**Rhetoric and Composition I:**

**First Year Writing First Semester**

**Instructor**: Rowenna Miller  
**Meeting time/place**: Ideally a smart classroom. Course set up as three meetings per week.  
**Office address/phone**: Fingers crossed something with a window. Phone? What phone?

**Office hours:** One hour per week per section **Email:** me@fabulousinstitution.edu **URL:** If applicable, provide department website with additional policies, goals, etc.

**Course description and objectives**:   
This course is an introduction to college-level writing, with the understanding that many of the skills you develop here will be transferable to your future coursework and to your professional life. Regular writing assignments as well as peer assessment and revision will help to guide you toward honing your own writing style and process, developing your voice in various forms of writing, and improving analytical, research, and communication skills.

**Course requirements**:

The writing assignments for this course, as well as attendance and participation, will contribute toward a total of 1000 points.

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| Personal Narrative | 50 |
| Personal Narrative Revision/Conversion | 150 |
| Visual Analysis Paper | 200 |
| Persuasive Paper | 200 |
| Film Analysis Paper | 200 |
| Final Reflection | 100 |
| Attendance and Participation | 100 |

**Grading:**The following scale will be used in determining course grades:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **A** | **A-** | **B+** | **B** | **B-** | **C+** | **C** | **D** | **F** |
| **930+** | **929-900** | **899-870** | **869-830** | **829-800** | **799-770** | **769-700** | **699-600** | **599- 0** |

**Attendance / Participation:**   
Your grade will reflect your attitude, preparation for class, attention, and contributions to oral and electronic class discussions and activities. You must make a fair and equal contribution to all collaborative in-class work. Respect toward your instructor and your classmates is expected at all times. You will receive the grade you earn. Failure to participate will result in a lowered grade in this area. Attendance and punctuality are required. If you are ill or have a personal emergency, you are responsible for checking Blackboard for assignments and making up work. If possible, notify me BEFORE an absence occurs; in any case, communicate with me as soon as possible. Habitual tardiness may negatively affect your grade as well.

**Paper Specifications and Due Dates**

Unless otherwise noted in class or via e-mail, all readings for the week should be completed by Monday, and all papers (drafts and revisions) are be due on Fridays. Drafts are due in class for peer review AND online via Blackboard, and revisions are due online via Blackboard by 11 a.m. of their due date (the time class begins). You are responsible for making sure you know how to submit electronically.

Unless otherwise specified, writing assignments must be word-processed in Times New Roman 12 pt. font, double-spaced, with 1" margins. Headings and documentation should conform to MLA style. You are responsible for making sure you know how to submit electronically. I do NOT accept late work unless you communicate with me. Late work may be penalized.

**Communication, Conferences and Meeting with your Instructor:**

In addition to scheduled office hours, I am happy to schedule meetings. I am also available via email, and to reply to all email messages within one business day (barring the same circumstances for which you would expect excuse from class—illness, emergency, unavoidable travel, etc). Weekends are not business days.

We will have scheduled—and required—conferences during the semester as you are revising your papers. You are also welcome to come by office hours or email with questions about a specific paper, assignment, progress in this course, writing in general, English as a discipline, or my cat.

**Revision Policy and Extra Credit Policy**

Revision is a vital part of the writing process. If you are not satisfied with a grade on a paper, you may revise that paper. I will re-grade it, and the highest grade will be used (revision can never hurt your grade in this class). In order to do so, review all feedback you’ve received and send me, via email, a detailed plan of revision (what you will address, change, add, cut, and/or rethink), which I will approve or reply with further suggestions, and then you may submit a revision. All revisions must be submitted one week prior to our final class meeting.

I may offer extra credit opportunities throughout the semester. Always an option: Visiting the Writing Center (and showing me proof of that visit) is worth five bonus points on the assignment you visit the Center for. You must visit and show proof of visit before the paper is due. I do not offer “ad hoc” or additional individual extra credit opportunities.

**Plagiarism:**I will include the plagiarism statement of the institution I teach for here.

First offenses of plagiarism will result in a required tutorial and re-submission of the assignment. Second offenses will result in a 0 on the assignment. Third offenses may result in failing the course and/or additional institutional sanctions.

**Accommodations for students with disabilities:**   
Accommodations for disabilities must be obtained through Access and Disability Services. Faculty members cannot individually assign accommodations, so discuss your situation with Access and Disability Services early in the semester. Retroactive accommodations cannot be applied.

**PW = Pearson Writer (online)**

**BB = Blackboard**

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| **Date** | **Assignments and Activities**  \* Additional readings will be assigned – always check our course web site for assignments\* | **Writing Products and Deadlines** |
| Week 1  8/22 | Syllabus review: purpose, requirements, expectations, protocols, and academic integrity  **Reading:** **BB**  *“*Thank Goodness,” “Figuring It Out for Myself,” “Beautiful Façade” | Set of criteria to define *justice*  Composition #1: Draft of personal narrative to illustrate an example of *justice* or *injustice* |
| Week 2  8/29 | **Reading:** *Just Mercy*, pp. 1-66 ; **PW**: Appeals to Authority: Ethos (V), Appeals to Emotion: Pathos (V), Appeals to Reason: Logos (V), How Do You Think Critically about Your Reading, Writing Rhetorical Analyses, Organizing Your Analysis, Drafting (CC) |  |
| Week 3  9/5  (no class Mon.) | **Reading:** *Just Mercy*, Chapters 4-6, and **PW**: Outlining (CC), Thesis Statements (CC), Shaping Paragraphs (CC), Transitions (CC), Introductions (CC), Conclusions (CC) | Composition #2: Narrative Technique Analysis (draft) |
| Week 4  9/12 | **Reading:** *Just Mercy*, Chapters 7-9, **Conferences** | Composition #2: Narrative Technique Analysis (revision) |
| Week 5  9/19 | **Reading:** *Just Mercy*, Chapters 10-11 ; **PW**: Global Revision (CC), Sentence Variety (CC), Figurative Language (CC), Conciseness (CC), Peer Review (CC) |  |
| Week 6  9/26 | **Reading:** *Just Mercy*, Chapters 12-13;  **PW**: Local Revision (CC) | Composition #3: Personal Narrative (revision) |
| Week 7  10/3 | **Reading:** **PW**: Visual Arguments (CC), Responding to Visuals (CC); **BB**: “Pasta and Romance,” “Boys and Their Toys,” “I Can Do Anything You Can Do” |  |
| Week 8  10/10 | **Reading:** *Just Mercy*—finish the book | Composition #4: Visual Analysis (draft) |
| Week 9  10/17 | **Conferences** | Composition #4: Visual Analysis (revision) |
| Week 10  10/24 | **Reading:** Assigned case and related online readings; **PW**: Taking Notes (CC), Reading for Detail (CC), Reading Complex Texts (CC) | **Stevenson visit (Oct 24)\*** |
| Week 11  10/31 | **Reading:** Assigned case and related online reading; **PW**: Integrating Sources (CC), Blending Sources (CC), Using Quotations from Sources (CC) |  |
| Week 12  11/7 |  | Composition #5: Persuasive Essay draft due |
| Week 13  11/14 | **Conferences** | Composition #5: Persuasive Essay final due |
| Week 14  11/21 | **Thanksgiving** | Eportfolio drafts due |
| Week 15  11/28 | **PW**: Reflections (CC), Portfolios | Reflection revisions due Friday |
| Week 16  12/5 | **Final Exams** | Eportfolio final due |