

ENGLISH 28—FALL 2013 COURSE INFORMATION

PREREQUISITE: Completion of English 21 with a grade of “C” or better or appropriate placement level demonstrated through English assessment process.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: Upon completion of this course the student will have the following skills:

Writing

1.) Students can write essays of 500 – 750 words which exhibit the following qualities:

- Respond effectively to a topic based on one or more assigned readings.
- State a clear thesis and develop and support it throughout the essay.
- Provide adequate support from a variety of sources.
- Organize clearly, including introduction, organized body and conclusion.
- Use Standard English grammar, punctuation, spelling and usage.
- Clearly address an audience and have a purpose.

2.) Students also can:

- Quote and accurately cite quotations and integrate these smoothly into papers.
- Apply, exemplify an evaluate ideas.
- Use basic Research methods.

Reading

Students should be able to read a variety of college-level expository prose in order to:

- Identify and restate the thesis or main idea, whether it is stated or implied.
- Identify main and supporting points as well as organizing features
- Identify rhetorical features such as compare-contrast, definition, description, persuasion, etc.
- Identify author’s tone and how it functions in the text.

English 28 will help students meet the following Student Learning Outcomes:

“Critical Thinking: Analyze problems by differentiating fact from opinions, using evidence, and using sound reasoning to specify multiple solutions and their consequences.”

In analyzing essays and engaging in class discussion forums.

“Communication: Effectively communicate thought in a well-organized manner to persuade, inform, and convey ideas in academic, work, family and community settings.”

In essays and class discussions questions and forums, argue a point of view about questions raised in class texts and essays.

“Ethics: practice and demonstrate standards of personal and professional integrity, honesty and fairness; apply ethical principles in submission of all college work.”

Submit essays in which words other than your own are documented in MLA format.

“Research: Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to argue a point and support it (in writing) with multiple examples and limited outside sources.”

In formal essays and research essay.

NOTE: The Course Information and Syllabus are tentative and subject to change as appropriate

REQUIRED TEXTS:

1. Kozol, Jonathan. *Amazing Grace: The Lives of Children and the Conscience of a Nation*. 1995.
2. Roberts, Steven V. *From Every End of This Earth: 13 Families and the New Lives They Made in America*. 2009.
3. Hacker, Diana. *A Pocket Style Manual*, 5th edition. 2005.

****Note: All books are required for the course Also, make sure to buy all class texts ASAP****

REQUIRED WRITTEN WORK:

Essay #1: The Paragraph (<i>Amazing Grace...</i>)	100 pts.
Essay #2 (<i>Amazing Grace...</i>)	100 pts.
Essay #3: Mid-term (Timed Essay)	100 pts.
Essay #4 (<i>From Every End of This Earth...</i>)	100 pts.
Essay #5 (<i>From Every End of This Earth...</i>)	100 pts.
Essay #6: Final Exam (Timed Essay)	<u>100 pts.</u> 600 pts.

OTHER WORK: writings and activities (100 pts). & disc. quest. (100 pts.) 200 pts.

ON-LINE DISCUSSION TOPICS: 200 pts.

Total pts. = 1000 pts.

GRADING SCALE:

- 900-1000 = A
- 800-899 = B
- 700-799 = C
- 600-699 = D
- 599 and below = F

CHECK SYSTEM: Checks are usually reserved for assignments related to formal essays and discussion questions and cumulatively are worth 100 pts.

V++ = Excellent--All questions are answered. Answers are fully developed and go beyond the scope of the question adding insight and depth.

V+ = Very Good--All questions are answered. Answers are fully developed.

V = Good/Satisfactory--Parts of questions aren't addressed and/or answers lack clarity/focus and require further development.

V- = Poor-- Assignment is unfinished and/or answers are inadequate and lack substance/focus/clarity

0= Fail--Assignment not turned in and/or answers do not address questions and/or not enough of the assignment has been completed.

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POLICIES:

ETUDES FORMAT:

Students must login regularly and throughout the week in order to receive updates, assignments, lecture notes, writing tips, discussion prompts, etc. **Students who fail to do so will miss important class information and assignment deadlines, and may be dropped from the class.** Writing and reading assignments must be completed on time for you to participate actively in on-line activities and group activities. **The exchange of conflicting ideas is encouraged, but should be conducted in an orderly, mutually respectful manner. Thus, for instance, avoid telling another student that his or her opinion is "wrong."**

ATTENDANCE: On-line assignments and general information will be posted throughout the weeks. Specific assignments will be opened every Mon. thru Wed. Thus, **LOGGING IN REGULARLY IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT.** Failure to log in regularly and/or failure to submit assignments may result in a drop from class. **YOU MAY NOT TURN IN LATE WORK.**

Instructor Response Policy

If you have a question for me, please post it to the "Questions" discussion area. If your question is of a personal nature (which you do not want your fellow students to see), send me a "Private Message." I will respond to you within at least 48 hours and often much sooner. In exceptional circumstances we can schedule communication via email.

