

# English 4: English Writing

WAT 2141  
MWF 4:10 to 5:00pm

Section 022: Fall 2015  
Instructor: Ryan Leack  
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Office: HMNS 2306  
Office Hours: MWF 2:30-3:30 pm

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## Required Texts

- Bullock, Brody and Weinberg: *The Highlander Research and Writing Handbook*, 1st edition, Norton, ISBN 978-0-393-25059-6
- Strahan, Moore, and Heumann: *Write It*, 4th edition, Kendall/Hunt Publishing Co., ISBN 978-1-465-24394-2
- Shakespeare, William: *The Tempest*, Norton Critical, 1st ed., ISBN 978-0-393-97819-3

Please bring *Write It* to each class. Bring *The Highlander Handbook* and *The Tempest* to class on the days indicated on the schedule. You must have the correct edition of each required text.

## Course Description

English 4 is designed to help students refine their critical thinking, reading, and writing skills in preparation for the English 1ABC sequence. We will focus on the writing process to guide students to develop strong academic arguments. Particular attention will be paid to identifying, analyzing, and framing debatable questions and issues, finding and developing appropriate, persuasive arguments, and cultivating rhetorical strategies using the rules of conventional English.

*Note: English 4 students are required to enroll concurrently in English 004L.*

## Essays

Students will write four essays for an approximate total of 5,000 words and take a final written exam. All submitted essays must follow the conventions of the **MLA** style guide that is in *The Highlander Handbook*. There is an example of a properly formatted student paper on pages 149-157. Please use it as a model when formatting your paper.

All essays (except the in-class essay) must be submitted through Safe Assignment on the iLearn (Blackboard) course site which can be accessed at <http://ilearn.ucr.edu>

## Deadlines and Late Policy

Essays must be submitted via Safe Assignment before the start of class on the due date. Absence from class does not extend your due date. If you have a personal emergency or other extenuating circumstances that prohibits you from finishing your assignment on time or turning in an essay as scheduled, email or see me as soon as possible so we that can discuss your situation. Essays submitted after the due date will automatically drop 1/2 grade each day until the work is submitted.

## Additional Assignments

You are responsible for completing all essays as well as preparing for the final exam. Because we will be focusing on the writing process, all prewriting, outlines, rough drafts, peer critiques from workshops, and revisions must be submitted in class on the due date of the final draft of your essay in order to receive full credit. Be sure to keep on top of assignments as they are designed to help you build your essay.

## Communications

You will be expected to monitor Blackboard and your school email account to find out about any assignment changes, announcements, or messages. There will inevitably be some readings posted online that are not available in the required texts.

## Peer Review Workshops

Always type your peer review drafts for in-class peer editing. If you are absent on a peer review day, or if you fail to bring a satisfactory rough draft for peer review, your essay's final grade will be reduced by one full letter grade.

## Essay Revision

You may revise one of your first two essays. In order to submit a revision, you must first discuss substantial revision plans with me in office hours. Your new essay score will be an average of your revised essay grade and your original essay grade.

### Participation and Classroom Etiquette

Participation in classroom discussions and activities is critical to your development as a writer and as a contributing member of our University campus. Active participation includes discussion of texts, thoughtful and thorough feedback during workshops, and asking questions or posing alternative points of view and ideas. In order to do so, you must come to class prepared having read and thought about assigned reading for the day. Accordingly, we will encounter and engage with controversial topics. You should feel comfortable to speak freely and candidly, and all students should be respectful of each other. While I am fine with laptops and tablets in the classroom, you won't need your phone during class and I am hyper-alert to covert texting, so I would advise against it. Last, absence does *not* make *my* heart grow fonder; if you miss more than three class sessions, don't plan on passing the course. Class attendance is mandatory and absence for illness will require a physical copy of a doctor's note.

### Office Hours

I strongly recommend you use them. I am more than happy to offer any additional assistance with any part of the course but I cannot make you allow me to help you. If my hours do not work for you, let me know and we can set up a different time.

