

University of New Mexico, Valencia
Composition I: Accelerated Composition
Assignment Syllabus

Fall 2017
English 110: 504
Accelerated Composition
CRN: 51180
504: M/W 1:30-2:45 PM

Instructor: Kristian Macaron
Office Location: Academics
E-mail: Kristianm@unm.edu
Office Hours: W 12:00-1:00 PM
Dates 8/21/2017—12/16/2017

Classroom: Career Technical Services Building: VACTC : 111

University of New Mexico, Valencia
Composition I: Accelerated Composition
Assignment Syllabus

Fall 2017
English 110: 502
Accelerated Composition
CRN: 51177
502: M/W 10:30-11:45 AM
Classroom: Health Sciences Building Computer Lab: 103

Instructor: Kristian Macaron
Office Location: Academics
E-mail: Kristianm@unm.edu
Office Hours: M 12:00-1:00 PM
Dates 8/21/2017—12/16/2017

This syllabus is subject to change.

The assignment syllabus is a tentative schedule of assignments. Any changes will be announced in class.

Students who miss class must check the syllabus to ensure they are prepared for the next class period and email the instructor. Students who miss class are responsible and accountable for the information missed.

Students absent for more than 4 classes will be dropped from the class.

All assignments must be read by the date indicated and students are expected to bring the texts we are discussing for the day to class.

LEARN POSTS are due one week after posted due date. Anything submitted after will receive a zero.

NO EMAILED ESSAYS will be accepted.

LATE Essays will be docked 5 points per day after due date.

The following texts are required:

Practical Argument, Third Edition, Kirzner & Mandell ISBN: 978-1-319-06375-7

Optional: *The Pocket Style Manual*, Seventh Edition, Diana Hacker.
ISBN-13: 978-1-4576-0293-9; ISBN-10: 1-4576-0239-3

Required Work and Grading:

All formal writing assignments must follow MLA format and be typewritten, double-spaced in a 12pt, Times New Roman font. No Exceptions.

3 Essays: 100 points each 1 Midterm Essay	300 pts 50 pts
9 Grammar quizzes: 5 points each	45 pts
10 Blackboard Learn posts: 10 points each	100 pts
5 In-Class Essays 1 Group Project	50 pts 30 pts
3 essay Outlines 3 essay Rough Drafts	15 pts 15 pts
Final Grammar Examination	100 pts
Portfolio	300 pts
Total Possible Points	1005 pts

Grades will be determined on a traditional percentage system, with the appropriate plus or minus sign: 100-90% = A (1005-905 points); 89-80% = B (904-804 points); 79-73%= C (803-730 points); 69-60% = D (690-600); and below = F. You need a "C" (73% or 730 points) to pass this course.

Assignment Syllabus:

NOTE: On our course Blackboard website you will have a weekly folder. In the folder, there are supplemental readings that are required. While we will be reading some of these or portions of them in class, please check and refer to this folder and be familiar with the materials prior to every class.

Week 1

M 8/21- Course Introduction

Syllabus, Blackboard, Assignments, Grading

Writing Center

*Homework: 1) Practice email 2) Practice Learn Post

W 8/23 Rhetorical Appeals & Personal essay vs Academic essay

Commonly Confused Words Quiz# 1

Logos, Ethos and Pathos—*Practical Arguments* Chapter 3-21

Personal Essays: Sherman Alexie and TBD

*Homework: 1) Quiz #1 2) Read *Practical Arguments* Chapter 1 & 3 3) Learn Post #1: Complete Personal Essay

Week 2

M 8/28 — Visual Arguments

Examples: Online Journals

TJ Staneart

Marjane Satrapi

Nautilus

DUE: Personal Essay Exercise

Description and Invention, and Prewriting

*Homework: 1) Learn Post #2: Response to a Visual Argument 2) Read *Practical Arguments* Chapter 2

