U350-201: Intermediate Composition: The Essay, Inspiration, Order, and Insight

Course Format: Online

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Course credits: 3
Prerequisites: Completion of U350-102 Freshman Composition with a C or better or the equivalent; Appropriate for advanced high school and all college students.

Course Description: You will be writing expository essays leading to a final project. In writing the essays, you are encouraged to begin with inspiration—with an idea you care about—and then to structure your thoughts in ways that present that idea clearly to your audience.

Required Course Materials

- Hodges' Harbrace Handbook, 19th ed., by Glenn and Gray (2016)
    - The 18th edition is also acceptable to use.

Optional/Recommended Course Materials

- Dictionary
- Thesaurus

Course Learning Objectives

- Produce essays of varying types (e.g., classification, comparison/contrast, argument, etc.) that apply appropriate characteristics of the particular essay type to develop a limited subject and reveal or explain something new about it.
- Produce a longer paper that uses secondary sources to research a topic and provide convincing discussion and support for the paper's thesis.
- Apply standard essay format consisting of a title, an introduction, a thesis statement, supporting body paragraphs, and a conclusion.
- Employ specified composition skills (the "mechanics" of writing).
- Use appropriate paraphrase, quotation, and MLA/APA documentation of sources that contribute to the research paper.
- Use various pre- and post-writing strategies (brainstorming, outlining, and revision) to generate, narrow, organize, and improve the essays and research paper.
- Select transitions and phrasing/word choices so as to provide connection, coherence, and clarity within the essays and research paper.

Course Overview

Module #	Module Topic	Evaluated Topics
1	Getting Under Way: Preliminary Steps to Success in This Course	Written Assignment
2	Beginning Close to Home: The Personal Narrative	Written Assignment
3	Creating Categories: Classification	Written Assignment
4	Revealing Hidden Relationships: Comparison and Contrast	Written Assignment
5	Capturing the Essence: Definition	Written Assignment
6	Checking In: Outline for the Final (Research) Paper	Written Assignment
7	Defending More Than One Viewpoint: Argument	Written Assignment
8	Frying Out The Fat: Revision of a Previous Essay	Written Assignment
9	Wrapping Up: The Final (Research) Paper	Written Assignment

Final Exam

Evaluation Methods
Your final grade will be based on your performance on the following:

1. Written Assignments (60%)
2. Final Exam (40%)

Written Assignments (60%)
Each unit concludes with a written assignment. Your work should be free of errors, and formatted according to the directions given.

The overall weight breakdown for the written assignments is as follows:

- Written Assignment 1 (3%)
- Written Assignments 2 through 8 (41%)
- Written Assignment 9 (16%)

Final Exam (40%)
The final examination will include writing a 400- to 500-word essay. The final examination is worth 40% of your course grade.

Exam Method: Online without Proctoring
This course requires all students to complete exams online. Students receive two attempts on each exam. If you elect to take a second attempt, the average score of both exams will be recorded.

Grading Scale
The following grading scale is used to evaluate all course requirements and determine your final grade:

Grade	Percentage
A	93–100
AB	88–92.9
B	83–87.9
BC	78–82.9
C	70–77.9
D	60–69.9
F	Below 60

Pass/Fail Option
Students who enroll in an Independent Learning (IL) course under the pass/fail option will receive a final grade of S in place of a final grade equivalent to an A, AB, B, BC, or C and a final grade of U in place of a final grade equivalent to a D or F.