

College Composition I

SYLLABUS

Course Details

Instructor: David Hodges, Writing Arts Adjunct Office, 105 Hawthorn
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Course Blog: *Newspaperlessness* URL: newspaperlessness.com
Section 35: MON/WED 8:00am—9:15am, James (Education Bldg) 2110
Section 36: TUE/THU 8:00am—9:15am, James (Education Bldg) 2110
Office Hours: MON/TUE/WED/THU 7:00am—8:00am, 9:20am—10:30am, or by appointment.
Conference Chart: [Professor Conference Chart](#)

Required Textbooks

Required Text: [The New York Times](#). Digital subscription required.
Required Text: [Guide to the First-Year Writing Program](#).
Recommended: [They Say/I Say: The Moves That Matter in Academic Writing, 3rd Ed.](#)
Gerald Graff and Cathy Birkenstein, Norton, 2014 (ISBN: 9780393935844)

Blackboard / Course Blog

Instead of to Blackboard, the course is linked to the course blog, Newspaperlessness.com. All assignments will be posted and accessible at this site at all times. Also on the blog is a [Course Outline](#) showing all assignments and due dates, updated as necessary.

Course Description

In this course you will learn about writing as a process and all elements that it involves. Areas of emphasis will include reading and responding to the works of others, development of ideas, planning, organization, drafting and revision. Through assignments both inside and outside of the classroom, you will work towards achieving the outcomes associated with the [Core Values](#) of the First-Year Writing Program. Work will be done individually, with the instructor and along with other members of the class. You will submit a final portfolio that demonstrates you have reached these goals and learned that writing is a recursive process, which involves more than just sitting down in front of a blank computer screen and starting to type.

Guide to the First Year Writing Program

Much of the course-descriptive material that would ordinarily be part of a long syllabus is contained in the [Guide to the First Year Writing Program](#), hereinafter referred to as *The Guide*, a required text for this course, which is hereby considered a part of this syllabus and an essential course text.

Core Values

Throughout the course, we will emphasize the Core Values on which the First Year Writing Program is based. Writing is a multi-stage, recursive and social practice shaped by purpose and audience, in which meaning is created that is understood through critical reading and analysis. Information literacy and academic integrity are essential to all of your academic work. These core values, [available in full on the blog](#), will guide our study, and proving that you have achieved them in your Self-Reflective statement will be the ultimate expression of your achievement for the course.

Attendance

Your attendance in class is incredibly important to your success in this course. A writing class is a community and most classes will include collaborative work that cannot be replicated.

The policy below is the university's attendance policy.

The maximum number of permissible absences—both excused and unexcused—is **six**. You cannot earn credit for this course if you miss more classes than this. You may withdraw from the course before you have exceeded this number of absences or you will receive an F for the course.

You will be allowed to make up work for excused absences only, providing you have documentation.

Excused absences include: religious observances, official University activities, illness, death of a family member or loved one, inclement weather.

If you must miss class for any of the above or other excusable reasons, you must contact me as soon as possible. If extenuating circumstances force you to miss more than six classes, you must speak to me about the possibilities for accommodating you beyond this. Absences should be used with discretion because you never know when you will suddenly have to miss class.

Late Work: Penalties for lateness are posted with each assignment. The general policy for late posting of essays is: Timely posting, full credit; 0-24 hours late, -10 points; 24-48 hours late, -20 points; 48 hours +, Grade 0.

Accommodation Statement

Not all students learn the same way. The federal government, through the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, tries to ensure that all students have a fair chance at being successful. If you have a documented disability that may have an impact upon your work in this class, please contact me.

If you had a 504 plan or an IEP in high school, then you may qualify for services in college. Students must provide documentation of disability to the Academic Success Center in order to receive official University services and accommodations. The Academic Success Center can be reached at 856.256.4234. The center is located on the 3rd floor of Savitz Hall. The staff is available to answer questions regarding accommodations or assist you in your pursuit of accommodations. We look forward to working with you to meet your learning goals.

Classroom Behavior Policy

The University Classroom Behavior Policy and Procedures can be found at <http://www.rowan.edu/provost/policies/documents/ClassroomBehaviorPolicy.04.12.pdf>

Academic Integrity

Ethical and Responsible Writing

One of the goals for this course is to increase your awareness of the ethical ramifications of writing and your ability to write ethically and responsibly. How to avoid unintentional plagiarism is a major component of this course. However, it is ultimately your responsibility to submit ethical writing. If you have any question about the use of sources and citations in your work, you should contact me prior to turning in the assignment.

Plagiarism, whether the intentional act of passing off someone else's work as your own or the unintentional act where sources for material are not acknowledged due to a lack of familiarity with citation forms, is a serious violation of the principles of academic honesty. Acts of plagiarism include parts of as well as the whole of assignment. Students who submit plagiarized work will be subject to process and penalties of Rowan's academic integrity policy.

This detailed policy, which outlines the varying levels of infractions and possible sanctions, can be found at <http://www.rowan.edu/provost/policies/AcademicIntegrity.htm>

Academic Integrity

Department Policy on Previous Assignments

The Department of Writing Arts does not allow students to turn in the same writing assignment for more than one class. Students must receive express permission from both instructors when submitting writing or a substantial part of a written text previously submitted to another class. Not doing so is considered academic dishonesty and, may result in an F for that assignment and possibly an F for the semester.