W 8/30—Thesis Statements & Objective/Subjective Detail

Issues of Definition, Evaluation, Causation, Recommendation

*Homework: 1) Read *Practical Arguments* Chapter 4

Week 3

M 9/4—Labor Day—No Class

W 9/6—Quotation & Paragraph Construction

Fragments Quiz #2

Quote and Source Integration

Topic Sentences, Quote Incorporation and Transitions

*Homework: 1) Learn Post #3: Ethos, Pathos and Logos 2) Quiz#2 3) Read *Practical Arguments* Chapter 7 & 8

Week 4

M 9/11—Prewriting and Introduction to Essay Writing

Planning an Argumentative Essay

Outlines

Run-on Sentence Quiz #3

*Homework: 1) Read *Practical Arguments* Chapter 9 & 10 2) Learn Post #4: Topic, thesis statement and introductory paragraph

W 9/13—Reading critically through sources

DEFINITION ESSAY #1 Assignment

Outline and Sources

*Homework: 1) *Practical Arguments* Chapter 12 2) Learn Post #5: Outline

Week 5

M 9/18 -- Writing Workshop

Compose Rough Draft
Capitalization and Italics Quiz #4

Review: Summaries v. Paraphrase v. Quotations

*Homework: 1) Finish Rough Draft 2) Quiz #4

W 9/20—Essay #1 Peer Review

BRING 3 COPIES OF YOUR ROUGH DRAFT TO CLASS.

*Homework: Final Draft of Essay #1

Week 6

M 9/25-- Creative Assignment

DUE: ESSAY #1 FINAL DRAFT

Pronouns: Quiz #5

*Homework 1) Quiz #5 2) Read *Practical Arguments* Chapter 13

W 9/27 --Cause and Effect/Causation Arguments

In-class Essay

*Homework: 1) Learn Post #6: Causal Analysis

Week 7

M 10/2—CAUSATION-- ESSAY #2 Assignment

Detailed Outlines

Quotation Marks: Quiz #6

*Homework: 1) Choose a Cause and Effect research topic and write a Thesis Statement 2) Quiz #6

W 10/4—LIBRARY VISIT TBA

*Homework: 1) Detailed Outline and List of Sources

Week 8

M 10/9—Writing Workshop

Compose Rough Drafts

*Homework: 1) Typed Rough draft of your Essay #2 for Peer Review- 3 copies

W 10/11— Essay #2 Peer Review

*Homework: 1) Final Draft of Essay #2 2) Read essay by Lorca

FALL BREAK OCTOBER 12-13th

Week 9

M 10/16— *MIDTERM ASSIGNMENT: The Duende*

Commas: Quiz #8

*Homework: 1) Midterm Assignment DUE 10/25

W 10/18—DUE: ESSAY #2
Apostrophes Quiz #7
Creative Assignment—In Class
*Homework: Quiz #7

Week 10

M 10/23—Overview of Fallacies
*Homework: 1) Learn Post #7: Fallacies 2) *Practical Arguments* Chapter 5

W 10/25—*MIDTERM DUE*

Week 11

M 10/30—Reading New Mexico TBA

W 11/1—Reading New Mexico TBA

READING NEW MEXICO 11/2

Week 12

Essay #3 Assignment: EVALUATION or PROPOSAL
 M 11/6-- Evaluation Arguments
 In-Class Writing
*Homework: *Practical Arguments* Chapter 14 & 15

W 11/8—Proposal Arguments
 In-Class Writing
*Homework: Learn Post 8

Week 13

M 11/13 --Research for Essay #3
Parallelism: Quiz #9

*Homework: 1) Outline 2) Quiz #9

W 11/15—Writing Workshop
 Compose Rough Drafts
*Homework: 1) Rough Draft for Peer Review- 3 copies 2) Learn Post #9:

Week 14

M 11/20—In-Class Peer Review Workshop
*Homework: 1) Essay #3 Final Draft

W 11/22—ESSAY #3 DUE
Creative Assignment—in class
Overview of Final Portfolio

Week 15

M 11/27 –Grammar Review for FINAL
Learn Post #10 & In-Class Conferences
FINAL PORTFOLIO WORKSHOP

*Homework: Learn Post #10 Self-Evaluation DUE by 12/4

W 11/29—GRAMMAR FINAL—IN CLASS
After the Final is complete—you are able to work on your portfolio in class
FINAL PORTFOLIO WORKSHOP
Please bring the essays you plan to revise and a USB drive to back up your work.

