

ENGLISH WRITING FRESHMAN CLASS

Fall 2016

Instructor: Rob Whyte BA, M.Sc

Office: D570

Office hours: TBA

INTRODUCTION

Students will focus on the structure of a well-developed sentences and paragraph to communicate their ideas. Instruction in sentence structure, basic grammar and mechanics helps students develop key writing skills within the 6+1 Writing Traits framework. Self-editing, summarizing and paraphrasing are also taught.

OBJECTIVES

By the end of this class, students will be able to:

- Create text that demonstrates an ability to explain, summarize, analyze, and critique
- Identify and use different types of sentences (e.g. complex and compound)
- Learn and use proper paragraph formatting through in-class lessons and writing exercises.
- Understand all essential writing conventions.
- Learn to see and fix errors by completing editing exercises.
- Understand what makes good writing.

METHODS

Individual writing, reading assignments, short lectures and individual feedback. You will be writing in most classes. You will receive regular feedback to help you improve your writing.

TEXTBOOK AND MATERIALS

There is no textbook for this class. Students will need to access the teacher's website to get weekly updates and materials to view, print to download. That website is eslwriting.org.

GRADES AND ASSESSMENT

There will be a final exam, a midterm exam and two quizzes.

attendance 10%

participation 10%

midterm 30%

final 30%

quizzes 20% (2 x 10%)

OTHER MATTERS

At the end of the semester, please do not ask me to change your grade because you have a special situation. You need a scholarship? You want to get a job? You want to go to graduate school? These are all good things. If you need a high score in this class, work hard, study hard and come to every class on time ready to learn. Unless I made a calculation error, I will not change your final score.

Every class, you will need 4 things: a writing tool (e.g. a pencil), a notebook, the textbook and a dictionary. Phone dictionaries are okay. Students who do not bring these learning tools to every class may not be satisfied with their final score. Students who regularly fail to bring all four learning tools to class, or the homework, may be marked absent.

Attendance is very important for every student's learning. Please come to every class, and come on time. Students who are frequently late will be penalized: 2 lates = one absence. Students who are absent because of school or work related events will see their participation score negatively impacted.

Supplemental Note:

I reserve the right to supplement this syllabus at any time during the semester with additional guidelines, rules of conduct, and changes to the course calendar to meet the needs of the class.