

## *On-line English 101*

Instructor: Jim Roth

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**School website: [ol.scc.spokane.edu/jroth](http://ol.scc.spokane.edu/jroth)**

### *REQUIRED MATERIALS*

- *Viewpoints* by W. Royce Adams
- *Indian Creek Chronicles* by Pete Fromm
- A reliable Internet connection
- A working, up-to-date version of [Windows Media Player](#)

### *MANDATORY PREREQUISITES*

Please *carefully* read the following list. If your answer is **no** to any of these, please find an alternative course *immediately*.

- Minimum English 101 entry-level essay writing skills demonstrated on a timed diagnostic writing assignment. **To remain in the course, this timed diagnostic writing assignment must be completed satisfactorily by no later than midnight Friday, January 6, 2012.**
  - ➔ (If your diagnostic writing assignment does not meet the minimum entry requirements of the course, you will have to find an alternative writing course to upgrade your skills.)
- An approved minimum writing assessment score and/or successful completion of English 99.
- A trustworthy Internet connection as well as general experience using the Internet and copy-and-paste word processing programs.
- Ability and willingness to devote an average of at least 10 hours per week to the course.
- Ability to understand and follow written directions.

- Willingness to share your writing with others and constructively comment on others' writing.
- The required texts in hand no later than the middle of the second week of the course. (The first textbook assignment will be due the Thursday of the second week.)
- Attendance at an ON-CAMPUS meeting (with photo I.D.) toward the end of the term to complete an in-class Portfolio essay and submit your completed Portfolio and Journal.

If your answer was *yes* to ALL of the above requirements, please read on. If you answered no to any of them, please drop the course immediately.

Note: Please maintain a Portfolio Folder of ALL work submitted in the course and be sure to check your grades often.

### *WHAT THE COURSE IS*

English 101 is a college-level writing course designed to make you a better writer. The college catalog describes our course as *a study of the basic principles of writing with a series of writing experiences designed to help students improve their ability to write detailed prose. Student writing with teacher evaluation is the primary method used in teaching basic course content. Competence in mechanics and edited English is assumed of all students taking English 101.*

### *THE COURSE WEEK*

Our course week runs from Monday morning through Sunday at midnight.

### *ACTIVITIES*

- We will practice writing under pressure of time. These *timed writing activities* will be pass/fall and will account for 20% of your course grade.
- We will write traditional essays responding to and blending other authors' writing with our own.
- We will keep a journal for informal writing practice.
- We will complete a variety of text and web assignments.
- We will read and discuss others' writing as well as learn to revise our own.

### *MAKING UP LATE ASSIGNMENTS*

- ⇒ Any assignment that has a time and date stamp later than the due date is a late assignment no matter what the reason. This includes technical problems with the Internet and/or your computer.
  - ⇒ *Timed writing activities* are one-chance-only. These cannot be made up regardless of reason. In addition, once you begin a timed writing activity, you will not be able to stop and start over nor will you be able to stop and then continue later.
  - ⇒ You may make up one assignment (other than a *timed writing activity*) regardless of its value without penalty. The assignment must be made up **within one calendar week** of its due day. After one calendar week has elapsed, the assignment cannot be made up for any reason.
- Please keep your one make-up opportunity for emergencies.
- ⇒ Once the one make-up is used, no other make-ups will be allowed regardless of the reason, so please don't ask.

### *THE JOURNAL ASSIGNMENT*

Please go to this [link](#) to read more about the Journal Assignment.

### *ROUGH DRAFTS AND FINAL COPIES*

Please keep all drafts of all essays, including the graded copies I return to you. You will need these for the Portfolio at the end of the quarter.

### *STUDENT WRITING*

All student submissions become the property of the course and may be used anonymously as examples in future classes.

### *PORTFOLIO FOLDER*

A *Portfolio Folder* includes copies of all returned assignments, assignment sheets, planning sheets, rough drafts, and revisions. You must submit a **COMPLETE** portfolio by its due date to be eligible to pass the course.

### *MORE on the [PORTFOLIO](#)*

English 101 is a college transfer course--a grade of 2.0 or better certifies that you are a competent writer who is writing at or above college-level standards. **Good examples of this minimum competency are the revised student essays on my website.**

I and other members of the SCC English Department will be evaluating your Portfolio in terms of this competency. If by the end of the quarter the writing reflected in your Portfolio does not meet this minimum level of competency, your quarter grade will be reduced by 0.4.

Please remember that I am here to help you write better and meet or exceed this minimum level of competency. Please ask me for additional help whenever you feel that you need it. In addition, tutors are available in the SCC Tutoring Center.

***PROPER ENGLISH IN COURSE COMMUNICATION***

Whether we like it or not, others judge us by how well we use the language. In addition, the use of Standard Written English demonstrates respect for ourselves, our language, our readers, and our message. Because of these facts, part of your grade this quarter will be determined by the quality of English you use in e-mails to me as well as in postings and Writing Group comments to your peers. Please be aware that I **will not read or grade** any paragraphs or essays written in substandard English. In addition, I will **not read or nor will I respond to e-mails written in *Textlish*** (“texting English”). Finally, I **will not read or nor will I respond to any communications that are impolite or discourteous.**

***YOUR FINAL GRADE***

Several categories will determine your course grade, each category being worth a certain percent of your total grade. Please see below:

***COURSE CATEGORY WEIGHTS***

Assigned Essays	50% of the total grade
On-time submissions of <u>complete</u> rough drafts	3% of the total grade
Peer Reviews of others’ writing	2% of the total grade
Postings and posting responses (Only those written in Standard English will receive a grade.)	5% of the total grade
Quizzes on various topics and activities	25% of the total grade
The in-class Portfolio essay written at SCC toward the end of the quarter.	15% of the total grade
<u>Journal</u> completion—pass/fail	Pass/fail (Grade reduction of .5 if failed)
<u>The SCC English Department Portfolio Results</u>	Pass/fail (Grade reduction of .4 if failed)

% to Decimal	Letter						
100--4.0	A	89—3.4	B+	79—2.6	C+	69—1.7	D+
99—4.0	A	88—3.4	B+	78—2.5	C+	68—1.7	D+
98—4.0	A	87—3.3	B+	77—2.4	C+	67—1.6	D
97—4.0	A	86—3.3	B	76—2.3	C+	66—1.6	D
96—4.0	A	85—3.2	B	75—2.2	C	65—1.5	D
95—4.0	A	84—3.1	B	74—2.1	C	64—1.4	D
94—3.9	A	83—3.0	B	73—2.0	C	63—1.3	D
93—3.8	A-	82—2.9	B	72—1.9	C-	62—1.2	D
92—3.7	A-	81—2.8	B-	71—1.9	C-	61—1.1	D-
91—3.6	A-	80—2.7	B-	70—1.8	C-	60—1.0	D-
90—3.5	A-					0.7—less	F