

English 0370

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Office Hours: MW 9-10 and 12-1; Friday 9-10; TTH 9-11 and 12:30-1

Course Purpose: Basic English “is a compensatory course designed to improve basic thinking and writing skills.” This course “emphasizes essay development and use of conventional English.” In addition, the course “requires essays composed in response to various prompts and prepares the student for testing assessment and English 1301, Composition and Rhetoric.” Odessa College Catalog, 2009-2010, pg 149.

Prerequisites: NONE

Scans: 2,9

Instructional Materials:

A storage device preferably a USB drive

A journal of some sort that is binded so I can take it up

Pen and paper to take notes

Learning Outcomes: Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to :

- Recognize and write correct sentences
- Recognize and correct sentence structure errors as well as other grammatical errors
- Identify different parts of speech and grammatical components and use them correctly and effectively
- Write essays which meet the following criteria:
 - Write unified, coherent five-paragraph essays, each containing a clear thesis statement, an adequately developed introduction, topic sentences, substantive content, and a closing paragraph
 - Write a unified, coherent paragraph that contains a clear topic sentence
 - Provide adequate supporting detail, and distinguish between general and specific information
 - Demonstrate an ability to proofread and revise work

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is defined as using someone else’s words or ideas without attributing your source. Plagiarism also occurs if you copy off the internet. It’s academic dishonesty, and if you plagiarize, you will receive a zero on the assignment, without the option of re-doing it.

Course Requirements:

Five essays at 10% each	50%
Journal	15%
Class Activities/quizzes	15%
Final	20%

Overview of Units:

Unit One- The Writing Process

- Students will be introduced to the basic writing process. The students will listen to lectures on how to break up the writing process in to three part essays. They will analyze the introduction paragraph and practice formulating introductions in class. They will focus on solid thesis statements. Students will also be given an outline as a model by which to write their essays. They will practice in class on how to cohesively compose an essay.

Unit two-Grammar

- Throughout the semester, students will analyze examples of sentence fragments, independent and dependent clauses. Students will practice in their journals identifying and correcting sentence errors. Students will also do in class activities where they identify an incorrect sentence and formulate the correct one. They will learn how to develop sentences and recognize grammatical errors. Much of the grammar practice that will be seen will be based on what they have seen or will see in the THEA or COMPASS exams.

Unit three-Modes

- Throughout the semester, students will see the different modes of writing. They will be prompted to write essays showcasing each of the modes. Each essay will be broken down and worked on in class. No out of class work will be done on the essays.

Final Exam

- Students will be given an essay that has various incorrect elements. They will have to point out the grammatical errors, as well as, errors in formatting. They will also have to identify the different modes of writing that are used in the essay.

Attendance

You are expected to attend class. We will do the majority of the work on your essays in class. I am here to help you. If you are absent you will miss material that you will need to complete your essays. If you drop this course because you have passed the THEA or COMPASS you will receive the grade that you have in class at the time you pass the writing assessment.

Late Work

Grammar assignments will be done in class. If you miss a graded grammar assignment you will not be able to make it up. All final essays will be written in class. It is important that you are here when an essay is written. If you have to miss class, you need to make arrangements with me prior to your absence. This will be the only way that I will allow you to make up major essay assignments.

Credit by Examination: During the semester, some of the students will pass the writing portion of the THEA or will pass the COMPASS test writing sample, and will decide to withdraw from the course. Students who exit the course using either of these test scores will receive the grade they have in the course when they exit the course for the semester. NO student will

receive an automatic "A" for the course based solely on their THEA or COMPASS scores.

Classroom Behavior:

Please, no social use of technology. Silence your cell phone and do not text during class. Also we are fortunate enough to have computers for this class, I ask that you do not surf the internet or play any games during class. Please respect your classmates and respect me. We are all here for a purpose and I will not tolerate classroom disruptions.

New Law Pertaining to College Freshmen: Senate Bill 1231, passed by the 80th Texas Legislature, provides that, except for several specific instances of good cause, undergraduate students enrolling as first-time freshmen at a public institution of higher education in fall of 2007 or later will be limited to a total of six dropped courses during their entire undergraduate career.

Special Needs: Odessa College complies with Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you have any special needs or issues pertaining to your access to and participation in this or any other class at Odessa College, please feel free to contact me to discuss your concerns. You may also call the Office of Disability services at 432-335-6861 to request assistance and accommodations.

Learning Resource Center

The Library, known as the [Learning Resources Center](#), provides research assistance via the [LRC's catalog \(print books, videos, e-books\)](#) and [databases \(journal and magazine articles\)](#). [Research guides](#) covering specific subject areas, [tutorials](#), and the "[Ask a Librarian](#)" service provide additional help.

Student Portal

Please access your [Odessa College Student E-mail](#), by following the link to either set up or update your account: <http://www.odessa.edu/gmail/>.

Technical Support

For Blackboard username and password help and for help accessing your online course availability and student email account contact the Student Success Center at 432-335-6878 or online at https://www.odessa.edu/dept/ssc/helpdesk_form.htm.

Important School Policies

For information regarding student support services, academic dishonesty, disciplinary actions, special accommodations, or students' and instructors' right to academic freedom can be found in the [Odessa College Student Handbook](#).