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| **English 1101: English Composition I****Course Syllabus: Fall 2011** |

Meeting Time: TR 12:30 – 1:45 Classroom: A&S 351B

Instructor: Emily Chamison E-mail: emily.chamison@gcsu.edu

Office Hours: T&W 2-3pm or by appointment Office: A&S 153

**Required Texts:**

- *Remix* edited by Catherine G. Latterell

- *Writing and Revising* by Kennedy, Kennedy, & Muth

- *The Easy Writer* by Andrea Lunsford

**Course Description:** The undergraduate course catalog describes English 1101 as "a composition course focusing on skills required for effective writing in a variety of contexts, with emphasis on the personal essay and also including introductory use of a variety of research skills." This particular section of 1101 will use informal writing and peer responses to draft and revise four formal papers, including a personal analysis, a persuasive paper, a research paper, and a comparison/contrast essay.

**Objectives:** This course's Academic Assessment page describes our topics:

* Strategies for college-level writing, including vocabulary, grammar, style, purpose and audience;
* Revision;
* Basic research methods for college-level work, including an introduction to library resources;
* Analysis of texts orally (class discussion) and in writing.

as well as course outcomes:

* To acquire an ability to write organized, clear, correct, and purposeful prose;
* To understand the principles and strategies of argumentation and analysis;
* To acquire sensitivity to written and oral language as a means of understanding how we relate as individuals to the larger community;
* To grasp the essential nature of research and how to synthesize research in writing so that the insights and documentation are logical and clear;
* To understand through the use of textual models how writing and reading are means for connecting the writer to contemporary culture and its diverse problems and conditions.

All students, regardless of their degree program, must earn a grade of C or better in English 1101, as it, along with English 1102, fulfills the Area A. Essential Skills requirement in the Core Curriculum.

**Course Assignments and Grade Distribution: Total 100%**

*Reading Responses and Participation:* 10%

*Leading One Class Discussion:* 10%

*Personal Narrative Paper (4-6 pages):* 15%

*Persuasive Paper (4-6 pages):* 20%

*Annotated Bibliography:* 5%

*Research Paper (8-10 pages):* 20%

*Compare/Contrast Paper (6-8 pages):* 20%

Detailed assignment sheets will be handed out for each paper/assignment later on in the semester. All papers are to be in a 12 point font, have one inch borders, and go at least halfway down the first page of the minimum page requirement.

**All grades are non-negotiable.**

**MLA Style & Length Requirements:** Formal assignments should adhere to the Modern Language Association (MLA) style. Formal papers require MLA style while pop quizzes, responses, informal writing, and peer review may be informally formatted. One-third of a letter grade will be deducted from a formal paper for problems in each of the following categories, for a possible one letter grade deduction total: 1) header, heading, and title, 2) margins, font, line spacing and length, and 3) quotation and citation format. If a formal paper does not meet the minimum length requirement (at least halfway down the final page of the minimum page length), an entire letter grade will be deducted from your grade on that paper.

**Attendance:** Daily attendance is mandatory. If you are absent, you are most likely going to miss out on in-class assignments, and this will have an impact on your grade. However, each student is allowed a total of three (3) absences for any reason. There will be a one-letter final grade deduction for every absence beyond three days. Therefore, missing four class periods will result in a one-letter final grade deduction and missing seven classes will result in automatic failure of the course. Use your absences wisely and please email me if you don't know exactly what you missed or should be working on. I do not differentiate between excused and unexcused absences.

**Tardiness:** Tardiness is not accepted. If a student is more than ten minutes late, they will be counted absent for the day. Every three times a student is late (less than ten minutes) will count as one absence.

**Revision:** Each student must revisetwo essays of their choice, due on the specified dates on the syllabus. Revisions must reflect serious effort—i.e. a major rethinking or reorganizing of the essay, and not a series of quick fixes to simple errors. This revision must also include a one-page note discussing and defending the changes you have made. Once received, the revised paper can add up to ten points to your paper grade, based on the rubric I will hand out with the revision assignment. Please note: submitting a revision does not guarantee a grade improvement.

