

Fall 2015

## **ENGL 1157**

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*University of New Orleans*

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**English 1157**

**Freshman Composition I**

**Fall 2015**

**Tues. & Th. 9:30-10:45 LA 212**

**Instructor: Dr. E. Bryant**

**Office: LA 351 (280-3962)...ebryant@uno.edu**

**Office Hours: Tues & Th 12:30-1:30; 3:30-5:00; Fri. 2:00-3:00, and by apt.**

**Course Description**

In the immortal words of Count Dracula, “I bid you welcome.” This is the first course in the UNO composition sequence. If this is your first semester at UNO, you should have taken the English department’s Placement Exam. Please see me if you have any questions or concerns about your placement.

In this course you will learn skills you need to write in a clear, convincing way for a variety of writing situations and for various audiences. You will also work to improve overall skills by reading critically, participating in class discussions, engaging in various writing exercises, drafting essays, and revising drafts. Most classes will be geared toward discussion, and you are strongly urged to participate in these discussions. As you will discover, discussion is an important way to improve your writing.

**The Writing Process**

In this course you will hone writing skills for a variety of rhetorical (or writing) modes, including the personal essay, the profile, advertisement analysis, and various other kinds of expository writing. During the semester, you will also be introduced to MLA citation methods, allowing you to use quotations from outside sources in your work. In addition, in order to improve your overall writing skills, I encourage you to attend tutoring sessions at the Writing Center. The Writing Center is located on the third floor of the Liberal Arts building (LA 334), and the number for appointments is 280-7054. (At some point during the semester, I will schedule an unannounced class visitation to the Writing Center.)

**Guidelines for Essay Format**

Out-of-class essays must be typed, double-spaced with pages numbered. In-class essays must be written in black or blue ink—NOT in pencil. For both in-class and out-of-class essays, all material from outside sources must be properly cited using MLA style guidelines.

## **Text**

The basic text we will be using is Bruce Ballinger's book *The Curious Writer*. This is a custom edition for UNO's English department and is available at the campus bookstore.

## **Attendance Policy and Classroom Etiquette**

Attendance is **NOT** optional. You are expected to attend each class meeting. Emergencies do arise, of course, but these emergencies should not arise every other week. Please keep in mind that excessive cuts can and will lower your final grade. Additionally, you run the risk of being placed on attendance probation and ultimately dropped from the course if you rack up too many cuts. To be more specific, if you are absent more than four times, you will fail the course.

You are expected to come to class on time. Coming in late and leaving the room during class are distractions, as is texting during class. Just as in church or at dinner with your parents, please turn off your cell phones.

## **Academic Dishonesty**

Plagiarism is a problem in writing classes. Although it may be tempting to take a short cut and plagiarize, as the great blues singer Bobby Bland once sang, "Yield not to temptation." If I discover that you have plagiarized, I will file the required Academic Dishonesty Report and then fail your plagiarized essay.

## **Student Learning Outcomes**

By the end of the semester, students will be able to

- a) determine purpose and audience in their own and others' writing
- b) understand how purpose, audience, and context affect writing style, voice, and tone
- c) apply appropriate rhetorical strategies for diverse writing situations
- d) demonstrate familiarity with and/or compose in different genres (such as personal narratives, reviews, profile essays, or editorial writing)
- e) write informative expository and persuasive essays