



EN 110 Effective Writing
Winter 2007
Dr. Cornelia Burian

Office: Room 511

Class Times: 1:00-2:15 T/TR

E-mail: Cburian@auc-nuc.ca

Office Phone: 571-2550 ext. 5904

Class Location: Room 631

Office Hours: W 3:00-4:00 or by
appointment

Course Description

As an introduction to composition, this course focuses on how to write engaging, well-organized and error-free essays on fiction, poetry, drama and non-literary subjects. Students will acquire a basic knowledge of the rules and conventions that govern academic discourse as well as many other kinds of writing.

Course Objectives

English 110 aims to help students

- achieve competence with the sentence
- achieve competence with the paragraph
- achieve competence with the academic essay
- view writing competence as a lifelong achievement.

Required Texts

Hacker, Diane. *A Canadian Writer's Reference*. 3rd ed. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2004.

Supplementary Reading—as assigned (a variety of sources, handed out in class)

Dictionary: Students should consider purchasing a good dictionary (such as the Oxford) to support their writing and their entire course of studies.

Course Schedule

January

Tuesday		Thursday	
		11	introduction to the course
16	in-class essay and diagnostic exam	18	the sentence: subject-verb agreement
23	pronoun-antecedent agreement [quiz]	25	thesis statements, idea generation [essay 1 due: writing to persuade]
30	thesis statement and topic sentences		

February

Tuesday		Thursday	
6	library, research, manuscript form	8	the effective sentence: diction: [research exercise due]
13	MIDTERM EXAM	15	the paragraph: introduction, the thesis, topic sentences
20	Midterm Break	22	Midterm Break
27	strategies of exposition		

March

Tuesday		Thursday	
6	comparing and contrasting	8	pronoun case
13	pronoun case	15	pronoun case
20	avoiding pretentious prose	22	the essay: persistent problems [essay 3 due: comparing and contrasting]
27	editing and proofreading strategies	29	diction: concision

April

Tuesday		Thursday	
3	mistakes to avoid	5	workshop: thesis and topic [essay 4 due: content analysis]

10 Last class, review	12 exam writing
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Course Requirements

1. Students should do all the prescribed readings before class and be prepared to participate in class discussion. I look forward to lively discussions.
2. Assignments are due at the beginning of class on the dates specified. A penalty of 5% will be deducted for each calendar day a written project is late. Late assignments will not be accepted after graded assignments have been returned to the class.
3. Written assignments must conform to the designated formats. Students are required to keep an extra copy of each assignment (on disk, as a hard copy, or both).
4. To receive a passing grade in the course, all assignments, tests, and quizzes must be submitted to the instructor.
5. Missed exams will only be made up if supported by the appropriate documentation (for example, a doctor's note).
6. Plagiarism in any of its forms will not be tolerated. All instances of plagiarism will be forwarded to the Academic Affairs Committee.
7. Students may not submit work done for another class.
8. The student is responsible for all the information given in class, and also for any changes to the syllabus that are announced in class.
9. As in all English courses, spelling, punctuation, grammar, style, and format are important in all your written work, including exams. Shortcomings in these areas will be reflected in your marks.
10. Regular attendance and punctuality are expected.

Grading

Essay 1	5%
Essay 2	10%
Essay 3	10%
Essay 4	15%
Quiz	5%
Research assignment	5%
Midterm exam	15%
Final exam	30%
Participation	<u>5%</u>
	100

Final grades for the course appear as letter grades. The table below shows the percentage equivalents for each letter grade.

Letter Grade	Percentage
A+	96-100
A	91-95
A-	86-90
B+	82-85
B	75-81
B-	72-74
C+	68-71
C	63-67
C-	60-62
D+	59-59
D	50-55
F	0-49