Week 16

M 12/4—FINAL PORTFOLIO WORKSHOP
Please bring the essays you plan to revise and a USB drive to back up your work.

W 12/6-FINAL PORTFOLIO WORKSHOP
Please bring the essays you plan to revise and a USB drive to back up your work

Portfolios Due 12/6 by 5 pm –Portfolios are worth 300 points

Grammar Final 11/29 During Class –100 points

**University of New Mexico, Valencia
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Policy Syllabus**

**Fall 2017
English 110
Accelerated Composition
Office Hours: W 12:00-1:00 PM
Dates 8/21/2017—12/16/2017**

**Instructor: Kristian Macaron
Office Location: Academics
E-mail: Kristianm@unm.edu**

Course Description:

Welcome to English 110 (Accelerated Composition)!

In this course, you will write three essays. These essays (which may be written in-class or out-of-class), require your developing good writing habits, including prewriting, drafting, revising, and editing, which will help create a strong sense of focus, strong development, and clear organization. To develop, you will also be required to integrate quotations from primary readings and web sources, avoid plagiarism, and evaluate web sources.

Finally, you will need to use correct grammar and to write strong sentences to produce polished essays. To help you create well-edited essays, you can expect to learn grammar competencies (comma splices/run-ons, fragments, pronoun agreement and reference, punctuation, and subject/verb agreement). If you learn these writing skills, you will become a more successful communicator in college courses and a more thoughtful professional in your careers.

Course Objectives:

By the end of the semester, you should be able to,

Rhetorical Situation and Genre

A. analyze, compose, and reflect on arguments in a variety of genres, considering the strategies, claims, evidence, and various mediums and technologies that are appropriate to the rhetorical situation

Writing as a Social Act

B. describe the social nature of composing, particularly the role of discourse communities at the local, national, and international level

Writing as a Process

C. use multiple approaches for planning, researching, prewriting, composing, assessing, revising, editing, proofreading, collaborating, and incorporating feedback

in order to make your compositions stronger in various mediums and using multiple technologies

Develop your paragraphs. Development includes using examples and support to help illustrate your points. You may use some personal examples; however, quotations from readings and/or web sources are also required in two essays. You will be required to produce essays of 3-4 pages in length.

Grammar and Usage

D. improve your fluency in the dialect of Standardized Written American English at the level of the sentence, paragraph, and document

E. analyze and describe the value of incorporating various languages, dialects, and registers in your own and others' texts

Reflection

F. evaluate your development as a writer over the course of the semester and describe how composing in multiple genres and mediums using various technologies can be applied in other contexts to advance your goals. To be successful writers and thinkers, you should read critically, summarize accurately, and/or analyze insightfully. You will also be required to analyze and evaluate web sources that you use to support your points.

Research

G. use writing and research as a means of discovery to examine your personal beliefs in the context of multiple perspectives and to explore focused research questions through various mediums and technologies

H. integrate others' positions and perspectives into your writing ethically, appropriately, and effectively in various mediums and technologies

Revise and edit papers.

Using good writing strategies, including prewriting, drafting, revising, and editing, will help you create strong essays. You will be required to demonstrate an ability to revise and edit in the final portfolio and in papers submitted during the semester.

Use MLA for formatting papers and citing sources. This learning outcome includes using MLA formatting for presenting papers citing sources to avoid plagiarism. You will focus on learning to cite and find web sources.

