

EN 110: Introduction to College Writing

Dual Credit Sequence

3 credit hour class

Central Methodist University

Instructor: John Biesemeyer

The Books:

Paul Eschholz and Alfred Rosa, *Subject and Strategy*, Eleventh edition

Diana Hacker, *Rules for Writers*, 5th Edition

Goal:

This course sequence is intended to give you an opportunity to develop the organizational and expository skills that provide a good foundation for the kind of writing you will be expected to do during the rest of your college career. The focus is on mastering the common organizational patterns and elements, including narration, comparison, summary, definition, cause and effect, and process while writing primarily about personal experiences and ideas. It is important that you get plenty of practice writing, so there may be additional assignments depending on the circumstances.

Requirements:

You will be asked to complete a number of brief essays giving you experience with the various elements of writing. You may also be required to write one or more long essays to give you a chance to combine elements into a coherent whole. For example:

- An essay (250-500 words) demonstrating knowledge of audience and persona
- An essay (250-500 words) demonstrating your ability to narrate an event
- An essay (250-500 words) demonstrating your ability to present descriptions
- An essay (250-500 words) demonstrating your ability to make comparisons
- A 750-word essay that uses some combination of elements studied so far to convey a personal experience, explain an idea, or argue for a position on an issue
- An essay (250-500 words) demonstrating your ability to define terms and ideas
- An essay (250-500 words) demonstrating your ability to perform a task
- A 750-word essay that conveys a personal experience or argues for a position and incorporates comparison and summarization
- A unit involving writing about literature, especially short stories and poetry

For each assignment, you may have an opportunity to complete more than one draft. In some cases you may be asked to turn in drafts for teacher's comments or exchange drafts with classmates to give each other constructive feedback. More details about each assignment will be made available as the assignments come due.

Grading:

Each assignment will be worth a certain number of points but class participation, rough drafts, quizzes, and other assignments may be part of the total grade in the class. There will also be numerous exercises involving grammatical and stylistic concerns.

Policies:

Plagiarism. It's very important to understand what plagiarism is, why is it considered unethical and what the consequences will be if you are caught doing it. If you are found guilty of plagiarism or any other form of academic dishonesty you will receive a zero for the assignment; if you are found guilty of academic dishonesty a second time you may receive a failing grade for the course and any other penalties, including probation, suspension, or expulsion, that the college officials deem appropriate. We will discuss plagiarism further during the first couple weeks of class.

Timeline:

The schedule below is approximate and may change as circumstances dictate.

Weeks 1 and 2

Read chapters 1 and 2 in *Subject and Strategy* and complete any introductory writing assignments.

Discussion of plagiarism.

Week 3 and 4

Read chapter 4 and one essay from the Narration section in *SST* and begin writing a short narrative essay.

Week 5

Read chapter 5 in *SST* and complete your narrative essay.

Week 6

Read chapter 8 and one essay from the Description section in *SST* and write a short descriptive essay.

Week 7 and 8

Read chapter 13 and one essay from the Comparison section in *SST* and write a short comparison essay.

Week 9 and 10

Read chapter 10 and one essay from the Combining Strategies section in *SST* and write a longer essay that includes the elements of writing studied so far.

Week 11

Read chapter 7 and one essay from the Definition section in *SST* and write a short definition essay.

Week 12

Read chapter 7 and one essay from the Process Analysis section and write a short essay describing the procedure.

Week 13 and 14

Read chapter 12 and another essay from the Combining Strategies section in *SST* and begin a longer essay that incorporates a number of the elements of writing studied so far.

Weeks 15 and 16

Finish chapter 12 and discuss using resources to support a position on an issue.