**Late Work:** Except in rare cases of emergency, all late essays will incur a grade deduction of 10% per **class period**. At the start of class on the assigned due date, all essays are to be turned in typed, double-spaced, and stapled. Essays will not be accepted outside of class, via e-mail or otherwise. If you cannot attend class on the day, turn your work in the next time our class meets and accept the 10% grade deduction. Presentations must be done on the day you have signed up to do them.

**Academic Dishonesty:** The integrity of students and their written and oral work is a critical component of the academic process. All written work submitted in this course will be individual work unless otherwise instructed. The submission of another's work as one's own is plagiarism and will be dealt with using the procedures outlined on pp. 64-67 in the Undergraduate Catalog. Remember that allowing another student to copy one’s own work is considered cheating. Also see the student Honor Code at the website below: <http://www.gcsu.edu/studentlife/handbook/code.htm>. As plagiarism is not tolerated at GCSU, any student found guilty of willful plagiarism will automatically **fail the course**. I will submit all formal papers to [TurnItIn](http://www.turnitin.com).

**Assistance for Student Needs Related to Disability:** If you have a disability as described by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504, you may be eligible to receive accommodations to assist in programmatic and physical accessibility. Disability Services, a unit of the GCSU Office of Institutional Equity and Diversity, can assist you in formulating a reasonable accommodation plan and in providing support in developing appropriate accommodations to ensure equal access to all GCSU programs and facilities. Course requirements will not be waived, but accommodations may assist you in meeting the requirements. For documentation requirements and for additional information, we recommend that you contact Disability Services located in Maxwell Student Union at 478-445-5931 or 478-445-4233.

**Religious Observance Policy:** Students are permitted to miss class in observance of religious holidays and other activities observed by a religious group of which the student is a member without academic penalty. Exercising of one's rights under this policy is subject to the GC Honor Code. Students who miss class in observance of a religious holiday or event are required to make up the coursework missed as a result from the absence. The nature of the make-up assignments and the deadline for completion of such assignments are at the sole discretion of the instructor. Failure to follow the prescribed procedures voids all student rights under this policy. The full policy and prescribed procedures are found at: <http://info.gcsu.edu/intranet/acad_affairs/ReligousObservancePolicy.doc>

**Fire Drill:** In the event of a fire alarm, exit the building in a quick and orderly manner through the nearest hallway exit. Learn the floor plan and exits of the building. Do not use the elevators. Crawl on the floor if you encounter heavy smoke. Assemble near the fountain for a head count.

**Writing Center:** The GCSU Writing Center is located in Lanier 209 and open Monday through Friday. While no extra credit will be offered, students are encouraged to visit regularly. For more information, call (478)-445-3370 or visit online at: <http://www.gcsu.edu/acad_affairs/coll_artsci/eng/writing/>

**About Conduct in Class:** Cell phones and laptops are distracting to you, to me, and to the rest of the class. You do not need a laptop or a cell phone to participate in classroom activities, so please don’t have them out. If I notice that you are using electronics in class, I will count you as absent. Please come to class prepared to discuss the readings. If I find that you are not prepared for class, it will affect your participation grade.

**Student Opinion Surveys:** Given the technological sophistication of Georgia College students, the student opinion survey is being delivered through an online process. Your constructive feedback plays an indispensable role in shaping quality education at Georgia College. All responses are completely confidential and your name is not stored with your responses in any way. In addition, instructors will not see any results of the opinion survey until after final grades are submitted to the University. An invitation to complete the online opinion survey is distributed to students near the end of the semester. Your participation in this very important process is greatly appreciated.