Library Literacy Outcomes:

1. Students will access Libros and find a book relevant to the writing project.
2. Students will learn how to skim that book and find quotations that are both relevant and appropriate for the paper.
3. Students will be able to identify what type of database source they have found, e.g. magazine, journal, newspaper, website.
4. Students will write a correctly formatted Works Cited page.

Instructor Information:

I am always available Mondays from 12-1 PM, in my office in Academics. You can also make appointments for office visits or can e-mail me in between 8:00 am and 5:00 pm. I am not on-line after 5:00 pm and before 8:00 am. Please keep in mind that you may not receive immediate answers and should give me at least 24 hours to respond, Monday through Friday. I am off-line during the weekend.

I help students by reading and analyzing papers but only during office visits. You can drop in during office hours or can make an appointment outside of office hours. I do not conference with students about papers through e-mail—it is not an effective way to conduct such conference sessions. Free tutoring is available at the Learning Center. **Writing Lab tutoring sessions are scheduled weekly for all English classes. Students may receive up to 30 points (5 points each session) for attending tutoring sessions or Writing Labs.**

Instructor Bio:

Originally from Albuquerque, NM where she attended the University of New Mexico, Kristian received her MFA from Emerson College in Boston, Massachusetts and thus melded her love for the colorful Southwest with the stunning New England coast. Kristian's first poetry chapbook, *Storm*, was released in July 2015 from Swimming With Elephants Publications in Albuquerque, NM. Her other publications of fiction and poetry are published in *The Winter Tangerine Review*, *Philadelphia Stories*, *Duke City Fix: The Sunday Poem*, *Lightning Cake Journal*, *The Bellows American Review (The [BAR])*, *Ginosko Literary Journal*, *Medusa's Laugh Press*, *Elbow Room New Mexico*, and *Watermelon Isotope*. She has taught scriptwriting at the Emerson College Pre-College Creative Writers' Workshop and currently teaches English at the University of New Mexico-Valencia Branch. View Kristian's work at Kristianmacaron.com”

Required Texts and Materials:

- The Pocket Style Manual*, Sixth Edition, Diana Hacker. ISBN-13: 978-1-4576-0293-9; ISBN-10: 1-4576-0239-3
- Practical Argument, Third Edition, Kirzner & Mandell* ISBN: 978-1-319-06375-7**
- UNM e-mail address and access to UNM Blackboard Learn
- Access to Internet and Microsoft Office (available on UNMVC computers)

Attendance Policy and Overall Participation:

- Attendance will be taken at the beginning of class. Missing class is not an excuse for being unprepared; if you are absent, it is your responsibility to keep up with reading, get class notes from a fellow student, and /or see me during office hours or by appointment if you have questions about the material. **Students who miss the first week will be dropped. Students who miss more than 4 classes will be dropped.** If you are late, it is your responsibility to remind me to mark you as present; otherwise, you will be recorded as absent—something you want to avoid because this is what I refer to when I drop students.

- If you choose to leave class early, you are responsible for all missed information that may have been given in your absence.
- Excused absences include documented hospitalization or other documented, unexpected extreme emergencies; if excessive absenteeism that falls under the purview of “excused absences” continues, I reserve the right to drop students from the course. Please note: doctor’s appointments, child-care, court dates, and job scheduling conflicts do not count as excused absences.
- Students who miss the first week will be dropped (those registered at the immediate start of the semester.)

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism means using language and/or ideas without acknowledging their source. Plagiarism includes such activities as copying another student’s papers or ideas, downloading and turning in papers from the Internet, or copying passages from sources without proper documentation, or rephrasing an author’s ideas and presenting them as the student’s new, original thoughts. Plagiarism in this course may result in one or more of the following consequences: failure of the assignment, failure of the course, or disciplinary action by the University. To learn how to avoid plagiarism, students can speak to me, consult a tutor, or refer to <http://library.acadiau.ca/tutorials/plagiarism/>.

Classroom Behavior:

While I do not expect problems when working with adult learners, these policies ensure a safe and productive classroom environment. The following policies are listed in the University of New Mexico Student Handbook.

