ENGLISH 1301: COMPOSITION AND RHETORIC I  
HCCS-NORTHWEST COLLEGE  
Spring 2012 – Monday/Wednesday

Instructor: Judy Bouvier  
Office hours: MW 5:15-5:45 and by appointment  
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Texts: The Norton Reader, 12th Edition  
An English handbook, new or used, in print or electronic form

Course Materials:  
- College-level dictionary  
- Blue or black pen  
- Pencil  
- 8 ½ x 11-inch notebook paper

Catalog Description: A course devoted to improving the student's writing and critical thinking. 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. 3 credit hours.

Prerequisite: A satisfactory assessment score, completion of Eng 0310, or (for non-native speakers) Eng 0349, and any required developmental reading courses.

Course Requirements:  
- Essays 1 through 4: 60%  
- Essay 5, Final examination: 20%  
- Instructor's choice: 10%  
  (discussion, in-class activities, etc.)  
- Course notebook: 10%  
  (extensive notebook writing assignments, informal essays, reader responses, course journal, class notes, pre-writing, graded essays, handouts, etc.)

Grading Scale: A = 90-100, B = 80-89, C = 70-79, D = 60-69, F = 59 and below

Attendance: Students must attend classes regularly and are responsible for contacting classmates in order to be completely caught up and fully prepared for class on the day of their return. There are no excused absences. A student may be dropped from the class for excessive absences (12.5% of the course). Although voluntarily withdrawing from a course is your responsibility, the instructor may withdraw students upon the seventh hour of missed instruction. Chronic lateness will be counted as absences.

If a student enters class late, it is his/her responsibility to see the instructor at the end of that class period to have the absence changed to a tardy. Attendance is critical to passing this course.
**Late Papers:** Essays are due at the exact class-start time on their announced due dates. Any paper handed in on the due date after that time will be considered one class meeting late. Papers will be penalized by 10% of the earned grade for each subsequent class meeting that they are late. This applies even if the student is absent.

**Scholastic Dishonesty:** Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism, and collusion. Possible penalties for scholastic dishonesty may include a grade of zero (0) for the particular assignment, failure in the course, and/or recommendation for probation or dismissal from the College System. Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves thoroughly with the information on scholastic dishonesty in the HCCS catalogue and student handbook. For more on plagiarism, take advantage of the information provided in the plagiarism tutorial on the HCC Library website.

**Withdrawal:** If a student stops attending class, he/she must officially withdraw himself/herself before the withdrawal deadline for the semester. If a withdrawal form is not submitted, a student will receive the earned grade in the course (A.B.C.D.F).

**NOTE TO INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS:** Receiving a W in a course may affect the status of your student visa. Once a W is given for a course (after you have submitted a withdrawal form formally), it will not be changed to an F because of visa consideration. Please contact the International Student Office at 713-718-8520 if you have any questions about your visa status and other transfer issues.

**Three-Peat Rule:** Students who enroll for most credit CEU classes for a third or more times will be charged an additional $50.00 per semester credit hour and $3.00 per contact hours.

**Student Conduct:** Students are expected to conduct themselves in class in a manner that supports the learning environment. Any conduct, language or other behavior that is disruptive to the learning environment will not be tolerated. If your behavior is offensive, disruptive or threatening, or if you do not correct inappropriate behavior when warned, you will be asked to leave the class for that period and will receive an absence for that day. Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves thoroughly with the information on student misconduct in the HCCS catalogue and student handbook.

**Electronic Devices:** Use of cellular telephones, computers or any other electronic devices during class time is strictly prohibited. If your cell phone sounds during class, or if any electronic device is operational, you may be instructed to leave for the remainder of that class session and will be counted absent. Tape recorders may be used only with the instructor’s permission.

**Special Needs:** Any student with a documented disability (e.g. physical, learning, psychiatric, vision, hearing, etc.) who needs to arrange reasonable accommodations must contact the Disability Services Office at the respective college at the beginning of each semester. Faculty is authorized to provide only the accommodations requested by the Disability Support Services Office. For questions please contact Donna Price at 713-718-5165.
**Tutoring:** Free English tutoring is available at Northwest College through the following:

In-person tutors in the Writing Center at the Spring Branch Campus

In-person tutors in the Writing Center at the Katy Campus

On-Line Tutors at http://askonline.net

**Course Goals:** English 1301 is part of the Core Curriculum and, as such, emphasizes all of the Core Competencies: reading, writing, speaking, listening, critical thinking, and computer literacy. In English 1301, we seek to provide writing instruction and practice that will help students master writing a short essay while developing reading skills. Critical analysis of reading selections and the rudiments of persuasive/argumentative writing techniques are also emphasized, bolstered by an introduction to college-level research and documentation. We believe that in mastering these particular kinds of writing, students will also gain skills that will help them to be successful at writing tasks in other college courses, their careers, and in their personal lives.

