

Houston Community College—Summer 2018 (DE)

**English 1301: Composition I - (71832 / 71833 / 72414 / 72415)**

**Instructor:** Dr. Brandon HERNBERGER

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**Class Times:** Canvas, daily

**Room:** Canvas

**Office hours:** by appointment

**Required Texts:**

Chuck Klosterman:

*Sex, Drugs, and Cocoa Puffs*

*IV*

*Eating the Dinosaur*

**Course Description:** A course devoted to improving the student's writing and critical reading. Writing essays for a variety of purposes from personal to academic, including the introduction to argumentation, critical analysis, and the use of sources. Core Curriculum course. Prerequisite: a satisfactory assessment score, completion of ENGL 0310, or (for non-native speakers) ENGL 0349. 3 credit (3 lecture)

**Core Objectives**

Given the rapid evolution of necessary knowledge and skills and the need to take into account global, national, state, and local cultures, the core curriculum must ensure that students will develop the essential knowledge and skills they need to be successful in college, in a career, in their communities, and in life. Through the Texas Core Curriculum, students will gain a foundation of knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world, develop principles of personal and social responsibility for living in a diverse world, and advance intellectual and practical skills that are essential for all learning.

Students enrolled in this core curriculum course will complete a research project or case study designed to cultivate the following core objectives:

- o **Critical Thinking Skills**—to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
- o **Communication Skills**—to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication
- o **Personal Responsibility**—to include the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making
- o **Teamwork** (Comp I, Comp II, and TW)—to include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal
- o **Social Responsibility** (Lit Only)—to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making

Student proficiency in Communication Skills will be assessed as a formal written out-of-class essay, which is at least 3 pages long and which includes an oral presentation component as well as a visual component. Student proficiency in Critical Thinking will be assessed by a formal out-of-class essay assignment. Personal, Social Responsibility, and Teamwork will be assessed as part of long unit or major essay assignment, which will include assigned reading responses, pre-writing activities, multiple drafts, and group activities (such as peer review or group presentations). Student project grades will account for at least 5% of the final course grade.

### **English Program Student Learning Outcomes**

(Composition, Literature, Creative Writing, and Technical Writing)

1. Write in appropriate genres using varied rhetorical strategies.
2. Write in appropriate genres to explain and evaluate rhetorical and/or literary strategies employed in argument, persuasion, and various genres.
3. Analyze various genres of writing for form, method, meaning, and interpretation.
4. Employ research in academic writing styles and use appropriate documentation style.
5. Communicate ideas effectively through discussion.

### **English Composition I Student Learning Outcomes**

1. Demonstrate knowledge of writing as process.
2. Apply basic principles of critical thinking in analyzing reading selections, developing expository essays, and writing argumentative essays.
3. Analyze elements such as purpose, audience, tone, style, strategy in essays and/or literature by professional writers.
4. Write essays in appropriate academic writing style using varied rhetorical strategies.
5. Synthesize concepts from and use references to assigned readings in their own academic writing.

### **HCC Title IX Policies**

Title IX: Protection from discrimination at school

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (“Title IX”), 20 U.S.C. §1681 *et seq.*, is a Federal civil rights law that prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex—including pregnancy and parental status—in educational programs and activities.

All public and private schools, school districts, colleges, and universities receiving any Federal funds (“schools”) must comply with Title IX.\*

Did You Know?

Title IX prohibits sex discrimination in education programs that receive federal funding?  
Sexual harassment including sexual assault, is a type of sex discrimination that’s banned by Title IX?

Sexual assault is a physical act done against a person’s will?

1 in 5 women are victims of completed or attempted sexual assault while in college?

Schools are required to adopt and publish grievance procedures for students who complain of sex discrimination, including sexual assault?  
Even if you file with HCC Police, HCC is required to independently investigate the assault?

### Course Requirements

Short Essays (at least 2)	25% (combined)
Long Essays (3, worth 25% each, including final)	75%

**Paper Format:** All papers are to be double-spaced. The mandatory heading, which follows MLA, must be in the upper left-hand corner of first sheet, the title centered, the paragraphs indented as follows: (and always using Times New Roman Font)

Student's name

English 1301, Assignment #

Instructor's Name

Date

Title of Essay

Indent the first paragraph and every paragraph thereafter. Staple the paper only. There is no need for covers of any kind.

**Grading:** Your grade will be determined by your performance on the required papers as well as on weekly work comprised of quizzes, and class discussion (and see above, Course Requirements). Discussions are based not exclusively on personal opinions but on facts and opinions derived from the essays we read from our book and from handouts. You are required to write a minimum of seven essays, four of them in class. You must be able to write satisfactory in-class essays in order to pass this class. Essays will be graded according to the following departmental standards.

### Grading Scale

- **A 90-100%** =exceptional work; superior in both style and content
- **B 80-89%** =above average work; superior in content
- **C 70-79%** =average work, good enough but not extraordinary
- **D 60-69%** =below average work; mean mechanics, style, content
- **F 50-59%** =failing work; deficient in mechanics, style and content

**W (Withdrawn)** may be given if a student misses more than 12.5% of instruction (6 class hours).

**I= Incomplete**

**Scholastic Honesty:** "Students are responsible for conducting themselves with honor and integrity in fulfilling course requirements. Penalties and/or disciplinary proceedings may be initiated by College System officials against a student accused of scholastic dishonesty. 'Scholastic dishonesty' includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism, and collusion. . . ." See *Student Handbook* on HCCS website.

**Repeating the Class and Consequences:** Students who take a course and then must repeat it two or more times may soon face significant tuition/fee increases at HCC and other Texas public colleges and universities. If you are considering course withdrawal because you are not earning passing grades, confer with your instructor/ counselor as early as possible about your study habits, reading and writing homework, test-taking skills, attendance, course participation, and opportunities for tutoring or other assistance that might be available.

**Reasonable Accommodation:** Any student with a documented disability (e.g., physical, learning, psychiatric, vision, hearing, etc.) who needs to arrange reasonable accommodation must contact the Disability Services Office.

**Open Computer Lab:** Computers are available for word processing in the Open Lab. Check for hours.

**English 1301 Course Calendar Summer 2018 (all assignment will be completed online and turned in via Canvas. No in-class/on-campus visits will be expected).**

#### **WEEK ONE**

Diagnostic Essay Due  
Readings from *Sex, Drugs, and Cocoa Puffs*  
Short Essay Due

#### **WEEK TWO**

Readings from *Sex, Drugs, and Cocoa Puffs*  
Long Essay Due

#### **WEEK THREE**

Readings from *IV*  
Short Essay Due

#### **WEEK FOUR**

Readings from *IV*  
Long Essay Due

#### **WEEK FIVE**

Readings from *Eating the Dinosaur*  
FINAL