- 1) Students must treat one another and the instructor with respect. Derogatory remarks or name-calling is prohibited.
- 2) Students should not interrupt classroom lectures or discussion with non-related comments.
- 3) Students may discuss complaints about the course with their instructor; however, the students must do so in the proper environment, such as the instructor’s office during office hours. Constant complaining in class may result in the student being asked to leave for the day’s lesson; continued complaining after the first warning may result in the student being dropped from the course.
- 4) Students should not yell or curse at other students or at the teacher. Class time is a professional learning environment. Obscene language will not be tolerated.
- 5) Sexual harassment will not be tolerated.
- 6) Behavior that threatens the safety of any class member, including the instructor, will not be tolerated. The offending student will be asked to leave for the day and may be dropped from the course. Security will be called. Intoxication, physical assault and or battery, violence, stalking, or threats fall into this category.
- 7) Students must not threaten the instructor concerning their grades. This type of behavior is considered harassment and/or verbal assault. Security will be called.

- 8) Food and beverages are not permitted in the classroom.

Students violating any of these rules will be reported to the Division Head of CHES and to the Chair of the English Department. Students will be asked to leave the class for the day and will be asked to meet with the instructor and the Chair of the English Department or the Division Head of CHES concerning the behavior.

Computer and Technology Policies:

Because the class occasionally meets in a computer lab, students must adhere to the following policies so that a professional learning environment is maintained. Students must save work and have a backup. Lost work is the your responsibility and not an excuse for late work. The assignment will be graded using the late work/essay policy. Students who use computers for entertainment or social reasons will be counted absent. Please do not:

- 1) Surf the web during lectures unless it is a part of the day's assignment.
- 2) Work on other assignments for this or any other class during class time.
- 3) Print assignments during lecture; I will let students know if printing time is available.
- 4) Send/read/answer e-mail, visit chat rooms, answer phones, and text message.

E-Mail Netiquette Policy:

Please keep

the following in mind when you write e-mails:

- ***Include an informative subject line.*** In every e-mail you write to me, the subject line should contain a descriptive phrase specifically about the problem. For example, “**Problems with Nouns Worksheet in Lesson 5, question 4**” is clear and helpful, but “**Nouns Worksheet**” is not. Unclear subject lines slow my response because I do not have enough information without having to asking you for clarification.
- ***Include a salutation.*** Professional E-mails usually include titles and last names and begin with “Hello,” “Greetings,” “Dear,” or some other polite address. When you write to me, please call me “Professor” or “Professor Macaron”. Informal words of address, such as “**Hey,**” are never appropriate and are often rude. If we run into each other off campus or if you contact me after the class is completed, I do not care if call me by my first name or if you use my title. You decide. However, part of Composition is learning when and how to use proper diction and registers of language; in a formal setting like a college course, professional titles are required.
- ***Include a closing.*** Please close with an appropriate phrase and sign your e-mail with your name. Signatures help me; I may not recognize your e-mail address (example: cookypants@unm.edu). Some examples of appropriate phrases are “Sincerely,” or “Thank you for your help,”.

- **Capitalize only the first word of a complimentary close.** If you close your e-mail with a multi-word phrase such as "Thank you," note that only the first word takes an initial capital letter.
- **Use short paragraphs.** Legibility on the screen is not as good as legibility on paper. Therefore, please use short paragraphs (in general, 3-4 lines maximum) to make the e-mail easy to read. In addition, be sure to skip lines between paragraphs.
- **Do not use instant-messaging spelling.** If u want 2 b treated like a pro, write like 1☺.
- **Adhere to the conventions of Standard English.** Please edit and proofread for spelling errors and grammatical mistakes. Use your spell/grammar check or “**Enable HTML Creator,**” a tool located above the right hand side of the text box in Blackboard Learn Messages. In addition, the computer does not catch all errors (form/from), so give your document one final edit before submitting or sending it.
- **DO NOT SEND ALL CAP MESSAGES.** All capital letters means you are screaming at the person to whom you are writing. In an online class, this would be considered inappropriate behavior. If you wish to emphasize a point, underline it or put it in bold font.
- **You must use capital letters when needed.** The first letters of the first words of sentences must be capitalized, and “I” is capitalized when you use it as a pronoun, e.g. I need your help on problem 6, page 456, in the textbook.

