

# English 110–29: English Composition 1

3 credit hours

**Syllabus for Fall 2009**  
Mon., Wed., Fri., 1 p.m.  
SBE 145/117

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**Office hours:**  
Mon., Wed., Fri. 9–11 a.m.  
Thu., 4–6 p.m.  
*Other hours by appointment*

## Description

A course that continues practice in the composing process, with emphasis on argumentation and research. The course involves gathering, analyzing, and documenting information from secondary sources.

## Texts:

Internet Resources to be assigned

## Course Objectives

The objectives of English 110 are to help students develop in the following areas:

1. Reading and thinking critically about topics of current and enduring importance to our culture—especially in the discourses of rhetoric and history.
2. Rhetorical versatility.
3. Clear and complete written expression.
4. Grammatical precision.
5. Writing processes that lead to clear and complete expression.

## Course Competencies

In addition to the specific objectives above, work in this course will also develop students' competencies in the following areas:

- A variety of instructional uses of the available communication technologies, e.g., word processing, database use, e-mail, and various audio-visual materials.
- Strategies for coaching all stages of the composing process.
- Principles of cooperative learning and strategies for implementing those principles.\*

Finally, assignments and class work in this course are designed to develop students' abilities to:

- Demonstrate respect for the work and contributions of all learners.
- Use the English language arts to help students become familiar with their own and others' cultures.
- Recognize the impact of cultural, economic, political and social environments upon language.
- Demonstrate the influence of language and visual images on thinking and composing.
- Use the processes of composing to create various forms of oral, visual, and written literacy.
- Demonstrate how written discourse can influence thought and action.
- Recognize the influence of media on culture and on people's actions and communication.
- Construct meaning from media and non-print texts.
- Display an understanding of the role of technology in communication.\*\*

## Course Organization and Teaching Strategies

This course is organized around five essays:

- Personal narrative essay
- Persuasive Presentation (oral presentation, revised draft, final written version)
- Media Criticism
- Analytical Critique of an Essay
- Final Essay (in class): Comparison/Contrast

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\* From the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (DPI) Competencies for English Studies (2.9, 2.11, and 2.14).

\*\* From program standards developed by the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) and endorsed by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE; standards 2.1, 2.2, 3.1.3, 3.2.1, 3.2.3, 3.4.3, 3.6.1, 3.6.2, and 3.6.3).

## Evaluation Methods and Grading Systems

The assignments account for the following percentages of your final grade:

Class participation and drafts	35%
Finished essays and assignments (5)	65%

Numerical equivalents for letter grades (to be used in computing final grade):

A = 92–100	B = 84–91	C = 73–83	D = 64–72	F = 0–63
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## University Policies

See the following websites for details of University policies in effect in this course. For a complete version of this syllabus with full text of these policies, see [www.uncfsu.edu/english/syllabi.htm](http://www.uncfsu.edu/english/syllabi.htm).

**Email:** [www.uncfsu.edu/PDFs/EmailPolicyFinal.pdf](http://www.uncfsu.edu/PDFs/EmailPolicyFinal.pdf)

**Disabled Student Services:** <http://www.uncfsu.edu/studentaffairs/CFPD/cfpddss.htm>

**Interim Grades and New Grading Policies:**

<http://www.uncfsu.edu/fsuretention/Changes%20in%20Grading%20faculty.doc>

## Academic Honesty

Because this is a writing course, absolutely every word, phrase, sentence and paragraph that you submit for credit must be your own work. Because you have all graduated from high school or the equivalent, you obviously understand the difference between your own words and the work of others. This course's instructor has adopted a "zero tolerance" policy on plagiarism. This means that any student who turns in other writer's work pretending that it is his or her own will earn an "F" for the entire course. This is as true of drafts as it is of final assignments turned in for a grade. There will be no warning; there will be no "second chance": you will receive an "F" for the entire course.

In other words, if (theoretically) a student submits in the course's second week a draft for peer review that includes, without proper attribution, another author's writing, that student will be failed for the entire semester's work. Moreover, that student will also be reported to the University's judicial process for academic dishonesty: penalties include expulsion.

## Attendance

Because students who are absent miss instruction and cannot participate in classroom activities, they cannot know the class expectations and cannot learn as well as a student who attends. Therefore, **the University policy on class attendance is in effect in this class**. According to the FSU undergraduate catalog:

Class attendance is required for all students enrolled in courses at the 100 and 200 levels. Class absences will be excused only when valid documentation is provided for participation in university sponsored activities, serious illness, and family emergencies. (70)

This means that students should, in the event of absence, typically provide a doctor's note or go through the office of the Dean of Students, which will notify instructors.

The FSU **policy on tardiness** is also in effect: "Students are required to arrive at each class on time and remain in class until dismissed by the instructor" (70). Three tardies will equal one absence. The **definition of "tardy"** is arrival after the instructor has started class.

Moreover, the instructor reserves the right to count as "absent" any student whose conduct disrupts the class's work. Such conduct might include, but is not limited to any conduct or conversation that distracts from lecture or discussion.

In other words, a student who attends but disrupts a class through inappropriate and/or disrespectful behavior will, at the instructor's discretion, receive no credit for attendance.

See the following website for details on interim grades related to attendance:

<http://www.uncfsu.edu/fsuretention/Changes%20in%20Grading%20faculty.doc>