

ENGLISH 101: SEMINAR IN WRITING

Dr. Maureen E. St. Laurent
Office: 108 Humanities Hall
Office Hours:

Mon. 2:00-5:00 in the Writing Center
(Lang. 103)
Tue. 2:00-5:00 in Humanities 108
and by appointment

Fall 1998
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Required Texts and Materials

Axelrod, Rise B., and Charles R. Cooper. *The St. Martin's Guide to Writing*. 5th edition. St. Martin's.
Hacker, Diana. *The Bedford Handbook for Writers*. 5th edition. Bedford.
A 3 1/2 inch diskette, either unformatted or formatted for Macintosh (this may be purchased in the bookstore)

Course Requirements

1) Write eight essays. 2) Prepare required drafts for all invention, planning, and writing workshop days and a brief oral report on your work-in-progress. 3) Participate in the class computer conference on LearnLink. 4) Complete all homework assignments. 5) Attend class regularly with assigned text in hand, read all scheduled assignments, and prepare to discuss them. 6) Participate fully in all classroom work. 7) Complete the final exam.

Class Workshops

Because this is a computer assisted writing course, our class will meet in the Multimedia Center, and you will do all of your drafting, writing, revising, and editing on a computer. You must bring a diskette with you to every class, or you will lose your work.

On invention and planning workshop days, you must bring **two copies** of all of your invention and planning work to class. I will collect one copy and evaluate it as part of your homework/class participation grade.

On writing workshop days you must bring to class **two copies** of a complete first draft of your essay: one for my review and one to share with your peer writing group. This writing workshop draft is a **complete** draft, not a "rough" draft or a "working" draft—which means that this draft is your first draft of your entire essay, from introduction through conclusion. I will not accept outlines, fragmentary paragraphs, or incomplete drafts for the workshop. On writing workshop days you should also be prepared to present a brief (5 minute) oral report on your essay to your group.

LearnLink Conference

Our class LearnLink conference will be conducted over the course of the semester on our LearnLink bulletin board, "101.09 St. Laurent." The aim of this conference is to give you more writing practice, in a different and increasingly important medium. It is also a way for us to continue and expand our classroom discussions about writing. You may post entries to the bulletin board as often as you like, but you must post at least two entries per week. Every Wednesday I will post a topic to be completed by the beginning of class on Friday; on Friday, I will post a topic to be completed by the beginning of class on Monday. Credit for conference responses is based on participation, not content; however, carelessly or poorly done responses will not receive credit. Missed or late responses cannot be made up, except in the case of excused absence or network outage. The conference is designed to be flexible and interesting, so please expect it to evolve over the course of the semester.



Policies

Late essays: All essays are due at the beginning of class on the date specified. This means that your essay must be completed and ready to hand in when you come to class--I will not allow you to print out your essay at the beginning of class. I will accept late work ONLY in the case of major illness or emergency. This means that I WILL NOT accept unexcused late essays. If you come to class unprepared for an invention or planning workshop, you will lose points off of your class participation grade. If you fail to prepare an acceptable draft for a writing workshop, I will lower the grade on the final draft of the essay by a full letter grade. If you are absent without an excuse from a writing workshop, I will consider that a failure to prepare a draft and will lower the grade accordingly.

Attendance: You should be present for every class, with assigned text in hand, prepared to participate in the day's planned activity. You may miss two classes without penalty; I will deduct ten points from your final grade for every class missed beyond two. If you are absent from class, you are responsible for informing yourself about any missed assignments or announcements. If you are bodily in class, but clearly unprepared, I will count that class as an absence. I will excuse absences and allow work to be made up only in the case of major illness/emergency or religious observance.

Medical Absence: I will excuse absences for illness or other medical reasons only upon submission of a note from a doctor or from student health. Medical excuse notes will only be accepted up to a week after the last class missed.

Tardiness: I expect you to be on time for every class. If you come to class after we have already begun, I will ask you to leave.

Classroom Demeanor: No eating, drinking, sleeping, or private conversations. First violations will receive a warning. I will exclude from class students who persist in these behaviors until such time as they feel prepared to conduct themselves properly.

Plagiarism

In this course, as in all other courses, you are bound by the Honor Code. Therefore, the work that you submit for this class must be your own. You are free to use, without attribution, any ideas, suggestions, etc. that you develop in class discussion or in peer group work. If you use any outside sources in your writing for this course, you must acknowledge them by using the MLA system of documentation, which is presented in detail in *The Bedford Handbook*. I will turn over to the Honor Council all papers suspected of plagiarism. If you have any questions regarding the Honor Code as it applies to this course, please consult me or pages 38-40 of the Oxford College catalog.

Grade breakdown:

Essays 1-2	10%
Essays 3-5	30%
Essays 6-8	45%
Computer Conference, Homework, and Class Participation	10%
Final Exam	5%

All grades for this course will be recorded using the plus/minus scale described on page 32 of the Oxford College catalog.

Please keep in mind that a C- is the lowest passing grade for the semester in this course. Students who receive a failing grade for the semester must complete this course with a passing grade before they can enroll in English 181.

