Miami University

English 111: Composition and Rhetoric, Fall 2015

Course number: 79884
Course section: BA

Course Day/Time: TR 8:30 a.m.–9:50 a.m.
Location: Upham Hall 235

Instructor: Angela Glotfelter
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Office Location: BAC 311
Office Hours: Tuesday 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. / Wednesday 1:00 p.m.–2:00 p.m. / I'll also do office hours by appointment if these don't work for you. The best ways to contact me are by email or by talking to me after class.

Course Description
English 111, Composition and Rhetoric, is a writing course designed to teach you the rhetorical skills you will need to compose, revise, and critically analyze persuasive texts both within the university and in the wider world. As a Miami Plan Foundation course, ENG 111 helps you develop your competencies in writing, critical thinking, information literacy, and problem solving.

In this class, you will learn to:

● Develop flexible and effective strategies for generating ideas; researching topics; composing drafts; revising, peer responding, editing, and proofreading writing via print and digital media.
● Conduct research-based inquiries, use invention techniques effectively to explore your own ideas, engage different perspectives, and develop findings into sustained arguments or narratives.
● Locate, evaluate, integrate, and cite secondary sources of information effectively and ethically, using appropriate academic citation methods.
● Produce effectively organized writing that is stylistically appropriate, demonstrating careful attention to proofreading and meeting conventional expectations for particular audiences in specific contexts.
● Write effectively and persuasively for diverse contexts, audiences, purposes, and genres.
● Develop critical awareness of the unique affordances and limitations of diverse writing technologies and modalities of communication, both digital and non-digital.
● Reflect critically on your own writing practices and rhetorical decisions.

Required Texts and Materials
● Online course pack (free to you, will be available on Canvas): ccm.miamiu.haydenmcneil.com
● A laptop computer with wireless access. Bring to class, fully charged, every class period.

Major Projects and Course Requirements
English III has five major Inquiries, or assignments, as listed below. Each Inquiry is comprised of a number of components, including class activities, shorter writing assignments, drafts, peer response, proposals, research notes, a reflective cover letter, and a major final essay. For each major Inquiry, you can expect to compose approximately 1000-2000 words of formal revised writing (or multimodal equivalent), including a reflective cover letter in which you discuss the rhetorical choices you made in your composing process. You will also compose approximately 1000-2000 words of informal writing during each Inquiry (for example, invention and revision exercises, rough drafts, research notes, proposals, peer response comments, and mid-process reflections).

Initial Reflection (10%/100 points) — Analyzing and reflecting on your own use of writing and rhetoric.

Rhetorical Analysis (20%/200 points) — Using rhetorical analysis as a method to analyze a persuasive text.

Public, Research-Based Argument (25%/250 points) — Researching and making a rhetorical argument about a public issue.

Remediation (20%/200 points) — Understanding how the medium affects the message by remediating a previous piece of writing (by changing the medium and/or modality of communication) to present your work to a new audience.

Final Reflection (10%/100 points) — Analyzing and reflecting on your own use of writing and rhetoric throughout the course.
Informal Writing and Participation (15%/150 points) — Daily informal writing homework designed to help you generate ideas for and explore revisions of your Inquiry projects. This grade also includes your participation in the course, which you will assess yourself once a week through a discussion board post.

Total points: 1000

Policies
1) Access / Accommodations: I am committed to maximizing your learning potential and making this course as accessible as possible. If there is any way that I can adapt this course to better meet your unique needs as a learner, please let me know! If you have a documented disability, I am especially interested in providing any accommodations that have been best determined by you and the Office of Disability Resources in advance (http://www.units.muohio.edu/oeeo/odr/; 513-529-2541).

2) Attendance: It is Miami University's policy that every student is expected to attend every class meeting, and I'm convinced that it will be to your educational benefit to do so. Much of the learning in English 111 happens via in-class inquiry activities, in-class writing assignments, class discussion, and group interaction that cannot be easily made up or replicated outside of class. Class time will be highly interactive—requiring frequent participation, discussion, team work, in-class writing, and responding to writing. However, you are allowed a maximum of 2 unexcused absences in this course. Having more than 2 unexcused absences will result in a lowering of your final grade for the course by one tier (for example from B to B-). That said, I try to be a reasonable person, and I am willing to have discussions about this policy in the event of unforeseen circumstances. Life happens.