Equal Access:

Accessibility Services located in Student Services provides academic support to students who have disabilities. If students think they need alternative formats for completing coursework, they should contact this service right away to ensure their needs are met in a timely manner. Students are responsible for getting all documented forms to me as soon as possible. I cannot accommodate any special needs without the proper authorization from UNM Valencia Campus Accessibility Services. Pursuant to the American with Disabilities Act (ADA), I accommodate documented special needs and encourage students to discuss their concerns with me.

Required Work and Grading:

All formal writing assignments must follow MLA format and be typewritten, double-spaced in a 12pt, Times New Roman font.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 3 Essays: 100 points each ● 1 Midterm Essay 	300 pts 50 pts

● 9 Grammar quizzes: 5 points each	45 pts	
● 10 Blackboard Learn posts: 10 points each	100 pts	
● 5 In-Class Essays	50 pts	
● 3 essay Outlines	15 pts	
● 3 essay Rough Drafts	15 pts	
● 1 Group Project	30 pts	
● Final Grammar Examination	100 pts	
● Portfolio	300 pts	
● Total Possible Points	1005 pts	

Grades will be determined on a traditional percentage system, with the appropriate plus or minus sign: 100-90% = A (1000-900 points); 89-80% = B (899-800 points); 79-73%= C (799-730 points); 69-60% = D (690-600); and below = F. You need a "C" (73% or 770 points) to pass this course.

Essays:

You are required to turn in 3 formal 3-4 page essays (not including the Works Cited page) essays assigned by me and written specifically for this class: an exemplification essay, a cause and effect essay, and an argumentation essay. Each essay requires at least one **credible** source to be incorporated in text and in the Works Cited page (**Wikipedia does not count**). Students may be dropped from the class for failure to turn in one of the major essays. I will provide instructions and rubrics for each assignment at the beginning of each new unit. Essays turned in past the assigned due date will be docked 5 points for each day late, including weekends and non-class days. Essays that are emailed may stand as a 'date submitted' but will not be graded. Please turn in a hard copy to me the next day of class.

Late Policy:

I will not accept essays more than two days after the assigned date. For each day the essay is late, the assignment will be marked down five points. Please make sure to turn in your essays in a timely manner. If you know that you will not be in class on a due date, make arrangements to turn in your essay early.

I will not grade essays sent to me via email. They must be turned in to me by hand or left in my box in the Academics office.

Learn Posts will not be accepted more than one week past the assigned due date.

Essay Grading Criteria:

To earn an “A,” (Excellent, Pass):

This type of paper demonstrates a compelling, original, and thoughtful thesis that is supported by accurate details, examples, and explanations. The paper is easy to follow because it is clearly organized and has transitional markers. Paragraphs are unified and well supported. In addition, precise and lively word choices are combined into balanced, varied, and clear sentences. There are few, if any, deviations from standard usage, grammar, and mechanics, especially. The paper has very few sentence boundary errors, such as comma splices, runons, and fragments. This paper addresses the question asked clearly and imaginatively.

To earn a “B,” (Good, Pass):

This paper is also strong, but it is less polished than the “A” paper based on the quality of the thesis, diction, or the sentence variety. However, the essay is still focused and interesting. Its organization is correct, but transitions are sometimes strained. While developed, the paper needs some additional support to explain points more fully. Paragraphs are typically unified. The paper is generally correct mechanically, though there may be problems with complex grammar and punctuation, such as apostrophes or subject/verb agreement. There are few, if any, sentence boundary errors: comma splices, runons, and fragments. The paper addresses the question well.