SCHEDULE OF ASSIGNMENTS

Week 1

Aug. 26 Introduction and Objectives

Aug. 28 REMEMBERING EVENTS: *St. Martin's* 18-21; 30-42. "Analyzing Writing Strategies" questions 1-2, p. 33 and 1 and 3, pp. 37-38. Invention strategies--mapping: *St. Martin's* 429-434

Week 2

Aug. 31 Writing Workshop--complete draft of Remembering Events Essay due (two copies)
Writing Strategies--Narrating: *St. Martin's* 481-489

Sept. 2 REMEMBERING PEOPLE: *St. Martin's* 64-71; 82-88. "Analyzing Writing Strategies" questions 1, p. 69 and 1-3, p. 84. Invention strategies--writing: *St. Martin's* 434-440
ESSAY #1 DUE

Sept. 4 Invention and Planning Workshop: complete invention, planning, and drafting activities in *St. Martin's* 88-94 (two copies). Writing Strategies--Describing: *St. Martin's* 491-502

Week 3

Sept. 7 Labor Day Holiday--No Class Meeting

Sept. 9 Writing Workshop--complete draft of Remembering People Essay due (two copies)

Sept. 11 EXPLAINING A CONCEPT: *St. Martin's* 156-158; 163-169; 173-182. "Analyzing Writing Strategies" questions 1, p. 162 and 2-3, p. 177
ESSAY #2 DUE

Week 4

Sept. 14 Invention Workshop: complete invention activities in *St. Martin's* 182-186 (two copies)

Sept. 16 Planning Workshop: complete planning and drafting activities in *St. Martin's* 186-187 (two copies). Writing Strategies--Defining: *St. Martin's* 503-512

Sept. 18 Writing Workshop--complete draft of Explaining a Concept Essay due (two copies).
Review "Appropriate Writing Strategies," *St. Martin's* 181

Week 5

Sept. 21 Writing Workshop Continued. Cueing the Reader--Orienting Statements: *St. Martin's* 465-467

Sept. 23 ARGUING A POSITION: *St. Martin's* 200-204; 209-213; 218-225. "Analyzing Writing Strategies" questions 2, p. 212 and 1 and 3, p. 221
ESSAY #3 DUE

Sept. 25 Invention Workshop: complete invention activities in *St. Martin's* 225-231 (two copies). Writing Strategies--Arguing: *St. Martin's* 526-543

Week 6

Sept. 28 Planning Workshop: complete planning and drafting activities in *St. Martin's* 231-233 (two copies)

Sept. 30 Writing Workshop--complete draft of Arguing a Position Essay due (two copies)

Oct. 2 Writing Workshop Continued. Cueing the Reader--Paragraphing: *St. Martin's* 467-475

Week 7

Oct. 5 PROPOSING A SOLUTION: *St. Martin's* 246-248; 257-270. "Analyzing Writing Strategies" questions 1-2, pp. 260-61 and 1-2 p. 265
ESSAY #4 DUE

Oct. 7 Invention Workshop: complete invention activities in *St. Martin's* 270-275 (two copies).
Writing Strategies--Classifying: *St. Martin's* 513-519

Oct. 9 Planning Workshop: complete planning and drafting activities in *St. Martin's* 276-279 (two copies)

Week 8

Oct. 12 Midsemester Break--No Class Meeting

Oct. 14 Writing Workshop--complete draft of Proposing a Solution Essay due (two copies)

Oct. 16 Writing Workshop Continued. Cueing the Reader--Cohesive Devices: 475-478

Week 9

Oct. 19 JUSTIFYING AN EVALUATION: *St. Martin's* 290-293; 299-304; 309-317.

"Analyzing Writing Strategies" questions 1, p. 302 and questions 1-2, p. 312

ESSAY #5 DUE

Oct. 21 JUSTIFYING AN EVALUATION continued

Oct. 23 Invention Workshop: complete invention activities in *St. Martin's* 317-322 (two copies). Writing Strategies--Comparing and Contrasting: *St. Martin's* 520-525

Week 10

Oct. 26 Planning Workshop: complete planning and drafting activities in *St. Martin's* 322-324 (two copies)

Oct. 28 Writing Workshop--complete draft of Justifying an Evaluation Essay due (two copies)

Oct. 30 Writing Workshop Continued. Cueing the Reader--Transitions: 478-480

Week 11

Nov. 2 SPECULATING ABOUT CAUSES: *St. Martin's* 336-344; 355-361. "Analyzing Writing Strategies" questions 1-2, pp. 341-342 and questions 1-2, p. 357

ESSAY #6 DUE

Nov. 4 SPECULATING ABOUT CAUSES continued

Nov. 6 Invention Workshop: complete invention activities in *St. Martin's* 361-366 (two copies)

Week 12

Nov. 9 Planning Workshop: complete planning and drafting activities in *St. Martin's* 367-369 (two copies)

Nov. 11 Writing Workshop--complete draft of Speculating about Causes Essay due (two copies)

Nov. 13 Writing Workshop Continued

Week 13

Nov. 16 INTERPRETING STORIES: *St. Martin's* 382-388; 405-408

ESSAY #7 DUE

Nov. 18 Invention Workshop: complete invention activities in *St. Martin's* 408-415 (two copies)

Nov. 20 Planning Workshop: complete planning and drafting activities in *St. Martin's* 415-416 (two copies)

Week 14

Nov. 23 Writing Workshop--complete draft of Interpreting Stories Essay due (two copies)

THANKSGIVING RECESS NOVEMBER 25-27

Week 15

Nov. 30 Writing Workshop Continued

Dec. 2 Writing Timed Essays: *St. Martin's* 630-647
ESSAY #8 DUE
Dec. 4 Writing Timed Essays Continued

Week 16

Dec. 7 Review and Last Thoughts

Final Exam: 7:00 P.M. Thursday, December 10