3) Tardiness: Two late arrivals equals an absence.

4) Late Work: All assignments must be turned in on time. Final grades on papers will be downgraded one whole grade for each day late (for example A to B) unless you have made prior arrangements for an extension with me (in exceptional circumstances). Again, in the event of unforeseen circumstances, I will remain open to talking about this policy.

5) Distractions: Please silence your cell phone and refrain from texting. While we will regularly use laptops for in-class writing, research, and collaboration, please refrain from using your laptop for non-class activities.
6) **Backing Up Work:** Please make sure to have a plan for backing up all of your digital work in multiple places in case of computer failure. *Please also make sure to save all of the writing you complete for class as you will eventually reuse it for Inquiry 5.* Google Docs is a good online storage outlet—but of course the best way to back things up is with an external flash/hard drive.

7) **Respect / Community:** While I want to encourage lively debate in this class, personal insults or attacks on an individual person’s race, class, gender, sexuality, or disability will not be tolerated.

8) **Academic Integrity / Plagiarism:** For all assignments, you are expected to provide proper attribution and use of all sources and source material (e.g., use of in-text and reference citation, use of quotation marks, proper summarizing/paraphrasing). You are expected to do so not only to demonstrate how well you are able to incorporate and interpret source material to aid in your argument or understanding but also to distinguish others’ thoughts from your own. Proper attribution and use of source material is the cornerstone of academic writing and allows you to build upon others’ ideas in your work. Merely copying and pasting (or restating) others’ work in your assignment with little to no original thought will not constitute an acceptable assignment, and any use of source material without proper attribution and usage will be handled under the Academic Integrity Policy and procedures as suspected plagiarism. Remember, writing well is more than citing well. Even if all of your citations are technically accurate, if you do not put information and ideas into your own understanding, it is still considered plagiarism. *Do not copy and paste* in any stage of your writing.

Any suspected instances of plagiarism will be handled under Miami University’s Academic Integrity policy found in Part 1, Chapter 5 of the Student Handbook ([http://www.miamioh.edu/_files/documents/secretary/Student_Handbook.pdf](http://www.miamioh.edu/_files/documents/secretary/Student_Handbook.pdf)). Please review this policy, and note that lack of knowledge or understanding of the appropriate academic conduct is not an excuse for committing academic dishonesty.

9) **Canvas / Daily Schedule:** The daily course schedule and more detailed assignment prompts will be available on Canvas. The course schedule is subject to change based on the needs and interests of the class. Although I will try to keep you updated on what’s happening in class, in the end, you are responsible for regularly checking Canvas for due dates.

10) **Grading Scale:**
   - A  100-94% (1000–940 points)
   - A-  93-90% (930–900 points, etc.)
B+  89-87%
B   86-84%
B-  83-80%

C+  79-77%
C   76-74%
C-  73-70%

D+  69-67%
D   66-64%
D-  63-60%

F   59% and below

*Note: Grades on Canvas do not have attendance factored in.

Resources

● Your classmates. Ideally, you can rely on one another for the questions you have regarding the readings, the work we're doing in class, software we may be using, etc. You all, both individually and as a collective, embody a vast bank of knowledge and experiences.

● Your Instructor. I will do all I can to assist you in succeeding in this course. Feel free to meet with me during my office hours or another scheduled time if those hours don't work for you. Email is a reliable way to contact me, and I will try my best to respond in a timely manner. Or you can just talk to me after class.

● IT Support (513-529-7900; ithelp@muohio.edu; 317 Hughes Hall) The IT support desk is the main point of contact for technology questions at Miami, including issues with connecting to the MU Wireless network. There's also an IT help center in Shriver.

● Howe (King Library) and Windate (18 Peabody) Writing Centers. The Howe Writing Center is located on the main floor of King Library. The Center is staffed with writing consultants from many different academic areas. In a one-on-one workshop, a staff member will consult with you concerning work-in-progress, final drafts, research style, and many other aspects of writing. It is best to schedule an appointment ahead of time, but you may also walk in on days when they have consultants available.
For further information, visit the student resources site at writingcenter.lib.muohio.edu

- The Student Counseling Service. Located in the Health Services Center, this office provides a wide range of counseling services. For more information, call 513-529-4634.