

English 106: First-Year Composition

Instructor Information

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Office Hours: Mon. 2-3 pm
Tues. 10:30-11:30 am

Course Information

Fall 2011
Mon.-Fri. 4:30-5:20 pm
<http://106.rhetorike.org/donunger1/>

Unit 1—Timed-essay Exam: Assignment Sheet & Calendar

Your purpose in this unit is to learn some valuable strategies that will help you prepare for and succeed in a timed-essay exam (strategies for critical reading, note taking, decoding essay prompts, etc.). Like exams you may take in other courses at Purdue, this exam tests you on a body of knowledge. Throughout this mission you will critically read articles that attempt to define literacy and address what literacy means in the context of higher education. Also, these readings address how the literacy practices of higher education mean very different things for folks from different racial, cultural, and economic backgrounds. The timed-essay exam will ask you to explore, illustrate, interrogate, and explain the content of these readings.

Through completing this mission you will show that you are able to:

- answer an essay exam question, indicating your ability to follow directions and manage your time effectively.
- structure an argument in a format that reveals your relationship to, familiarity with, and opinions of the articles mentioned previously.
- demonstrate that you can present a coherent argument in a systematic way.
- compose an essay where mechanical and grammatical errors do not impede a reader's ability to understand your argument.

You will be able to choose one of three sample prompts. You will have 30 minutes to plan, write, and edit your essay.

We will conduct a practice exam on Friday, September 2nd. The practice exam will utilize the same structure as the final exam. **We will conduct the final exam for the unit on Wednesday, September 7th.**

In total, Unit 1 is worth 15% of your final grade for the course. This includes the *Key Verbs* quiz, discussion leader/study guide assignment, practice exam, and final exam.

Week 1

Monday, August 22nd

Course Introduction

- Introductions
- Discuss *Course Manual*
- Set up Conference Schedule

Wednesday, August 24th

- Collect writing sample
- Introduction to Unit 1—Timed-essay Exam
- Set up groups for Class Discussion Leader Assignment
- Discussion of *Key Verbs in Essay Prompts*

Friday, August 26th

- *Gaming the Timed-essay Exam*
- *Key Verbs Quiz*

Week 2

Monday, August 29th

Student-led discussions of:

- Knoblauch, C. H. "Literacy and the Politics of Education." *The Right to Literacy*. Eds. Andrea A. Lunsford, Helene Moglen, and James Slevin. NY: MLA, 1990. 74-80. Print.
- Rose, Mike. *Lives on the Boundary: A Moving Account of the Struggles and Achievements of America's Educationally Underprepared*. NY: Penguin, 2005. pp. 181-194. Print.

Wednesday, August 31st

Student-led discussions of:

- Anyon, Jean. "Social Class and the Hidden Curriculum of Work." *Journal of Education* 162.1 (1980), 67-92.
- Gladwell, Malcolm. *Outliers: The Story of Success*. NY: little, Brown & Co., 2008. pp. 15-68. Print.

Friday, September 2nd

Practice Exam

Week 3

Monday, September 5th

No class!

Wednesday, September 7th

Essay Exam

Friday, September 9th

Introduction to Unit 2—Literacy Narrative

NOTE: All course readings, assignment sheets, handouts, etc. are posted to the course website!