

English 110: Introduction to Academic Prose

Mrs. Sheila Adkins

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Plan Period: 9:53—10:43

Course Overview

This class introduces students to college-level reading, writing, and discourse analysis. While exploring the issues of family, education, opportunity, gender, diversity, and freedom, students will practice critical thinking skills, rhetorical analysis, and writing as a process (emphasizing revision, editing, and proper academic documentation). In addition to responding to readings through writing, students will be expected to participate in structured discussions centered around relevant social issues.

Required text

Gary Colombo et al. *Rereading America*, 9th ed. Bedford/St. Martin's, 2013
(ISBN 978-1-4576-0671-7)

Additional readings may be distributed in class.

Grading

Semester grades will be based on the following formula: comprehensive final 20%; assessment of learning targets 70%; and reading quizzes 10%.

Required Tuition

Each hour of college credit costs \$90.75. Students will earn 3 hours of college credit for English 110 at a total cost of \$272.25. It is your responsibility to mail in the payment to UMKC when it is due. You must pay the tuition in order to take the class. A student cannot decide not to pay for the college credit and think that the university will drop you from enrollment or reimburse tuition paid.

Withdrawal from the University and Transcripts

Visit www.umkc.edu/hscp for important dates and information.

Participation and Attendance

The Adrian R-III attendance policy will be followed in English 110. Your regular attendance and active participation are important to this discussion-centered class. You are expected to read all required assignments so that you can actively participate in class debates and conversations.

Student Code of Conduct

This class will encourage civil discourse and the respectful exchange of ideas. Students will be dealing with subject matter that will result in differing opinions, and all opinions will be heard and discussed in a civil and respectful manner.

Summary/Response Essays

During the course, you will write four short essays that summarize and respond to readings in the text. These two-page papers will enable you to pinpoint various writing areas that you wish to work on throughout the duration of the course. I will evaluate summary/response essays for both content and style/conventions in order to provide you with ample opportunity to improve your writing throughout the course.

Essays

Two essays of four to six pages in length will constitute your major projects for the course. You will be allowed to revise these papers—and possibly improve your final grade—until the semester's end. All papers must have one-inch margins, be double-spaced, and typed in Times New Roman 12-point font. We will use MLA style for citations and works-cited pages. Final drafts should be free of errors.

Presentation Projects

The purpose of presentation projects is to experiment with composing and expressing ideas in a mode other than a written essay. With that thought in mind, you and a partner will be given two formal opportunities to present your thoughts to the class while utilizing presentation software. In order to become an effective presenter, mini-presentation projects will also be assigned.

Self-Reflection Paper

The final assignment for this class is a two-page essay that addresses what you have learned about education, work, and gender; critical thinking and research; and academic writing this semester this semester. You may quote from our readings, your notes on our class discussions, and your own papers in this self-reflective exercise.

Plagiarism

Though we will look at and discuss other types of documentation, you will learn one common type of documentation: the Modern Language Association (MLA) style. Because correct documentation style is discipline-specific, you will eventually need to learn what is appropriate for your chosen major.

Students who submit as their own work an assignment—an essay, examination, quiz, or any other written work—that is taken in whole or in part from another person's writing (including another student's) without proper acknowledgement are guilty of plagiarism. Proper acknowledgement is the use of quotation marks and parenthetical documentation that corresponds to a works cited entry. Students who submit plagiarized work will receive an F for the assignment.