### Plagiarism

You should have a good idea of what constitutes intentional plagiarism and the kinds of penalties that accompany it. Given the way I structure the course, it is pointless to even attempt to go down such a path. With that said, here's a standard blurb on what is ultimately the big no-no of academia: Plagiarism is the "copying of language, structure, or ideas of another and attributing (explicitly or implicitly) the work to one's own efforts. Plagiarism means using

another's work without giving credit. Examples include but are not limited to: (1) copying information from computer-based sources, i.e., the internet, and (2) allowing another person to substantially alter or revise your work and submitting it entirely as your own." If you are found to have plagiarized, you will receive a zero on the assignment and an "F" for the course. Further disciplinary action may also be taken by the Student Conduct & Academic Integrity Program (SCAIP). If you ever have a questions about plagiarism or about whether or not you might be plagiarizing in a particular essay, please ask me before the essay is due.

### Additional Assistance

I recommend The Academic Resource Center for additional assistance with your writing. The details for this service (that you're already paying for so you might as well use it) can be found here: <http://arc.ucr.edu/> but to make an appointment, you should call (951) 827 3723. Make appointments ahead of time to be sure to get a slot.

### Grading

All assignments will be graded on clarity, coherence, organization, and mechanics. An attentive response to each prompt, correct word usage, spelling, and punctuation are necessary for clear and understandable work.

The final grade for the course will be determined according to a 1000 point system. Work done for this class will determine 700 of those points (70%). The remaining 300 points (30%) will be determined by a committee-graded final exam. In order to pass this class you must receive a grade of "C" or better. That means you must earn at least 730 points between the course work and the final.

Essay 1 (1250 to 1500 words) ~4-5 pages	75 pts
Essay 2 (1250 to 1500 words) ~4-5 pages	125 pts
Essay 3 (1250 to 1500 words) ~4-5 pages	200 pts
Essay 4 (1250 to 1500 words) ~4-5 pages	200 pts
Participation (in-class participation)	100 pts
Final Exam	300 pts
Course Total	1000 pts

A+	970-1000	B+	870-899	C+	770-799	D+	670-699
A	940-969	B	840-869	C	740-769	D	640-669
A-	900-929	B-	800-829	C-	700-729	D-	600-629
						F	< 600

Wk	Date	Read for Class	Write for Class	Topics in Class
0	F 9/25	Introductions Course Overview		
1	M 9/28	WI: "Assignment 1" (55) WI: "Margins" (56-58) HB: Arguments (43-48)	WI: Vocab (59-60) WI: Guide (61-62)	Intro to Essay 1: Margins Nature of Arguments Prompt Analysis Discuss "Margins"
	W 9/30	WI: "The Shallows" (82-85) WI: Structure (11-21) WI: Introductions (24-25) WI: Dir. Summary (25-26) HB: Elements (252-254)	WI: Prewriting (63) Briefly summarize "The Shallows" and break down the argument's structure.	Directed Summary Essay Structures (11, 15, 19) Discuss "The Shallows" <i>Grammar: Sentence Elements</i>
	F 10/2	WI: "Pottering" (87-92) WI: Strategies (27-29) HB: Reading (75-78)	WI: Thesis (64) Directed summary handout Summarize "Pottering"	Thesis Strategies Discuss "Pottering"
2	M 10/5	WI: Support (30-32) HB: Paragraphs (17-30)	WI: Support (65-67)	Supporting the Argument Paragraph Structure Review Sample Essays
	W 10/7	WI: Transitions (35) WI: Conclusions (37) WI: "Blue Sky" (100-103) HB: Fragments (255-257) HB: Splices, Fused (258-259)	WI: Revise Thesis (68) WI: Outline (69-72)	Organization Incorporating Sources Discuss "Blue Sky" <i>Grammar: Sentence Boundaries</i>
	F 10/9	Peer Review Guide	Peer draft due	<b>Peer Review</b>
3	M 10/12	WI: Checklist (77) WI: Rubric (38) WI: Proofreading (39-41) WI: "Assignment 3" (171)	Final draft due Compile all HW assignments	<b>Essay 1 due</b> Intro to Essay 2: Literature
	W 10/16	WI: Literature (390-391) <i>Tempest</i> : Preface <i>Tempest</i> : Act I (3-41) HB: Commas (324-329) HB: Semicolons (330-331)		Discussion of Context <i>Grammar: Commas, Semicolons</i>
	F 10/16	<i>Tempest</i> : Act II	Reading Notes: Setting	Thesis Writing in Literature Discussion of Setting Pentadic Analysis
4	M 10/19	<i>Tempest</i> : Act III	Pentadic Analysis	Discussion of Ratios Gathering Evidence Incorporating Evidence
	W 10/21	<i>Tempest</i> : Act IV HB: Parallelism (282-284)	Pentadic Analysis	Discussion of Ratios Incorporating Evidence Discussion of Symbolism
	F 10/23	<i>Tempest</i> : Act V	Reading Notes: Symbolism WI: Revising Thesis (188) WI: Outline (189-192)	Organization Discussion of Text: Symbolism
5	M 10/26	Peer Review Guide	Peer draft due	<b>Peer Review</b>
	W 10/28	HB: Tips (62-65) HB: Sub-Verb (272-276) HB: Pronouns (277-281) WI: "Assignment 3" (171)	Final draft due Compile all HW assignments	<b>Essay 2 due</b> Intro to Essay 3: Masks <i>Grammar: Sub/verb pronouns</i>
	F 10/30	WI: "Masks" (172-174)	WI: Vocab (175-179) WI: Guide (180-181)	Prompt Analysis Discuss "Masks"
6	M 11/2	WI: "Facebook" (198-201) WI: "Appearance" (202-203)	WI: Prewriting (182) Briefly summarize argument of "Appearance"	Directed Summary for an In-Class Essay
	W 11/4	WI: "Beauty Myth" (210-218)	WI: Thesis (183)	Thesis Development for an In-