To earn a “C,” (Average, Pass):

Although the paper contains good thought and interesting ideas, the essay’s focus, while there, is not well written or maintained. The organization is acceptable, though some parts may be awry. The essay needs further development, but it contains a few well-placed examples or details. Some paragraphs are unified, but some need the focus of a strong topic sentence. Sentences in paragraphs may need organization. Though the paper contains few major errors, there are some mistakes in spelling, grammar, and punctuation. The paper contains some sentence boundary errors, such as comma splices, runons, and fragments, but overall reflects a strong understanding of sentence structure. The paper addresses the question.

To earn a “D,” (Inadequate, Failing):

This type of essay too often seems an unfocused exercise, even though there may be good ideas throughout. Usually, there is no thesis, but if there is one, it is too general to be effective. Some principle of organization is apparent, but the principle is not successfully followed or lacks consistency and coherence. Development is weak, and paragraphs are not unified and sometimes not used. Errors in spelling, grammar, and punctuation are frequent enough to distract and confuse the reader. Sentence level errors abound: too many comma splices, runons, or fragments exist. The paper often does not address the question asked.

To earn an “F,” (Unacceptable, Failing):

The essay seems a mechanical exercise without purpose or audience. There is no apparent principle or organization. Paragraphs do not exist. Development is weak, often indicated by a one-page essay. There are frequent sentence structure errors of the gravest sort. Sentences often do not make sense. Errors indicate failure to understand the basic grammar of the sentence. The paper does not address the question or is very hard to read.

To earn a “0,” (Unacceptable, Failing):

The "0" grade is distinguished from the “F” paper in that the student has not turned in any work to be graded. (Important: Portfolios are not accepted late.)

Group Presentation:

Instructions for the group presentation will be given out several weeks before the project is due. You are responsible for your portion and contribution to the assignment. Every student's project grade will be based on their visible and proven contribution to the project.

Grammar Quizzes:

Open-book grammar quizzes will be given and completed in class or as homework. Quizzes can be completed before the deadlines, but not after. Students have half an hour, and one attempt, to complete these quizzes. Quizzes cannot be made up.

Blackboard Learn:

Students are responsible for posting responses to discussion questions/prompts that I have posted on our UNM Blackboard Learn site. These questions are designed to generate class discussion, promote further inquiry into our topics, and scaffold the higher stakes essays. Blackboard Learn posts are due before we meet as a class on the assigned due date; students may not turn in late posts.

Writing Workshops and Peer Reviews:

Built into our schedule are writing workshops intended to give you a jumpstart on your essays, as well as help you get used to constructively evaluating your peers' work through brainstorming, questioning, group discussions, and other class exercises. To receive credit for a workshop, students must be present, actively participating, and producing work.

Participation:

Participation is mandatory in this course. Participation means actively participating in your education; just sitting in your seat and allowing everything to sink in (the “osmotic method”) is not actively participating. I strongly urge you to take notes in class. In addition, I ask you to complete drafts, assignments, quizzes readings, and collaborative projects.

Final Grammar Examination:

During the second to last week of class, I will give a final comprehensive grammar examination over all of the grammatical and mechanical terms that we've covered throughout the semester. This grade counts as 10% of your final grade.

Portfolio:

- The portfolio is a collection of your work. This is 30% of your final grade.
- STUDENTS MUST KEEP THE FIRST DRAFTS THAT THEY PRODUCE THROUGHOUT THE SEMESTER OF ESSAYS, WHICH CONTAIN INSTRUCTOR'S COMMENTS.** If they do not, their final portfolio grade will be adversely affected; part of the grade is based on revision abilities; panel graders look to see whether students have responded to instructor's internal and end comments and whether students have made substantial changes that improve the essay.
- Portfolios receive a pass/fail and a letter grade. A panel of instructors will determine the effectiveness of students' overall expository writing ability and readiness for English 120. Portfolios will be evaluated using the learning outcomes.

