

ENG 1301.39: Composition and Rhetoric

Dr. Michael White
WH 222 335-6550
mwhite@odessa.edu

CREDIT HOURS: 3 lecture hours

PREREQUISITE: English 0370 passed with a "C" or better or a satisfactory placement score.

CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

Consists of essentials of correctness and effectiveness in writing skills. Emphasizes reading and writing expository prose along with some research techniques. Requires expository essays and collateral readings. (Scans 1,2,9). Lab fee required for English 1301 (Word Processing).

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

After successfully completing this course, the student should be able to:

1. write a well-organized, thesis driven essay, with clear internal organization governed by a series of controlled paragraph topic sentences;
2. move logically in a body paragraph from the generalization of the topic sentence to more specific clarifications;
3. support assertions through detailed, specific illustrations;
4. maintain a logical movement through an essay with control of transitions, clarifications, and reasonable conclusions to ideas;
5. analyze a rhetorical situation to determine the most appropriate writing strategy, having knowledge and control of the most commonly useful analytical writing strategies;
6. analyze an audience to determine the best strategies for convincing it;
7. demonstrate an understanding of some basic research techniques such as quotation integration and citation; and
8. demonstrate mastery of conventional English.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

The student will write at least 6 major pieces of writing, spaced evenly over the course of the semester, in addition to a separate final exam essay.

Several pieces of writing, including the special forms discussed below, should stress analytical rather than expressive forms to prepare the student for college writing projects beyond English 1301.

At the instructor's discretion, one of those pieces of writing may be a project involving multimedia elements, such as image scanning, desktop publishing, web page construction, or a PowerPoint presentation.

Texts: Buscemi and Smith, *75 Readings*, 11th ed.
Troyka and Hesse, *Quick Access*, 6th ed.

During the semester we will discuss various methods of expository development, as well as other elements of composition, which you will employ in a series of in-class essays demonstrating your

mastery of the material. If you write all of the compositions, by the semester's end you will have written between 9 and 12 essays of which I will take your best 6 grades. In addition, you will complete an essay analysis and write a final essay.

I will evaluate your compositions holistically, examining such characteristics as organization and development, mechanics, coherence and grammar. The work that you do in the second half of the semester will be weighed more heavily than your initial writing.

SPECIAL NEEDS: Odessa College complies with Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you have any special needs or issues pertaining to your access and participation in this or any other class at Odessa College, please feel free to contact me to discuss your concerns. You may also call the Office of Disability Services at 335-6861 to request assistance and accommodations.