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| **Class Schedule (Tentative & Subject to Change)** |
| **Week 1 – Introductions**

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| **Tuesday, 8/16**Introductions. Go over syllabus**For Homework:** Buy textbooks. Read over syllabus. Send me an introductory email. | **Thursday, 8/18**In-class brainstorming and writing exercises for Personal Narrative Paper.**For Homework:** Read *Writing and Revising* Chapter 2 (11 – 25) and “High School’s Secret Life” (*Remix* 15 – 20). |

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| **Week 2 – Identity and Gender**

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| **Tuesday, 8/24**Sign up for student-led discussion days. Discuss readings & group work on Personal Narrative ideas. **For Homework:** Read handouts TBA. | **Thursday, 8/25**Discuss readings & student-led discussion guidelines.**For Homework:** Read *Writing and Revising* Chapter 1 (1 – 10) and “The ‘He’ Hormone” (*Remix* 38 – 51).  |

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| **Week 3 – Identity and Personal Narratives**

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| **Tuesday, 8/30**Student-led discussion #1. **For Homework:** Read “Facebook: Editing Myself” (*Remix* 60 – 62) and “Masks” (*Remix* 66 – 72). Complete rough draft of Personal Narrative Paper. | **Thursday, 9/1**Personal Narrative rough draft due today! In-class peer review. Discuss reading.**For Homework:** Read “How to Tame a Wild Tongue” (*Remix* 77 – 82) and “The ‘F’ Word” (*Remix* 84 – 87).  |

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| **Week 4 – Personal Narratives and Community**

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| **Tuesday, 9/6**Student-led discussion #2. Short conferences on Personal Narrative Papers. **For Homework:** Read “A Wobegon Holiday Dinner” (*Remix* 112 – 116) and “Commencement Address” (*Remix* 125 – 128). Personal Narrative due Thursday. | **Thursday, 9/8**Personal Narratives due! Discuss readings.**For Homework:** Read “My Filipino Roots” (*Remix* 130 – 131) and “The Amish Charter” (*Remix* 139 – 147).  |

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| **Week 5 – Community and Persuasive Papers**

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| **Tuesday, 9/13**Student-led discussion #3. Group brainstorming, using *Writing and Revising* Chapter 4 as a model. **For Homework:** Read “Our Sprawling, Supersize Utopia” (*Remix* 184 – 192) and *Writing and Rising* Chapter 3 (26 – 40) | **Thursday, 9/15**Discuss readings. In-class writing assignment. **For Homework:** Read “Befriending Barbie” (167 – 175) and *Writing and Revising* Chapter 5 (60 – 82).  |

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| **Week 6 – Persuasive Papers and Community**

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| **Tuesday, 9/20**Student-led discussion #4. **For Homework:** Read “A Secret Society of the Starving” (*Remix* 149 – 156) and *Writing and Revising* Chapter 6 (83 – 100) | **Thursday, 9/22**Discuss readings.**For Homework:** Read “We Can Work It Out” and “On Collaboration” (*Remix* 216 – 223).  |

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| **Week 7 – Competition**

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| **Tuesday, 9/27**Student-led discussion #5. In-class writing assignment. **For Homework:** Read “Alpha Male Syndrome” (*Remix* 225 – 237) and *Writing and Revising* Chapter 7 (101 – 132). Complete rough draft of Persuasive Paper for peer review. | **Thursday, 9/29**Rough draft of Persuasive Paper due today! In-class peer review.**For Homework:** Read “The Overachievers” and “Making the Grade” (*Remix* 250 – 260). Read *Writing and Revising* Chapter 10 (190 – 203).  |

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| **Week 8 - Competition**

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| **Tuesday, 10/4**Student-led discussion #6. Discuss research paper assignment. **For Homework:** Read “Team USA” (*Remix* 261 – 275). Persuasive Paper due Thursday. | **Thursday, 10/6**Persuasive Paper Due Today! Discuss readings. Discuss research paper topics. **For Homework:** Read “No Contest” (*Remix* 277 – 289) and “Race and Beauty in *America’s Next Top Model*” (300 – 303). Brainstorm ideas for your research paper.  |

