. Writing Across the Curriculum Assignment 25 %
   Interview (10 %)
   Essay (and draft) (15 %)

We will discuss the grading system for the essays and the Writing Across the Curriculum assignment before the
Course Policies:

**Attendance**: Class attendance is necessary. Students who miss more than 6 classes will fail the course. I understand that emergency situations do occur, so please do not use your absences unnecessarily. I will not make a distinction between an absence caused by sickness and one caused by laziness.

**Tardiness**: Please do not wander in and out of class. It is distracting and takes away from the learning environment. We will begin or end every class period with a short writing assignment, which I will use to take attendance and which will also count towards your In-Class writing grade. If you are tardy and miss that assignment, see me after class. If you are consistently late, it will adversely affect your grade.

**Late Work**: Because we will spend class time discussion the revision of your drafts, all drafts must be turned in on the day they are listed as due. As for the final drafts of your papers, I expect them to be on time. Late papers will be docked a letter grade for each day that they are late. I know that emergencies do occur. If you know a paper will be late, please contact me before the due-date so that we can discuss arrangements.

**Paper Submission**: Students must bring two copies of each paper to class on the days in which drafts are due. Several people may be reading over them in class. Final drafts must include your name, the class, and the date. They must be stapled (no plastic binding). They should be typed on a word processor, double-spaced with standard margins and font. Computers are available in the Writing Center (976 GCB), the Learning Lab in 120 Kell Hall, and the Computer Lab in 106 Library South. When you turn in your final papers, include all of the drafts, particularly those on which other students have made comments. They should be paper-clipped to the final paper. I do not accept emailed or faxed papers for final submission without prior discussion.

**Cell phones**: Cell phone use is strictly prohibited during class. Turn off all cell phones and beepers at the beginning of the class period.

**Office Hours**: My office hours are from 10:00 am to noon on Mondays and Wednesdays or by appointment. In addition, you may email me to discuss specific questions you have about your writing.

**Academic Dishonesty**

All students are expected to follow Georgia State’s code of academic conduct. Plagiarism will not be tolerated. If you have any questions about plagiarism or other forms of academic dishonesty, feel free to ask. The University’s policies on Academic Honesty can be read in the student handbook or on the following website: <http://www.gsu.edu/~wwwreg/LK_4.html#AcademicHonesty>.

**Accommodations for Students With Special Needs**

Students who need accommodations are asked to arrange a meeting during office hours or at another mutually convenient time during the first week of classes, or as soon as possible if accommodations are needed immediately. Bring a copy of your Student Accommodation Form to the meeting. If you do not have an Accommodation Form but need accommodations, make an appointment with the Office of Disability Services (Suite 230, New Student Center, ext. 3-9044) to arrange for accommodations.

**The Center for Writing and Research**

The Writing Center, located in room 976 in the General Classroom Building, provides personal, one-on-one service for students in order to help them at all levels of the writing process. You can schedule an appointment or just
drop by and wait. The service is free. This is a valuable resource for writers, and I highly suggest that you use it.

Course Schedule
Note: The reading is due on the day it is listed. You must be prepared to discuss the reading before you come to class that day.

Week 1: Aug. 25-29
M- Introduction. Discuss syllabus.
W- Diagnostic Essay. Assign and discuss journals.

Week 2: Sept. 1-5
M- Labor Day, no class.
F- Motives. Njeri and Dillard.

Week 3: Sept. 8-12
M- Harbrace p. 34-42. Motives “Preparing to Write” p. 7-21 Discussion on Brainstorming methods.
Peer Groups—Brainstorming Sessions.
F- Further Study—Audience. Discussion on Self as Audience, The Intimidating Audience, No Audience.

Week 4: Sept. 15-19

Week 5: Sept. 22-26
W- Motives Stark and Schlosser.
F- Further Study—Audience. Vague Audiences, Audience Analysis. First journal check—bring your journals to class. I will be taking them up.

Week 6: Sept. 29-Oct. 3
W- Motives “Writing to Interpret Information” p. 201-206. Dershowitz.
F- Motives Dold and Sickinger.

Week 7: Oct. 6-10
W- Motives Ozick and Kaysen.
F- Further Study—Audience. Professional/Business Audiences.

Week 8: Oct. 13-17
M- Draft of Paper II Due. Peer Reviewing Session.
W- Individual Conferences. No class.
F- Individual Conferences. No class.
Week 9: Oct. 20-24
M- **Paper II Due**. Discussion about In-class Writing. *Harbrace* “Writing Under Pressure” p. 115-129.
W- Discussion about Regents’ Exam.
F- Timed writing I. Practice Essay for Regents’ Exam.

Week 10: Oct. 27-31
M- **Motives** “Writing to Move Others” p. 443-450. Swift.
W- **Motives** Orwell and Walker.
F- **Motives** King. **Second journal check**—bring your journals to class. I will be checking to see if you’ve been doing your journal entries.

Week 11: Nov. 3-7
M- **Motives** “Writing to Persuade Others” p. 497-509. King. Discussion on differences between “Moving Others” and “Persuading Others.”
W- **Motives** Jefferson and Shenk.
F- Further Study—Audience. Familiar Audiences.

Week 12: Nov. 10-14
M- **Motives** Taylor. Peer Groups—Brainstorming Sessions.
F- Timed Writing II.

Week 13: Nov. 17-21
M- **Draft of Paper III Due**. Peer Reviewing Session. Further discussion of timed writing.
W- Discussion of WAC Assignment.
F- Further Study—Audience. The University; Writing Across the Curriculum.

Week 14: Nov. 24-28
M- **Paper III Due**. *Harbrace* “Writing Academic Discourse” p. 391-400.
W- **Thanksgiving Holidays, no class.**
F- **Thanksgiving Holidays, no class.**

Week 15: Dec. 1-5
M- **Motives** “Writing to Analyze Images” p. 341-349. Kilbourne.
W- **Motives** Heller and Berger.

Week 16: Dec. 8-12
M- Class Discussion: WAC Interviews
W- Finish discussion of interviews. Peer Groups—Brainstorming Session
F- Last Day of Class. **Journals Due.**

WAC assignment due in my office/box by 4:00 pm on Friday December 19.

Disclaimer: This syllabus represents a plan for the semester. Deviations may be necessary.