			Break down the structure of "Beauty Myth"	Class Essay Timed Writing Tips
	F 11/6	WI: "Truth" (205-209)	WI: Support (184-187)	Support for an In-Class Essay Styling Sentences
7	M 11/9	WI: "Ugly Truth" (220-222)	WI: Revising Thesis (188) WI: Outline (189-192)	Organization of an In-Class Essay
	W 11/11	<b>Veteran's Day — No Class</b>		
	F 11/13	WI: "Timed Essay" (22-23)		<b>In-Class Exam Part 1: Planning</b>
8	M 11/16		Compile all HW assignments	<b>In-Class Exam Part 2: Writing</b>
	W 11/18	WI: "Assignment 4" (223) WI: "Isolated" (224-226) HB: Skim through (289-316)	WI: Vocab (227-230) WI: Guide (231)	Intro to Essay 4 Prompt Analysis Discuss "Isolated" <i>Grammar: Syntax / Diction</i>
	F 11/20	WI: "Flight" (248-252) HB: Skim through (289-316)	WI: Prewriting (232) Summarize "Flight" and list the essay's strongest points.	Timed Directed Summary Discuss "Flight"
9	M 11/23	WI: "Surplus" (259-263) WI: "Fundamentalism" (264-268)	WI: Thesis (233-234) Finalize Directed Summary	Concision Discuss "Surplus" Discuss "Fundament."
	W 11/25	WI: "The Net" (264-269)	Develop Essay Intro WI: Support (235-237) Consider how these essays connect to past essays / topics.	Support Discuss "The Net" <i>Grammar: General Style Review</i>
	F 11/27	<b>Thanksgiving — No Class</b>		
10	M 11/30	WI: "Addicted" (269-274)	WI: Revise Thesis (239-240) WI: Outline (240); Reference (295-298) for this.	Organization Discuss "Addicted"
	W 12/2	Peer Review Guide	Peer draft due	<b>Peer Review</b>
	F 12/4	WI: Checklist (244) WI: Rubric (38) WI: Proofreading (39-41) WI: Timed Essay (22-23)	Final draft due Compile all HW assignments	<b>Essay 4 Due</b> Final Exam Preparation
11	M 12/7	<b>Final evaluation consultation</b>		