

Department of English and Modern Languages  
College of Arts and Sciences  
Fall Semester, 20XX

Course Syllabus for  
ENGL 101 English Composition

*General Education*

This course counts toward the requirements in General Education for your degree program. General Education is an important part of your educational program at Pittsburg State University that has been designed to implement the following Philosophy of General Education:

**General education is the study of humans in their global setting. The general education curriculum, therefore, acts as the heart of a university education by developing the capacities that typify the educated person and providing a basis for life-long learning and intellectual, ethical, and aesthetic fulfillment. General education examines the world around us and fosters an understanding of our interactions with the world and our place in the universe. General education celebrates the creative capacities of humankind and helps to preserve and transmit to future generations the values, knowledge, wisdom, and sense of history that are our common heritage.**

*Catalog Description*

A laboratory approach to problems in composition and reading. Prerequisite: Non-native speakers must have credit in ENGL 100 English Composition for International Students. Offered on A, B, C, NC (No Credit) basis only.

*Goals of General Education for this Course*

**Written communication:**

Demonstrates a thorough understanding of context relating to appropriate audiences and explains the writer's and others' ideas skillfully and ethically through written language that conveys meaning to readers with clarity and accuracy, and is nearly error free. Competency in this element means:

- Clearly *outlining* the main idea using appropriate sentence structure that connects all paragraphs to the overall point of the paper while organizing ideas effectively. Ideas are presented in a logical sequence that supports development of the main point (*Focus, Development, and Organization*);
- *Supporting* claims with appropriate evidence and valid reasoning. Opinions are clearly distinguished. Main ideas are developed through evidence-based sources that clearly distinguish the source material from the writer's own ideas and distinctly indicates the provenance of all source material (*Development and Use of Sources*);
- *Creating* effective and coherent sentences. Written language conveys meaning to readers with clarity and fluency. Word choice and vocabulary shows attention to audience (*Style and Editing*);

- Writing shows audience awareness. Intended purpose of the document is clear. The context for the communication is understood and articulated appropriately (*Focus, Development, Organization, Style, Editing, and Use of Sources*);
- Document *demonstrates* visual and textual design elements that are appropriate for the audience, purpose, and context (*Style*).

### **Course Objectives**

Upon successful completion of this course, you will be able to compose evidence-based ideas and create an appropriate written document to convey a message.

### **Nature of the Course**

English Composition 101 is an introductory college writing course emphasizing the fundamental elements of effective writing. Each instructor will determine how best to implement the goals and objectives within the parameters of the course design and assignments, but all students can expect that the course will foster critical reading and critical thinking skills in the process of effective communication.

### **Methods**

To achieve our instructional objectives, instructors will use lecture, class discussion, reading, and writing assignments. Instructors may also employ question and answer, small-group work activities—such as peer response review of written work prior to the final evaluated draft—panel discussions/presentations, videotaped instruction, film, overhead projector, journals, in-class writing, out-of-class responses, and other techniques as instructors deem appropriate.

### **Assessment**

Student work will be evaluated on the basis of several written assignments and essays, one of which will be research-based.