

## **Freshman English**

**Fall 2021**

**MWF 1:00-1:50**

Professor Julie Tharp

Office: Laird 445

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Office Hours—10-11 MWF

and by appointment

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### **Course Goals:**

My primary goal is for us to get lots of practice at writing for different purposes and situations. Throughout this practice we will use an approach that values the process as much as the product. We will have ample opportunity to read and respond to one another's work. I hope you will learn to value your writing for personal and professional reasons, if you don't already.

### **Textbooks:**

*"They Say, I Say" With Readings*, edition 5, Gerald Graff, Cathy Birkenstein, and Russell Durst

### **Requirements:**

- **Class Attendance and Participation**—I encourage as much day-to-day class participation as you can muster. The best way to increase your participation is to prepare for the next class by reading assignments thoroughly and preparing your writing assignments.
- **Peer Review**—In order to pass this class you have to do peer review on one another's rough drafts. This includes submitting a copy of your rough draft to the Canvas site, reading the assigned students' drafts thoughtfully and providing detailed feedback.
- **Short writing assignments**—You will have almost daily homework on the readings in our textbook. Those need to be submitted online as well.
- **5 essays**—The essays we will work on this semester will range from 2-4 pages in length. We will take most of our material from personal experience, but we will be building on your skills to do research in the later essays.
- At the end of the term, we will do a short unit on essay exams to help you do better on your finals.

### **Classroom Policies**

**Attendance:**

I expect regular, timely attendance and will mark you absent if you are not present at the start of class. If you have unusual issues that affect your attendance, let me know.

Try contacting another student first to see what you missed.

**Assignment:**

I will accept any final draft one class period late. There is no penalty for this, but after that class period I will not accept the paper at all unless you have a terribly good excuse (childbirth, natural disaster, alien abduction, . . .). This does not apply to work done for peer reviews. That work must be ON TIME. Homework should also be done on time so that you are ready to participate in class.

**Scholastic Dishonesty:**

I have no sense of humor about plagiarism or cheating in any form. I assume we all enter the course in good faith. Do nothing to break with it.

**Grading:**

A—Exceptional work

B—Very good work—clearly above average

C—Average work—satisfies all the requirements

D—Below average work—fails to satisfy some basic requirements

Rewrite—Unsatisfactory work—please revise and resubmit.

If you do not revise Rewrites, they become F's at the end of the term. I strongly advise that you seek out my help on Rewrites. They usually indicate that the student is lost or confused about the assignment.

**Revision:**

You may revise and resubmit any graded essay. Simply highlight the changes you made and write me a note about more substantive changes and drop it in the same drop box as the original. If by some quirk of fate your revision is worse, don't worry. The higher grade stands. My only request is that you make a real effort to improve the essay. Don't just "fix the commas." Make it worth my while to read it.

## Course Outline

<u>Date</u>	<u>Reading Assignment/Topic</u>	<u>Work Due</u>
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Sept. 3	Introduction	
6	No class—Labor Day	
Sept. 8	Process Approach	
	Introduction in TSIS	Exercises 1 and 2
10	“They Say”	Exercises 1 and 2
	“Her Point Is”	Exercise 1
13	Peer Response	<b>Rough Draft due by class</b>
15	Group Members’ drafts	Response to drafts
17	“As He Himself Puts It”	Ex. 1 and <b>Final Draft</b>
20	“Yes/No/Okay, But”	Exercise 1
	“Don’t Blame the Eater”	Questions 1-4
22	“What You Eat is Your Business”	Questions 1-5
24	“Food as Thought”	Questions. 1-5
27	Conference groups	<b>Rough Draft due by noon</b>
29	“And Yet”	<b>Final Draft</b>
Oct. 1	“Skeptics May Object”	Ex. 1
	“Does Texting Affect Writing?”	Questions 1-4
Oct. 4	“How I Learned to Love Snapchat”	Questions 1-4

6	“Go Ahead, Waste Time on the Internet ”	Questions 1-4
8	Essay Planning and an Outside Source	
11	“As a Result”	Intro. and outline
13	“Saying Why it Matters”	<b>Rough Draft by noon</b>
15	“Ain’t So/Is Not”	<b>Final Draft</b>
18	“The New Liberal Arts”	Questions 1-5
20	“Two Years Are Better than Four”	Questions 1-4
22	“Shut Up About Harvard”	Questions 1-5
25	Essay Planning and Source Work	
27	Conference Groups	<b>Rough Draft by noon</b>
29	Weird Things Brainstorming!	<b>Final Draft</b>
Nov. 1	“I Am Therefore I Think”	Reading on Canvas
3	“Why DO People Believe Weird Things”	Reading on Canvas
5	“Abducted”	Reading on Canvas
8	Group Work—Formulate Inquiry	
10	Group Work—Follow through on Inquiry	
12	Discuss Oral Presentations	
15	Research Workshop	
17	Group Presentation	<b>Outline of presentation</b>
19	Annotated Bibliography of Sources	
22	MLA Documentation	

24	Bibliography Workshop	<b>Bibliography Draft</b>
<b>26</b>	<b>No Class—Thanksgiving Break</b>	
29	Organizational workshop	<b>Bibliography Due</b>
Dec. 1	In class draft work	
Dec. 3	Conference Groups	<b>Rough Draft</b>
6	Draft Polishing	<b>Rough Draft</b>
8	Essay Exams	<b>Final Draft</b>
	Practice Essay Exam	
10	In-class Final	