Drop Policy

If you choose to drop the course, it is your responsibility to do so before the official drop dates listed below. You will not be *automatically* excluded for lack of participation.

- The last day to drop and get a full refund: **10/25/2013**
- The last day to add: **10/20/2013 (On-line); 10/25/2013 (In-person)**
- The last day to drop without a "W": **10/25/2013**
- The last day to drop with a "W": **11/27/2013**

Special Needs and Disabled Students Policy

If you are a student with a disability and require accommodations, please send me a Private Message. The sooner I am aware of your eligibility for accommodations, the quicker I will be able to assist the Disabled Students Programs & Services (DSP&S) Office in providing them. The DSP&S Office provides special assistance in areas including: registration assistance specialized tutoring, academic and career guidance counseling, instructor liaison, special instruction and testing assistance. You can contact the Director of the DSP&S Office, Adrienne Foster, at fosteraa@wlac.edu describing the accommodations that are necessary

Technical Requirements

Please carefully review the ETUDES system requirements located at: <https://etudes-ng.fhda.edu/portal/site/!gateway/page/4243c7b4-9b68-45fc-0016-148ad08653aa>. Make sure you have configured your computer correctly *before* the course starts. Please also review the technical requirements located in the Start Here section of Modules.

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COURSE CONTENT

On-line Work

On-line work will consist of discussions of reading and writing assignments, exercises in pre-writing, revising, and evaluating techniques, and reading & reviewing lectures notes. The student will be required to submit **six typed** formal essays (this includes the **timed** midterm and final) in MLA format during the semester. Topics and paper lengths will be detailed on handouts and there will be pre-writing and/or revising involving each of the six essays.

ESSAYS AND HOMEWORK

ALL ESSAYS ARE REQUIRED TO PASS THE COURSE. All writing and discussion activities are due at the deadline date. Essays turned in after the due date and usually up to one week late receive 20% fewer points. **Essays turned in more than one week late must be turned in, but receive no points.** Always make a copy of your assignment and keep it until your original is replaced to you. You will be responsible for replacing a paper if it is lost or stolen. Also, **make sure you have access to another computer** in case your computer crashes. (It is strongly recommended that you get an account at the WLAC library.) **Computer failure is not a valid excuse for turning in late work.** Thus, **HAVE A BACKUP PLAN.**

****You may resubmit one essay under the following conditions**:**

1. It was turned in on the due date.
2. You received a grade of "C" or lower.
3. **The essay must be assignment#: 1 or 2 or 4 DUE: 12/09/13 (via PM)**
4. The essay received no penalties.

Plagiarism: Will result in a zero for the assignment, and may result in a suspension from class. Also, the assignment is not subject to re-submit.

It is not difficult to determine whether a paper has been plagiarized. It will be *very difficult* for you to pass this class if you submit an essay that includes any form of plagiarism. You must cite *ANY* information, thoughts, ideas, and words not your own. We will explore this topic in greater detail throughout the course of the semester. **Also, you must submit Assignment #1 (Plagiarism: Consequences and How to Avoid It) before you can submit any work.** Thus, until you turn in this assignment you will not be able to submit subsequent assignments resulting in a loss of points that cannot be made up. You can read more about plagiarism at: <http://www.plagiarism.org>. Any student caught cheating or plagiarizing will be referred to the dean for disciplinary action.

Format of Papers

General on-line writing activities: Most of this writing will consist of discussion questions from assigned class books (*Amazing Grace* and *From Every End of This Earth*). Other writings will include, but are not limited to, analyzing essay structure and MLA exercises (based on sections from *A Pocket Style Manual*). These assignments will be submitted in-line unless otherwise noted.

The six formal essays: MUST BE DOUBLE SPACED AND IN PROPER MLA FORMAT. Your handout for each essay will indicate method of submittal--whether in-line or attachment. Also, **you must submit attachments using Microsoft Word. Do not use Microsoft Works.** Further, you must submit all assignments via ETUDES. You may not email assignments through Private Messages or the instructor's school email account.