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| **Week 9 – Competition and Romance**

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| **Tuesday, 10/11**No class. Fall break. | **Thursday, 10/13**Library day. **For Homework:** Read “Clustered Readings: Focus on Dating Rules” (*Remix* 347 – 358) and *Writing and Revising* Chapter 11(137 – 154). |

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| **Week 10 – Romance and Research Papers**

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| **Tuesday, 10/18**Student-led discussion #7. Listen to David Sedaris’s reading of “The End of the Affair” (*Remix* 335 – 337).**For Homework:** Read “Once Upon a Time in a Tent” (*Remix* 338 – 346), “Against Love” (*Remix* 362 – 370). | **Thursday, 10/20**Student-led discussion #8. In-class work on annotated bibliographies.**For Homework:** Read “Baba and Daddy Gus” (*Remix* 372 – 377) and “Looking at Women” (*Remix* 384 – 394). Complete annotated bibliography. |

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| **Week 11 – Romance and Entertainment**

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| **Tuesday, 10/25**Annotated Bibliographies due! Discuss readings. In-class reading and discussion of “The Brain in Love” (*Remix* 400 – 404).**For Homework:** Read “Focus on Celebrity Gossip,” “Profiles Encouraged,” and “Stalking Celebrities” (*Remix* 431 – 450). Bring in rough draft of research paper for group review.  | **Thursday, 10/27**Student-led discussion #9. Group work on research paper.**For Homework:** Read “Everything Bad Is Good for You: Games” (*Remix* 459 – 467) and “Bootleg Culture” (*Remix* 469 – 474). |

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| **Week 12 – Entertainment**

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| **Tuesday, 11/1**Student-led discussion #10. **For Homework:** Read “The Pernicous ‘Moving Picture’ Abomination” (*Remix* 496 – 507). Research paper due Thursday.  | **Thursday, 11/3**Research Paper Due! Discuss readings. **For Homework:** Read “Why McDonald’s Fries Taste So Good” and “In Defense of Food” (*Remix* 526 – 548). |

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| **Week 13 – Nature**

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| **Tuesday, 11/8**Student-led discussion #11. Discuss Compare/Contrast Paper. **For Homework:** Read “Polymers are Forever” (*Remix* 560 – 575) and “The Living City” (*Remix* 577 – 581).  | **Thursday, 11/10**Discuss readings and methods for revision.**For Homework:** Read “This Is How We Live” (*Remix* 638 – 642) and “Technological Somnambulism” (*Remix* 644 – 649). |

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| **Week 14 –Technology**

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| **Tuesday, 11/15**Student-led discussion #12. Group brainstorming exercises.**For Homework:** Read “The Psychology of People and Machines” (*Remix* 687 – 695) and “What is Convergence Culture?” (*Remix* 703 – 709).  | **Thursday, 11/17**Discuss readings. In-class writing exercise. **For Homework:** Bring a rough draft of your Comparison/Contrast paper for peer review and conferencing with me. |

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| **Week 15 – Conferences**

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| **Tuesday, 11/22**Peer review of papers and individual conferencing with me.**For Homework:** Complete Comparison/Contrast Papers. | **Thursday, 11/24**No class. Thanksgiving break.  |

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| **Week 16 – Self-Definition and Revision**

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| **Tuesday, 11/29**All Self-Definition Papers Due! Class discussion about papers.**For Homework:** Bring in papers that you are revising.  | **Thursday, 12/1**Complete class discussion about papers. Group work on revisions. |

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| **Week 17 – Finals Week***No class! If you’d like to pick up your graded papers, you can stop by during my office hours on Tuesday, December 6.* ***Drop off your revisions in my mailbox no later than Thursday, December 8 at noon!****Good luck on the rest of your finals!* |