Presentation of Portfolios

- In the portfolio, students should staple the final and first drafts of the papers together; they should never use paper clips or dog-ear pages. They should place the final draft, the paper they want graded, on top. Underneath the final draft, they should place the first rough draft with instructor comments.
- For the final portfolio, students must present their essays (1st and final drafts) in a paper pocket folder.

The final portfolio contains the following:

- A cover letter addressed to the panel; the header should include your name, the instructor's name, course section and semester, and the average of all major essays submitted during the semester.
- Two original graded drafts of essays written during the semester, with a thorough revision of each essay.
- All final drafts must be typed and in MLA format. No handwritten essays will be accepted.

IMPORTANT: Any portfolio that is incomplete, missing any of items listed above, will fail the panel evaluation:

- Any portfolio that is plagiarized will fail the panel evaluation. Paraphrasing and quoting must be cited (parenthetical documentation), and Works Cited pages must be present when required. Instructors should note plagiarism in the first drafts so

that students can revise properly.

- ANY PORTFOLIO THAT CONTAINS AN UNREVISED ESSAY WILL FAIL THE FINAL PORTFOLIO AND MAY FAIL THE CLASS.
- Portfolio Returns:

Students may pick up Portfolios after examination week after I have indicated a specific date and time. Final essays will not be available until that time.

Please Note: You need a "C," at least 73% to pass the course:

A "C-" means that the student has failed the course and must retake the course

Some students may fail the course:

Coming to class, trying hard, and turning in work does not ensure a passing grade. Students must write at an acceptable level of competency, and if they do not, they fail. You must turn in all four writing assignments, take the grammar competency, and submit a Final Essay and Evaluation to pass the course. The panel of evaluators will determine if you have met this level of competency. If a student's Final Essays and Evaluations do not pass the panel evaluation, the student fails the course. To avoid failing, you must be able to, 1) identify purpose, 2) address audience, 3) choose the best genre for writing assignment, 4) read and analyze critically, 5) write good sentences, 6) use Standard English, and 7) follow directions. (See course objectives for full descriptions.)

Because a panel of instructors reads, evaluates, and passes or fails students' final essays and evaluations, it is rare that students' writing has been miscalculated. However, if a student wants to challenge his/her final grades, he/she must follow a set procedure for doing so. The student should start by reading about how to dispute a grade, which is in The University of New Mexico Student Handbook. Below is a BRIEF outline of some of the policies:

1. Discuss the grade concerns with your instructor of record first.
2. If you discuss the problem with your instructor and if the problem has not been solved, then you must discuss the problem with the English Program Coordinator.
3. A full outline of grade disputes can be found in the Student handbook.

Instructors and administrators do not handle final grade disputes until AFTER finals week and until AFTER grades have been posted in Banner. Instructors and administrators do not handling final grade disputes until AFTER finals week and until AFTER grades have been posted in Banner.

IMPORTANT NOTE: The Student Privacy Act, a federal statute called FERPA, strictly prohibits the instructor or administrators from talking to anyone but the student about his/her grades, progress, or work. If a student has questions about a grade on an assignment or about the final grade for the course, FERPA dictates that the

student is the ONLY ONE who may speak to the instructor regarding grades, work, or progress. In other words, a UNM VC instructor or administrator cannot speak to parents, relatives, or friends of the student about student grades,

Students can expect that a UNM VC instructor or administrator will follow guidelines set forth by FERPA. Students should know that the instructor and administrators,

- 1) MUST and WILL protect student privacy.
- 2) CANNOT and WILL NOT discuss a grade with or hand back assignments to a student's parents, friends, or relatives.
- 3) WILL NOT make any exceptions to this policy.

Incompletes (I grade):

Students may earn an "I," or incomplete, which is neither a passing nor a failing grade. An "I" is assigned if students have completed all of the coursework, but due to some unforeseen emergency (the instructor may ask for documentation concerning the emergency), are unable to complete the Final Essay and Evaluation. Students must complete the work by the end of the following semester, or the University automatically converts the "I" to an "F."