Contact Information

Instructor: Rhonda Simmerman

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(The best way to reach me is through the Moodle messaging system. I check for messages at least twice daily.)

Course (Catalog) Description

VCCS Master Course Description: Develops writing ability for study, work, and other areas of writing based on experience, observation, research, and reading of selected literature. Guides students in learning writing as a process: understanding audience and purpose, exploring ideas and information, composing, revising, and editing. Supports writing by integrating experiences in thinking, reading, listening, and speaking.

Prerequisite: Students must achieve satisfactory scores on placement tests or SAT’s, based on standards established by the Virginia Community College System, or have satisfactorily completed ENG 01 and/or ENG 04 before entering ENG 111. Students that successfully complete this course will earn 3 hours of college credit.

Course Materials

Everyday Writer by Andrea Lunsford

Course Learning Outcomes/Objectives

Students will:
- Create narrative, descriptive, persuasive, and expository writings
- Find and evaluate the credibility of sources
- Write documented research papers on literary and non-literary topics
- Read and analyze a variety of print material
- Identify major literary forms and techniques
- Relate literary works and authors to major themes and issues of the cultures from which they came
- Observe the conventions of standard English when they write

Method of Evaluating Student Achievement

Grading Rubric:
- 90-100 A
- 80-89 B
- 70-79 C
Writing Assignments = ½

Homework, Daily Activities, Tests, Class Participation = 1/2

An essay rubric is included in the course introductory material. It explains the criteria I follow in grading written work. You may expect feedback on all class assignments except writing within 2 days. You may expect feedback on all writing assignments within 5 days.

Course Information

The class is divided into units. Each unit contains an overview which explains the objectives of the unit. Each assignment is labeled with a topic and a due date, such as Syllabus Quiz AUG 28. The assignment must be completed by midnight of the due date. A few assignments must be monitored by the class supervisor, whom I will notify; those assignments must be completed during school in the presence of the supervisor. Other assignments may be completed at any time before the due date.

Elite Learning Grading Policy:
All grades will be reported by SVETN to each school with a numeric grade and a recommended letter, but assignment of a final letter grade will be at the discretion of the student’s school. Please contact the instructor with any grade questions or concerns.

Late Assignments:
Assignments such as quizzes, forum posts, etc., cannot be submitted late. Writing assignments submitted past the deadline will receive a deduction of a letter grade per day unless the student has a valid excuse such as a note from a doctor, which must be verified through the guidance counselor.

Attendance Policy:
This is an Internet-based course with no specific meeting time; therefore, students must complete and submit assigned work as instructed in each learning unit. Students should allow enough time to complete work in a timely manner. It is the policy of SVETN to contact a student’s guidance counselor and parents if a student has not logged into the course online for more than three consecutive days or if the student’s grade is unsatisfactory. Actual progress must be made toward completing assignments, so simply logging into the course to avoid being flagged for non-attendance, but making no actual progress, will not be tolerated.

Inclement Weather Policy:
Asynchronous online courses have many advantages over the traditional classroom. Among these advantages are the availability of the instructor, the opportunity to "attend" class from many locations, flexibility of schedule, and no make-up days due to snow. To provide the required amount of "seat-time" for students, Elite Learning instructors will continue to present class material and required assignment submissions even if the public school which the student attends is closed due to weather. It is the responsibility of the student to access the class via internet during this type of absence. Students with no internet access away from school should discuss this issue with the instructor at the beginning of the semester.

Class Calendar:
Fall semester courses begin the third week in August and extend until mid-January. Spring semester courses begin in mid-January and extend until the third week in May.
Accommodations for Disabilities:
Students may request academic accommodations for disabilities through the Office of Student Services (or other similar entity, as appropriate). That office will evaluate the request and make recommendations for appropriate and reasonable accommodations, which the student will provide to the instructor. Students should contact SVETN Elite Learning or their guidance counselor with questions or concerns.

Online Etiquette for SVETN Elite Learning Courses:
These standards of conduct apply to both formal and informal communication within your online courses.