**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 students’ own academic writing.

**Objectives:** The student will be able to:
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.

**Instructional Methods**
A number of instructional methods will be employed in this course to enable students from a broad range of learning styles to become proficient writers. These methods include but are not limited to lecture, discussion, collaboration, group work, peer review, in- and out-of-class free-writing responses to assignments, out-of-class journal writing, and informal essays.

**Note:** Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves thoroughly with all regulations, policies and information in the HCCS catalogue and student handbook.
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Course Calendar – Spring 2012, Second-Start, Monday/Wednesday

Listed below are basic course assignments. Please note, however, that additional readings, activities, and short writings will be assigned throughout the semester, as will on-going out-of-class journal assignments. Many of these additional assignments will be from handouts or notes given in class. If you happen to miss a class or part of a class, you must contact a classmate to catch up on what you miss before you return. Note also that changes may be made in this calendar at any time.

All reading assignments are in The Norton Reader unless otherwise specified.

Week 1
Mon: Introduction to Course/Syllabus/Course Calendar
Diagnostic essay.
Wed: Extended introduction to course

Week 2
Mon: Presidents’ Day – NO CLASSES
Wed: “Black Men and Public Space” – Brent Staples
Notebook writing assignment
Discussion
Out-of-Class RR: “Graduation” – Maya Angelou

Week 3
Mon: Essay Overview
Essay #1 assigned
Wed: Draft of Essay #1 due
Workshop

Week 4
Mon: Essay #1 due at beginning of class
“Who Shot Johnny?” – Debra Dickerson
Notebook writing assignment
Conference
Out-of-Class RR: “Tongue-Tied” – Maxine Hong Kingston
Wed: “Get a Knife, Get a Dog, but Get Rid of Guns” – Molly Ivens
Notebook writing assignment
Conference
Out-of-Class RR: “Binge-Drinking as a Substitute of a ‘Community of Learning’”

Week 5
Mon: “How It Feels to Be Colored Me” – Zora Neale Hurston
Notebook writing assignment
Discussion
Essay #2 assigned
Wed: Draft of Essay #2 due
Workshop
**Week 6**

**Mon:**  
**Essay #2 due at beginning of class**  
“Why Women Smile” – Amy Cunningham  
Notebook writing assignment  
Conference

**Wed:**  
“Tune of The Tuna Fish” – Sandra Steingraber  
Notebook writing assignment  
Conference  
Out-of-Class RR: “Letter to President Pierce, 1855” – Chief Seattle

**Week 7**

**Mon:**  
“I Have a Dream” - Martin Luther King Jr.  
Notebook writing assignment  
Discussion  
Out-of-Class RR: “Kill 'Em! Crush 'Em! Eat 'Em Raw!” – John McMurty

**Wed:**  
**Mid-term Essay - In-Class**  
Out-of-Class RR: “Second Inaugural Address” – Abraham Lincoln

**SPRING BREAK – NO CLASSES**

**Week 8**

**Mon:**  
“Tight Jeans and Chania Chorris” – Sonia Shah  
Notebook writing assignment  
Conference  
Research preparation assigned  
Out-of-Class RR: “Between the Sexes, a Great Divide” – Anna Quindlen

**Wed:**  
“Saudis in Bikinis” – Nicholas D. Kristof  
Notebook writing assignment  
Conference  
Research preparation continued  
Out-of-Class RR: “Inaugural Address” – John F. Kennedy

**Week 9**

**Mon:**  
“Letter from Birmingham Jail” – Martin Luther King Jr.  
Notebook writing assignment  
Discussion  
Essay #4/Researched Paper assigned

**Wed:**  
“Salvation” – Langston Hughes  
Notebook writing assignment  
Discussion  
Essay #4/Researched Paper assignment, continued
Week 10
Mon: Essay #4/Researched Paper due at beginning of class
  “Inaugural Address” – John F. Kennedy
  Notebook writing assignment
  Conference
Wed: “How to Write a Letter”
  Notebook writing assignment
  Conference

Week 11
Mon: Course Review
Wed: Course Review

Week 12

Essay #5 – Final-exam Essay – In-Class
Due at end of final-exam period

Check master schedule for date and time of final exam.

Course notebooks due at final-exam period.