English 109: Introduction to Essay Writing 1

Dr. M. McArthur
Office: HH 269

Dr. N. Randall
Office: HH224

Required Texts:
(1) Hacker, A Canadian Writer's Reference
(2) Hookey, McArthur, Plz Contest: Essays by Canadian Students (Second edition: the green cover, not the yellow one).

Course Description:
(1) All students in Engl 109 should be writing at a university level. Essay writing 109 is not a course in remedial writing or in English as a second language.
(2) The purpose of 109 is to instruct students in the principles of writing and to acquaint them with the requirements of the university essay.
(3) Students must attend all lectures. The grammar midterm test will be based on the content of the lectures, and the essays will be graded according to the guidelines offered in the lectures.
(4) Students must attend all tutorials. The tutorial leaders mark the assignments of all students registered in their sections.
(5) Essays are due on the due date, in the lecture period. If assignments are late, 10% per day will be subtracted for a maximum of two days. No assignment will be accepted after two days without a medical certificate or appropriate documentation.

Lecture Schedule:
Jan. 04: Introduction

Tutorial 1: workshop on writing problems
09: Sentence (parts and functions): Reference R1-4
11: Sentence (phrases, clauses, types): R1-4

Tutorial 2: exercises in parts, functions, phrases, clauses
16: Punctuation: Reference P 1-8
18: "

Tutorial 3: readings in expressive writing: Dorey pp. 27-30; Laurence pp. 30-33
Contest
23: Sentence (errors): Reference G5, G6, E3
25: Style: E1-7

Tutorial 4: exercises in sentence types, punctuation
30: Style: contd
Feb. 01: Revision: (first essay due)

Tutorial 5: exercises in style and revision
06: Revision and Paragraph: Reference C2, C3
08: "

Tutorial 6: workshop in writing paragraphs
Grammar Midterm

16: Paragraph: introductory and concluding paragraphs

Tutorial 7: readings in expository writing: Ritter pp. 74-77; Smathers pp. 78-81; Kowalski pp. 126-129; Quindlen pp. 130-134 Contest.

21: Study week
22: " "

28: Essay: thesis statements
Mar. 01: Essay: planning, structuring and outlining

Tutorial 8: workshop in expository writing

07: Essay: planning, structuring and outlining
09: Essay: from outlining to writing (second essay due)


14: Essay: conducting research
16: Essay: working with research

Tutorial 10: workshop in persuasive writing

21: Essay: developing the argument
23: Essay: " "

Tutorial 11: readings in persuasive writing: Dryden pp. 168-74 Contest, outside readings

28: Essay: proofreading and revising for style
30: Essay: concluding, correcting, presenting

Tutorial 12: workshop in persuasive writing

Apr. 04: Conclusion: (third essay due)

Assignments:

(A) Essays:
(1) Expressive: 750 words (three typed pages); worth 10%; due Feb. 1.
(2) Expository: 1000 words (four typed pages); worth 20%; due Mar. 9.
(3) Persuasive (limited research): 1500 words (six typed pages); worth 35%; due Apr. 4.

(B) Tutorials: 15% (determined by attendance and participation).

(C) Examinations: (1) Grammar test: fifty minutes; worth 20%; Feb. 13.
For the grammar test, you will be responsible for the following: (1) parts; (2) functions; (3) sentence types; (4) punctuation; (5) sentence errors.