ENGL 1101: R11
Fordham University
Professor Sottosanti
TWR 1-4 p.m.

Office Hours: TWR 12-1 p.m.
dsottosanti@fordham.edu
Summer Session 1: May 30 - June 29

English Composition I

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
This course will help you think more critically about the world around you and write more critically and effectively. Consequently, this course will involve practical instruction in grammar, sentence construction, and research tools, as well as practice reading critical texts about the ways that we live and communicate in the twenty-first century. Your own writing will remain the focus of the course, and every class will involve sharing our work and our ideas with one another. Much of the content of course readings and exercises will be determined by the particular needs of our class. This course is, in every sense, a collaboration.

REQUIRED TEXTS:
- Any good collegiate dictionary
- Please purchase a folder to keep all the assignments, handouts, and returned papers.

REQUIREMENTS:
Written essays, *Launch Pad* grammar quizzes, readings, class participation, and attendance. Apart from in-class writing, and revisions, you will be writing, on average, one essay each week.

ESSAY FORMAT:
Essays must be typed, double-spaced, and stapled. Include your name, course name and section (1101.R11), due date, a title (but no title page), and my name. All papers (unless otherwise noted) must follow the MLA format. You must hand in a hard copy of each paper and submit an electronic copy to me via email.

ESSAY LENGTH: The length of the essays will vary over the course of the semester. We will begin with 400-500 word—three-paragraph—essays and move to longer papers. Along the way (especially in response to the readings), we will practice brief, written responses, and the art of concise paragraphs.

READINGS:
There will be no professionally published “reader” or anthology for this class. Instead, I will provide copies of different kinds of texts depending on 1) the week’s topic and writing assignment, and 2) the needs of the class, in terms of students’ writing. I will assign selections from *Launch Pad* as needed.
REVISIONS:
As will be clear from class and my comments on your work, I encourage revisions, and students usually revise many essays. **If you revise an essay, the revision is due one week after I returned the graded original essay to you.**

LATE PAPERS:
Because of the basic principles of this course, I will not accept late papers.

ATTENDANCE:
Attendance is mandatory. This is a writing and discussion course; everyone’s presence is always needed. Unexcused absence, lateness, and failure to prepare will adversely affect your grade. **Five or more unexcused absences will lead to an automatic grade of F for the course.** Per Fordham policy, all absences must be excused by your dean, or is otherwise considered unexcused.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:
Academic dishonesty or plagiarism is a serious offense. Any instance of academic dishonesty on your part will result in an F for the course and a report to your dean. When we discuss research techniques and papers, we will discuss various forms of plagiarism and how to avoid them.

Course Schedule

Tuesday, May 30: Class Introduction and Diagnostic Exam

Wednesday, May 31: Identifying and Describing
- **Reading:** “Community in the Digital Age”:

Thursday, June 1: Comparing and Contrasting
- **Continue discussion of “Community in the Digital Age”**
- **In-class writing:** Digital versus Non-digital communication

Tuesday, June 6: Cause and Effect, Pt. 1; Strategies for Writing and Structuring Essays
- **Reading:** “All My Exes Live in Texts: Why the Social Media Generation Never Really Breaks Up”:

Wednesday, June 7: Cause and Effect, Pt. 2: Using Inductive Reasoning
- **Reading:** “How Facebook Makes Us Unhappy”:

Thursday, June 8: Classification Systems
- **Reading:** “10 Social Media Personality Types - Which One Are You?”
- **ESSAY #1 DUE AT START OF CLASS**
Tuesday, June 13: Why Defining Key Terms Is Important
- Reading: “What Does It Mean to be a Digital Native?”:

Wednesday, June 14: Using Analogies and Metaphors
- Reading: “Life is a game. This is your strategy guide”:
  http://oliveremberton.com/2014/life-is-a-game-this-is-your-strategy-guide/

Thursday, June 15: Writing Good Thesis Statements
- Reading: TBA
- ESSAY #2 DUE AT START OF CLASS

Tuesday, June 20: Starting the Research Process
- Discussion/workshop: Formulating research questions and identifying sources

Wednesday, June 21: Library Day
- Research scavenger hunt
- Finding critical material for your final essay

Thursday, June 22: Strategies for Writing Longer Paper
- ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY DUE

Tuesday, June 27: In-Class Writing Workshop
- ESSAY ROUGH DRAFT DUE (you’ll need it to do the workshop)

Wednesday, June 28: Class Review

Thursday, June 29: Final Presentations and Class Party