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Discussion and Private Messages

This section includes class discussion topics and forums for questions about plagiarism and class content. You can also email me here through Private Messages.

Class discussion topics will be posted weekly (Mon. through Wed.). **Each topic is worth a total of 10 points: 5 points for your original post to the topic and 5 points for a response/reply to another student's post.** This means you will have a total of 2 posts—DO NOT USE ONLY 1 POST FOR YOUR ORIGINAL POST AND YOUR RESPONSE TO ANOTHER STUDENT'S POST. Doing so will result in a loss of points. Also: a.) Make sure your "response" posts are much more developed than "I agree with this/that student." b.) Do not always respond to the same student. c.) You may refer to more than one student's post. Failure to provide developed posts will result in a loss of points or no credit.

Online Student Resources

Online Student Helpdesk:	http://usdegreeonline.wlac.edu/helpdesk
Course Login:	http://usdegreeonline.wlac.edu/pages/168.asp
Technical Requirements:	https://etudes-ng.fhda.edu/portal/site/!gateway/page/4243c7b4-9b68-45fc-0016-148ad08653aa
ETUDES FAQ:	http://www.wlac.edu/online/etudesfaq.asp
WLAC Online Homepage:	http://usdegreeonline.wlac.edu/pages/104.asp
WLAC Online Counseling:	http://www.wlac.edu/online/counselingonline.asp
WLAC Online Tutoring:	http://www.wlac.edu/online/tutoring.asp
WLAC Library:	http://www.wlac.edu/library/international.html
WLAC Bookstore:	http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/westintl.htm
Netiquette:	http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html
Strategies for Online Learners:	http://www.uidaho.edu/eo/dist8.html
Be a Successful Online Student:	http://www.ion.uillinois.edu/resources/tutorials/pedagogy/StudentProfile.asp
Tips for Online Success:	http://www.ion.uillinois.edu/resources/tutorials/pedagogy/tips.asp

Additional Notes

Please be sure to login to the ETUDES course site on the first day of class. It's important to have at least an hour or two available for checking in on the first day so you can look around and get a sense of the workload. Familiarize yourself with the course requirements and due dates so you will be able to plan your time well for the next three weeks. Plan on logging in at least three times per week for the course of the semester!

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English 28 Online Syllabus

Assignments posted here will be published weekly (Mon. thru Wed.). **Due dates are highlighted** and ALL online work **MUST** be submitted online for credit (unless otherwise noted by the instructor). Also, all assignments must be submitted by the due date for credit. Finally, you may not submit assignments via Private Messages.

Week 1 (Monday, 10/21)

Week 1 Readings:

1. All sections of the Syllabus
2. Preview all sections of ETUDES

Due 10/28, Monday

Week 1 Assignments:

1. **Plagiarism Assignment**
2. Grammar review: Making subjects and verbs agree.
3. *APSM* 1: Tighten Wordy Sentences.
4. **Discussion Topic #1 (Post and respond):** Discuss your strengths and weaknesses as a writer. (Worth 10 points: 5 pts. for each post)
5. **Discussion Topic #2: (Post and respond):** Describe something you struggled to do. (Worth 10 points: 5 pts. for each post)

Due 10/28, Monday

****Essay Assignment #1 (Socioeconomic Issues in *Amazing Grace*...) Due 11/8 by 5pm****

****Late Due Date W/ 20% Penalty: After 11/8 @ 5pm to 11/11 @ 5pm****

Week 2 (Monday, 10/28)

Week 2 Readings:

1. *Amazing Grace*... (Prologue to pg. 122)

Due 11/4, Monday

Week 2 Assignments:

1. *APSM* 28: Forming a Thesis.
2. Topic Sentence and Main Ideas for Essay #1 (The Paragraph) (Worth 10 points)
3. *APSM* 5: Eliminate Confusing Shifts. (Worth 10 points)
5. **Discussion Topic #1 (Post and respond):** How do the descriptions in Chapter 1 of *Amazing Grace* compare/contrast with your own ideas about low-income neighborhoods? (Worth 10 points: 5 pts. for each post)
6. **Discussion Topic #2 (Post and respond):** In your opinion, how do the people who live in Mott Haven continue to cope with and fight against their deplorable living conditions? (Worth 10 points: 5 pts. for each post)