Coursework

Portfolio

You will produce a portfolio of your writing for this course that must include two polished essays along with drafts and revisions, a Critical Engagement Assignment, an Annotated Bibliography and a Reflective Statement.

Your Final Portfolio will be graded as a whole. You will work on and revise the portfolio essays throughout the semester and must turn each draft in as assigned. But, while these drafts will be given individual reference grades, it is the Final Portfolio grade at the end of the semester that counts. Keep in mind that I pay close attention to the quality of revision in the Final Portfolio. The *Guide to the First-Year Writing Program* contains detailed instructions regarding the portfolio.

Important Reminder: Our hosting arrangement on the course blog includes automatic backup of all drafts. Earlier drafts can be compared to later drafts electronically, side by side, highlighted for changes. Professor feedback is also saved in the form of Replies to your posts.

Class Assignments and Exercises

In addition to essays, you will be required to participate in regular homework assignments and in-class writing exercises that are always practical and skills-based.

Professor Conferences

Once during the first half and once during the second half of the semester, you will meet me for scheduled one-on-one professor conferences. Make appointments on the [Professor Conference Chart](#). I am available for an hour before class every day (7am-8am), and for an hour after class every day (9:20am-10:30am), or later by appointment. In addition, we will meet briefly during Finals Week for a Grade Conference. These conferences are considered in determining your class participation grade.

Rowan Success Network

The Rowan Success Network powered by Starfish® is designed to make it easier for you to connect with the resources you need to be successful at Rowan. Throughout the term, you may receive email from the Rowan Success Network team (Starfish®) regarding your course grades or academic performance. Please pay attention to these emails and consider taking the recommended actions. Utilize the scheduling tools to make appointments at your convenience and keep an eye on your reminders and flags to track your progress and get help when needed. [Additional information](#) about RSN may be found at the Office of Academic Transition.

The Writing Center

The Rowan Writing Center is a space where all student writers can find support at every stage of the writing process. Whether it be invention strategies to get you started, organizing ideas or revising drafts, the center and its tutors provide a comfortable environment for success.

Meet with tutors face-to-face at the center for one-on-one or small group consultations. There are also two online options offered. The first is a synchronous, live session where students and tutors chat over an uploaded paper. The second are asynchronous sessions in which uploaded papers are reviewed within a specific timeframe (typically by the next day) with tutor comments.

The Writing Center is located on the 1st floor of the library. Make appointments by registering for an account at www.rowan.mywconline.com. Free accounts give students access to a list of tutors and their hours. Click on an

open timeslot and fill out the form to request personal, live chat, or asynchronous sessions. Limited walk-in appointments are also available. For help with scheduling or any other questions, call 856-256-4376 or email writingcenter@rowan.edu.

Suggestions for getting the most out of a 30- minute session:

- Bring the writing assignment your instructor gave you.
- Have a clean, hard copy of your draft.
- If possible, make your appointment well before the due date to allow yourself time to revise.
- Come prepared with some awareness of what specific concerns you have about your work.
- Ask questions and, if the responses are not clear to you, ask more.

Web Resources

- First-Year Writing Program Website:
<http://www.rowan.edu/colleges/ccca/departments/writingArts/firstyearwriting.html>
- Tutoring Center:
<http://www.rowan.edu/studentaffairs/asc/tutoring/>
- Disability Resources:
<http://www.rowan.edu/studentaffairs/asc/disabilityresources/>

Grading Policy for Essays and Assignments

1. Essays and assignments must be posted at *Paperlessness* by the day and time they’re due.
2. A 10-point penalty will be assessed for work late less than 24 hours.
3. A 20-point penalty will be assessed for work late by 24-48 hours.
4. Essays and assignments more than 48 hours late will be graded 0, but are still required.
5. No student will pass the course who has not compiled portfolio-ready drafts of all end-of-semester assignments into a passing portfolio by the last day of class, DEC 09 or DEC 10 respectively.

Grading Scale

F	D-	D	D+	C-	C	C+	B-	B	B+	A-	A
0-60	61-63	64-67	68-70	71-73	74-77	78-80	81-83	84-87	88-90	91-93	94-100

Note that you must achieve a D- to pass the course, though most programs require at least a C.

<i>Assessment Criteria for Final Grade</i>	<i>Percentage of Final Grade</i>
End of Semester Portfolio <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Critical Engagement Assignment • Annotated Bibliography for Critical Engagement • Three polished essays (Letter to the Editor, Editorial, Op-Ed) • Self-Reflective Statement 	75%
Grades for early drafts of portfolio work	15%
Other written assignments and tests, class notes, professor conferences	10%

Incomplete

Very special circumstances only! Students in good standing with a B average at the time of their incapacity who suffer a serious illness, injury or pressing emergency which renders them unable to complete the required work for the course may be given a grade of **I** (incomplete) at the discretion of the professor and only by approved proposal.

Course Outline

A week-by-week [schedule of all class activities](#) is available as a separate document, always available on the blog, and updated as needed.