

# English 120–04: English Composition 2

3 credit hours

Syllabus for Fall 2009

Mon., Wed., Fri., 8 a.m.

Butler 359

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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. *Prerequisite: ENGL110.*

**Texts:** Internet Resources to be assigned

## Course Objectives

The objectives of English 120 are to help students develop in the following areas:

1. Awareness of the stages of the writing process and the ability to move through them.
2. Ability to support and advance a writing community by synthesizing, using, and contributing to feedback among peers.
3. Awareness of audience concerns while writing, which will lead to care in addressing issues of standard American English, organization, development, and coherence.
4. The ability to use the computer to compose at all stages of the writing process.
5. Awareness of various kinds of writing as used for academic purposes.
6. Ability to use print and electronic resources to develop research plans, identify sources of information, and complete a coherent academic research project.

## 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.\*\*

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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).

## Course Organization and Teaching Strategies

This course is organized around five assignments, all culminating in a major research essay:

- Source Evaluation Exercise
- Media Evaluation Exercise
- Research Prospectus
- Research Progress Report
- Final Research Essay

## Evaluation Methods and Grading Systems

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

Class participation and drafts	15%
Preliminary assignments (4)	15% ea. %
Final Research Essay	25%

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

## 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/fsuretenion/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 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/fsuretenion/Changes%20in%20Grading%20faculty.doc>

## Schedule of Readings and Assignments:

<i>Weeks 1–2:</i>	<i>Elements of Rhetoric</i>
Wednesday, 9 Sep.:	
Friday, 11 Sep.:	
Monday, 14 Sep.:	.
Wednesday, 16 Sep.:	.
Friday, 18 Sep.:	.
Monday, 21 Sep.:	.
Wednesday, 23 Sep.:	.
Friday, 25 Sep.:	.
Monday, 28 Sep.:	Media evaluation assignment.
Wednesday, 30 Oct.:	<b>Draft:</b> Media evaluation (Peer Review).
Friday, 2 Oct.:	<b>Final</b> media evaluation.
Monday, 5 Oct.:	Topic/subject development.
Wednesday, 7 Oct.:	Topic/subject development.
Friday, 9 Oct.:	Advanced Internet/Library research techniques.
<b>Midterm Break</b>	
Monday, 12 Oct.:	Advanced Internet/Library research techniques.
Wednesday, 14 Oct.:	Advanced Internet/Library research techniques, continued.
<b>Midterm Break</b>	
Monday, 19 Oct.:	<b>No class: individual conferences.</b>
Wednesday, 21 Oct.:	<b>No class: individual conferences.</b>
Friday, 23 Oct.:	<b>No class: individual conferences.</b>
Monday, 26 Oct.:	<b>Research Prospectus Draft Due</b> Peer Review
Wednesday, 28 Oct.:	Discussion of Research Prospectus Drafts
Friday, 30 Oct.:	<b>Final Research Prospectus Due</b>
Monday, 2 Nov.	Review of Research Prospectuses
Wednesday, 4 Nov.	Review of Research Prospectuses, continued
Friday, 6 Nov.:	Advanced Methods of Research, continued.
Monday, 9 Nov.:	Advanced Methods of Research; Progress Report
Wednesday, 11 Nov.:	Advanced Methods of Research

Friday, 13 Nov.:	Research Methods Workshop
	<b>[Note: Progress Reports due at individual conferences]</b>
Monday, 16 Nov.:	NO CLASS. Individual conferences.
Wednesday, 18 Nov.:	NO CLASS. Individual conferences.
Friday, 20 Nov.:	NO CLASS. Individual conferences.
Monday, 23 Nov.:	Documentation/Citation Techniques
Wednesday, 25 Nov.:	Documentation/Citation Techniques
<b>Thanksgiving Break</b>	
Monday, 4 Dec.:	Research Essay
Wednesday, 6 Dec.:	Final Class <b>Final Research Essay due</b>
Friday, 8 Dec.:	<b>Research Essay Draft</b> —Peer Review

**Editorial Guidelines:**

The following websites will facilitate review and editing of drafts. Further URLs will be provided as research progresses.

**General Grammar Help:**

<http://tinyurl.com/48e9rj> OR <http://www.uncfsu.edu/writingcenter/Grammar%20Help.htm>

**Typescript Format:**

<http://tinyurl.com/z25ja>

**Commas:**

<http://tinyurl.com/3pde15> OR <http://www.uncfsu.edu/writingcenter/Commas.htm>

**Run-on sentences** (also “comma splices,” “fused sentences,” and “semicolons”):

<http://tinyurl.com/2h67lk>

OR <http://www.uncfsu.edu/writingcenter/Run-On%20Sentences.htm>

**Sentence Fragments:**

<http://tinyurl.com/8nb84>

**Adjectives/Adverbs:**

<http://tinyurl.com/3yp4ol>

**Apostrophes, Plurals, Possessives:**

<http://tinyurl.com/3to7fr>