Due 11/4, Monday

****Essay Assignment #1 (Socioeconomic Issues in *Amazing Grace*...) Due 11/8 by 5pm****

****Late Due Date W/ 20% Penalty: After 11/8 @ 5pm to 11/11 @ 5pm****

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Week 3 (11/4)

Week 3 Readings:

1. *Amazing Grace*... (pgs. 122 – bottom of pg. 200)

Due 11/12, Tuesday

Week 3 Assignments:

1. Building Your Introduction for Essay #2. (Worth 10 points)

2. Developing Thesis and Main Ideas for Essay #2. (Worth 10 points)

3. Discussion Questions (*Amazing Grace*, Chapter 3).

4. Discussion Questions (*Amazing Grace*, Chapter 5).

5. *APSM 9-2, Cliches*

6. **Discussion Topic #5 (Post and respond):** Discuss a person (or people) from the book you would most like to speak with and why? What would you tell him/her (or them)?

(Worth 10 points: 5 pts. for each post)

7. **Discussion Topic #6 (Post and respond):** Discuss what you thought was the most difficult part of writing Essay #1. What specifically about the writing assignment was most difficult?

Explain. (Worth 10 points: 5 pts. for each post)

Due 11/12, Tuesday

****Essay Assignment #1 (Socioeconomic Issues in *Amazing Grace*...) Due 11/8 by 5pm****

****Late Due Date W/ 20% Penalty: After 11/8 @ 5pm to 11/11 @ 5pm****

****Essay Assignment #2 (Hope in *Amazing Grace*...) Due 11/12 by 5pm****

****Late Due Date W/ 20% Penalty: After 11/12 @ 5pm to 11/18 @ 5pm****

Week 4 (11/12, Tuesday)

Week 4 Readings:

1. *Amazing Grace*... (Finish Chapter 6)

2. *Amazing Grace*... (Epilogue)

3. *From Every End of This Earth* (Introduction)

Due 11/18, Monday

Week 4 Assignments:

1. *APSM 29: Avoiding Plagiarism.*

2. MLA practice handout.

3. **Discussion Topic #4:** Which person in *Amazing Grace*... did you find to be most inspiring?

Due 11/18, Monday

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Week 5 (Monday, 11/18)

Week 5 Readings:

1. *From Every End of This Earth* (Chapter 1)
2. *From Every End of This Earth* (pgs. 28 thru 58)

Due 11/25, Monday

Week 5 Assignments:

1. Discussion questions (*From Every End...* pgs. 28 thru 37).
2. Discussion questions (*From Every End...* pgs. 38 thru 48).
3. *APSM 32*: MLA Documentation Style.
4. **Discussion Topic #5**: Put under similar conditions as the Phams, do you think you would be able to endure what they went through and escape to another country? Explain.

Due 11/25, Monday

Week 6 (Monday, 11/25)

Week 6 Readings:

1. *From Every End of This Earth* (pgs. 59 thru 118)
2. *From Every End of This Earth* (pgs. 121 thru 159)

Due 12/2, Monday

Week 6 Assignments:

1. *APSM 30-3*
2. *APSM 30-4*
3. **Discussion Topic #6**: If you had to move to another country that you have never been to before, which country would you choose and why? What would be the first thing you did to try to acclimate yourself to the culture?
4. **Discussion Topic #7**: If your parents owned a business and wanted you to take over, would it be something that you would welcome, or do you think you'd want to do something else? Explain.

Due 12/2, Monday

Week 7 (Monday, 12/2)

Week 7 Readings:

1. *From Every End of This Earth* (pgs. 163 thru 173)
2. *From Every End of This Earth* (pgs. 174 - end)

Due 12/9, Monday

Week 7 Assignments:

1. Discussion questions (*From Every End...*, 197 thru 221)
2. Discussion questions (*From Every End...*, pgs. 174 thru 187)
3. **Discussion Topic #8:** Which story from *From Every End of This Earth* do you most connect with/relate to and why?
4. **Discussion Topic #9:** If you were to tell a close friend or family member to leave their home country to settle here in America, what would you say to try to convince him/her? Discuss 2-3 specific aspects of the American experience that you might describe.
5. **Discussion Topic #10:** Which book did you prefer reading this semester, *Amazing Grace* or *From Every End of This Earth*? Explain your choice and also discuss what you liked and disliked about each book.

Due 12/9, Monday

Week 8 (Monday, 12/9)

Week 8 Readings:

1. Review *From Every End of This Earth*

Due 12/15, Sunday

Week 8 Assignments:

1. Final Exam

Due 12/15, Sunday