Personal Conduct:
- Show respect for others.
- Always ask yourself, "Would I say this to a person's face?"
- Avoid offensive language.
- Be tolerant of diverse opinions and perspectives.

Communication Procedures:
1) Responses must be more than a simple agreement or disagreement.
2) Do not be afraid to disagree with others in the group.
   - If you agree or disagree, choose a position and defend it while respecting the opinions of others.
   - Make sure discussions are intellectual, not emotional.
   - Point out mistakes politely.
3) Course communication must follow directions for the specific assignment.
   - Submit using the appropriate tool--drop box, discussion forum, course mail, etc.
   - Respond in a timely manner and stay focused on discussion topic.
   - Follow the format provided by the instructor.
4) Proofread submissions carefully.
   - Observe rules of grammar, punctuation, and spelling, including avoiding use of slang, internet abbreviations, or lingo.
   - Make sure that what you write makes sense.
5) Proofreading by outside readers is permitted, but the composition of an essay is the sole responsibility of the student. Others may suggest improvement, but may not write any of the paper.

Academic Integrity:

Plagiarism (the submission of anything written by a person other than the student) will result in a grade of 0 on the assignment. In the introductory class material, you will find a post about what plagiarism is (and is not). If you are in doubt, check with the instructor.

Tips for Success in English 111:
- Log on every day. Check for messages from the instructor every day as soon as you log on. Check the News Forum every day.
- Make yourself a calendar as soon as a new unit is posted. Consider which assignments will demand extra time and effort; consider your other commitments. Then schedule time on your calendar to make sure you NEVER submit an assignment that is poorly prepared.
- Take advantages of offers for the instructor to review a rough draft and then make the recommended changes. Doing so will usually improve the paper's final grade at least a letter grade.
• Turn in every assignment on time. Work ahead whenever possible so that last minute emergencies won’t negatively affect your grade.
• If you don’t understand an assignment, ask. I check for messages twice a day and I respond immediately.

**Questions/Comments/Concerns/Feedback:**
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Course (Catalog) Description

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Continues to develop college writing with increased emphasis on critical essays, argumentation, and research, developing these competencies through the examination of a range of texts about the human experience. Requires students to locate, evaluate, integrate, and document sources and effectively edit for style and usage.

Prerequisite: Students must successfully complete ENG 111 or its equivalent.
Students that successfully complete this course will earn 1 high school credit and 3 hours of college credit for English 112.

English 112 is designed to continue the development of student writing and critical thinking skills with an emphasis on research and analysis. This research and analysis will take place through both the review of the writings of others and through the analysis of each student’s own world. Students will be asked to locate and evaluate information, integrate information into written essays in an organized form, and document sources appropriately.

Course Materials

Everyday Writer by Andrea Lunsford, Storming Heaven by Denise Giardina

Course Learning Outcomes/Objectives

Writing Process:
- Students will continue (from ENG 111) to develop the process of writing; prewriting, drafting, revising, editing and reflecting.
- Students will continue reading, analyzing, paraphrasing and summarizing the writings of others.
- Students will practice instructor-specified formats of writing.

Rhetorical Goals:
- Students will write for a variety of rhetorical purposes.
- Students will apply a clear and documented organizational strategy in the development of their analyses and essays.
- Students will incorporate information from a variety of sources.
- Students will appropriately employ grammatical conventions.

Critical Thinking:
- Students will deduce intent and meaning from published works.
• Students will respond to a theoretical question or investigate a literary theme.
• Students will ask critical questions, both of a text and of a person.
• Students will analyze multiple perspectives and develop a response that is a synthesis of them.

Research:
• Students will learn how to locate and retrieve appropriate materials from a wide variety of sources.
• Students will appropriately integrate sources into written text and document the same.

Method of Evaluating Student Achievement

Grading Rubric:
• 90-100 A
• 80-89 B
• 70-79 C
• 60-69 D
• 59-0 F

Writing Assignments = 1/2
Homework, Daily Activities, Tests, Class Participation = 1/2

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