

English 110 Section 506: Composition I

Instructor: Dr. Julie Williams

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Course Description

Welcome to English 110! This class will help you to become more comfortable with college level research and writing. You will develop reading and writing skills that will help with the writing required in their fields of study and other personal and professional context. To succeed in college and beyond, students need to become agile writers who can adapt their writing to a wide variety of audiences, contexts, purposes, mediums, and technologies. You must learn to analyze new situations and respond to them appropriately. Instead of teaching one right way of writing, we seek to make students flexible writers who can transfer what they've learned in 110 to new contexts and new genres.

- The assignment syllabus is a tentative schedule. Any changes will be announced in class and/or posted on the Blackboard Learn calendar.
- If you miss class, check the syllabus to ensure you are prepared for the next class.
- All assignments must be read by the date indicated and students are expected to bring the texts we are discussing to class.
- Students absent for more than 4 classes will be dropped.
- No emailed essays will be accepted.
- Late essays will be docked 5 points per day after due date.

Required Texts and Materials

- *Practical Argument*, Second Edition, Eds. Laurie G. Kirszner and Stephen R. Mandell. ISBN-13: 978-1457683886; ISBN-10: 1357683881
- UNM Email address and access to UNM Blackboard Learn
- Access to internet and Microsoft Office (Available on UNMVC computers)

Course Objectives

Throughout the semester in English 110, you will progress toward the following student learning outcomes:

1. Analyze communication through reading and writing skills.
2. Employ writing processes such as planning, organizing, composing, and revising.
3. Express a primary purpose and organize supporting points logically.
4. Use and document research evidence appropriate for college-level writing.
5. Employ academic writing styles appropriate for different genres and audiences.
6. Identify and correct grammatical and mechanical errors in their writing.

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, or website.
4. Students will write a correctly formatted Works Cited page.

Semester Assignments

Point Distribution		Grading Rubric	
Assignment	Points	Grade:	Total Points:
Essay 1	150	A	970-1000
Essay 2	150	A	930 – 970
Peer Review (2 rounds at 25 points each)	50	A-	900 – 929
Grammar group presentation	50	B+	870 – 899
Final grammar examination	100	B	830 – 869
Writing workshops	100	B-	800 – 829
Participation (in-class and on Blackboard Learn)	200	C+	770 – 799
Portfolio	200	C	730 – 769
Total Points	1000	C-	650 – 729
		D	600-649
		F	Below 600

A grade of “C” or higher (74% or 740 points) is needed to pass English 120. A C- or below is considered a failing grade.

Essays

You are required to turn in 2 formal 3-4 page essays (not including the Works Cited page). 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.

Grammar Presentation

In groups, students will be responsible for delivering one multimodal presentation on grammar and mechanics. Podcasts, blogs, collages, video or audio essays, comic strips, and storyboards all fall under the category of multimodal composition. The grammar topics include: **1) commas, 2) comma splices/run-ons, 3) fragments 4) subject-verb agreements, 5) verb tense shifts, 6) pronouns, 7) apostrophes, 8) capital letters and italics, and 9) parallelism.** Students should deliver a

professional presentation to the class (no longer than 10 minutes) that defines their assigned term, explains key concepts that the text highlights, and provides original examples that will prepare the class for a short quiz on Learn. Before students present, we will go over the features of successful presentation.

Presentations cannot be made up; if you or a member of your group is absent, the absentee will not receive the points for the assignment. Make sure that everyone has copies of the presentation so that you can still present if one group member is absent.

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, ask questions, and participate in class and group discussions. In addition, I ask you to complete drafts, assignments, quizzes, readings, and collaborative projects. I understand that everyone has varying levels of comfortability with speaking in front of groups, but expect to participate in class discussions, small groups, and with group presentations. Just showing up is not considered participation.

Grammar Examination

In week 14, I will give a comprehensive grammar examination over all 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. A team of instructors will determine the effectiveness of students' overall expository writing ability. Portfolios will be evaluated using the learning outcomes. They are worth 20% of your final grade.

Late Work Policy

I will not accept essays more than one week after the assigned date. For each class period the essay is late, the assignment will be marked down half a letter grade, so 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, plan to turn in your essay early, or have it turned into the Academic Affairs office with a stamp by 5:00 pm on the day the essay is due.

Tutoring

Free tutoring is available at the Learning Center (505) 925-8907 <http://www.unm.edu/~tutor/>. 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.

Attendance Policy

Attendance is 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 notes from a fellow student, and see me during office hours if you have questions about the material. Do not email me to ask if you missed anything. **Students who miss the first week of class will be dropped. Students who miss more than 4 classes will be dropped. Arriving more than 10 minutes late or leaving early counts as an absence.**

Excused absences include documented hospitalization or other documented unexpected emergencies. If excessive absenteeism that falls into the realm 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.

Public nature of the classroom

Please consider all writing for this class to be “public.” Part of becoming an effective writer is learning to appreciate the ideas and criticisms of others; in this course our purpose is to come together as a writing community. Remember that students will often be expected to share writing with others. Avoid writing about topics that you may not be prepared to subject to public scrutiny or that you feel so strongly about that you are unwilling to listen to perspectives other than your own. Additionally, the feedback that is provided is intended to help improve your writing; be open to the suggestions from other writers.

Student Behavior

UNM students and instructors are bound by the terms of the Student Code of Conduct. I expect you to enter class ready to learn and participate and with a positive and respectful attitude.

- If you disagree with someone or something, I expect you to handle it in a mature manner.
- Any behavior inappropriate in a collegiate atmosphere will result in your dismissal.
- While I support academic freedom, I expect respectful behavior; therefore, students may not use offensive language in any forum of our class. Obscene language will not be tolerated.
- Sexual harassment will not be tolerated.
- Behavior that threatens the safety of any class member or the instructor will not be tolerated. Intoxication, physical assault, battery, violence, stalking, or threats fall into this category.
- Students must not threaten the instructor concerning their grades. This type of behavior is considered harassment and/or verbal assault.
- 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.
- Refrain from using computers during class time for entertainment, social networking, or personal emailing. The same rules apply for cell phones. No texting or phone calls allowed. You will be asked to leave if caught violating these technology policies.
- The instructor may withdraw a student from the course when the student’s behavior disrupts the educational process under these rules and regulations.

Students violating any of these policies will be asked to leave class for the day. If you ever feel unsafe on campus, please call security at (505) 925-8570.

Etiquette

This course encourages different perspectives related to such factors as gender, race, nationality, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, ability, and other relevant cultural identities. The course seeks to foster understanding and inclusiveness related to such diverse perspectives and ways of communicating. *Any remarks that are disrespectful on such factors will not be allowed and could result in dismissal from this class.*

Equal access

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodations of their disabilities. If you have a qualified disability that requires some form of accommodation to ensure your equal access to learning in this class, please contact me as soon as possible so that we can work together to address your needs. If you need alternative formats for completing coursework, contact this service right away to ensure your 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. Accessibility Services are in Advisement & Counseling Services Student Services Building, 280 La Entrada Rd., Los Lunas, NM 87031, 505-925-8560.
<http://www.unm.edu/~vcadvise/equalaccess.htm>

Sexual Violence and Sexual Misconduct

As Title IX (“Title Nine”) makes clear, violence and harassment based on sex and gender are Civil Rights offenses subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, etc. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can find the appropriate resources from the UNM Sexual Assault Response Team here: Phone: (505) 277-3716 (Women's Resource Center);
<http://sart.unm.edu/index.html>.

There are several resources available outside UNM that may help as well, such as:

Know your IX: <http://knowyourix.org/>

Not Alone: <https://www.notalone.gov/>

Clery Center for Campus Security: <http://clerycenter.org/>

Counselors at the Student Health and Counseling (SHAC) office can have confidential discussions with you, so we encourage you to reach out to them if you would like to have a confidential conversation. You can contact SHAC by calling 505-277-3136, or visiting them in their building north of Johnson Center and across the mall from (east of) the Student Union Building.

Plagiarism policies and procedures

“Plagiarism” is a type of academic dishonesty. It occurs when writers deliberately use another person’s language, ideas, or materials and present them as their own without acknowledging the source. Plagiarism can include any of the following: **Failing to quote material taken from another source, Failing to cite material taken from another source, Submitting writing that was written by another person or for another class, Submitting writing that was substantially edited by another person.**

Possible consequences. The instructor decides the academic consequence to be imposed, depending on the seriousness of the violation. Sanctions include the following:

- Adequately redo or revise the assignment in question;
- Fail the assignment in question;
- Be dropped from the class with a W or fail the class.
- Be subject to more severe sanctions imposed by the Dean of Students.

Student Privacy

Student privacy is strongly protected at UNM-VC. The federal FERPA strictly prohibits the instructor or administrators from talking to anyone but the student about his/her progress. 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 their grades. All other outside requests for information release must be sent to and approved by the UNM-VC registrar: (505) 925-8580 <http://www.unm.edu/~unmvc/Admissions/admiss.htm>

Technical Support

If you have questions about computer-related problems, call 277-5757 (M-F 8am-noon and 1-5pm). If you do not know how to use Blackboard Learn, tutorials are available at <http://online.unm.edu/help/learn/students/>.

Drop Policy

Dropping or being dropped from a course can affect your GPA, enrollment status and financial aid/award status. Always talk to your instructor before it’s too late about the possible consequences of a drop and opportunities for avoiding it.

A few things to consider:

- A drop before the end of the third week in a sixteen week semester session will not appear on your transcript, and you will not earn credit hours or a grade in the course.
- Your instructor can drop you from the course at any point in the semester before finals for violating the attendance policy.
- If you, your instructor, or the Dean of Students initiates a drop after the third week, you will receive W.
- If no drop is initiated by the end of the semester by any party, then based on your performance and attendance your instructor will use his/her discretion to decide whether to assign you a grade from A+ to F or a W.

In Core Writing, a C or above is passing. When deciding whether or not to drop a course, consider the outcomes of earning a grade below C as opposed to a W, and vice versa. For grades C- to D-, you will earn credit hours, but you will have to repeat the course, and the grade will appear on your transcript and factor into your GPA.