English 1101 (English Composition 1)

Section 18 (CRN 81064)

**Instructor**: Elizabeth Bohnhorst

**Time &Place**: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3:30 pm - 4:45 pm, Arts & Sciences 340B

**Office hours**: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2:00-3:00 (or by appointment)

**Office**: Arts & Sciences 1-53

**Email**: elizabeth.bohnhorst@gcsu.edu

**Phone:** 231-392-4745

**Required Materials:**

* *Models for Writers*, Ed. 11, Rosa, Bedford/St. Martin’s, ISBN:9780312552015
* *Pocket Style Manual*, Ed. 6, Hacker, Bedford Publishers, ISBN: 9780312542542
* A notebook for in-class writing
* Supplemental handouts

**Course Objectives:** The course catalog defines 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." To elaborate: this course is about generating—not merely communicating—ideas. Let us be clear: communicating ideas in a formal and coherent fashion is important, but *building* new ideas is fundamental to academic work. Composition courses are not simply about writing well. They are about thinking, inventing and reasoning. The primary, and perhaps most evasive, skills learned in composition courses are *invention* (the act of generating and developing ideas) and *critical thinking* (the acts of analyzing and evaluating ideas). From there, students will also learn various strategies for organizing and supporting ideas.

**Grades:** Your final grade will be determined as follows:

Participation: 15%

In-class Writing/ Quizzes 15%

Personal Narrative (3-4 pages): 15%

Social Commentary (4-5 pages): 15%

Persuasive Essay (4-5 pages): 15%

Research Paper (6-7 pages): 20%

Group Presentations: 5%

**Attendance**: Each student is allowed **three** unexcused absences without penalty. After that, your final grade will drop **one whole letter grade** for each day you miss. As well, I reserve the right to count you absent for disruptive behavior—e.g., texting, using electronics for non-class related purposes, talking out of turn, sleeping. If you miss class, e-mail me immediately and I’ll catch you up.

**Logistical Essay Requirements**: All papers must follow proper MLA format, e.g., 12-point, Times New Roman font with one inch margins. Consult your *EasyWriter* or <http://owl.english.purdue.edu> for information on formatting, textual citations, Works Cited pages, etc. Also: if a paper is **half a page short** your grade will be lowered by **1/3 letter grade.**

**Revision:** Each student may revise **three** essays. **Revisions must be submitted within 7 calendar days of receiving the original graded essay**, **must reflect serious effort, and include a paragraph-long “revision statement” outlining the major changes.** The grade of the revised essay will be averaged with that of the original. You may not revise the Research Paper.

**Completion of Assignments:** All assignments are due at the beginning of class on the date specified. I will not accept emailed assignments and absences do not change due dates. If I have not personally granted you an extension, then you are responsible for getting your work to me on time. Late work will be penalized **one full letter grade** for each **calendar day** it is late.

**Plagiarism: The Academic Handbook says that plagiarism is “presenting as one's own work the words or ideas of an author or fellow student. Students should document quotes through quotation marks and footnotes or other accepted citation methods. Ignorance of these rules concerning plagiarism is not an excuse. When in doubt, students should seek clarification from the professor who made the assignment.” This course is about creating and articulating from a unique perspective—your own; willful plagiarism is a contradiction to our purpose. Students found guilty will receive an “F” for the assignment and possibly the class.**

**Statement of Equal Opportunity:** 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>

**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.

**Fire Drills**:Fire drills will be conducted annually. In the event of a fire alarm, students will 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 elevators. If you encounter heavy smoke, crawl on the floor so as to gain fresh air. Assist disabled persons and others if possible without endangering your own life. Assemble for a head count on the front lawn of main campus or other designated assembly area. For more information on other emergencies, please visit <http://www.gcsu.edu/emergency/actionplanmain.htm>.

**Writing Center:** The GCSU Writing Center is a great resource. The staff is friendly and extremely helpful; in 15 or 20 minutes they can transform your essay. The Writing Center is located in Lanier 209 and open Monday through Thursday, 9 – 4, and Friday, 10 – 12. For more information, call (478)-445-3370 or e-mail [writingcr@gcsu.edu](mailto:writingcr@gcsu.edu).

**TENATIVE Class Schedule (super subject to change):**

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| Week 1 | T, 8-14 | introductions, go over syllabus  **HW: “This is Water” (handout)** |
| TH, 8-16 | In-class writing, discussion   **HW: “Superman & Me” (handout); Ch 2. 43-49** |
| Week 2 | T, 8-21 | In-class writing, discussion, group activity, essay 1 prompt  **HW: 377-379, 386-393** |
| TH, 8-23 | Group discussion, metaphor exercise   **HW: “Under the Influence” (handout); 119-123** |
| Week 3 | T, 8-28 | Discussion, organization and details   **HW: 294-299; “The American Male Age 10” (handout)** |
| TH, 8-30 | Discussion, diction & tone exercise   **HW: work on narrative/description essay!**  \*\*\*e-mail me your RD by Sun, 9th if you want MY feedback |
| Week 4 | T, 9-4 | NO CLASS—INDIVIDUAL CONFERENCES  **HW: complete rough draft** |
| TH, 9-6 | ROUGH DRAFT OF ESSAY 1 DUE, peer review  **HW: revise your essay based on peers’ response** |
| Week 5 | T, 9-11 | FINAL DRAFT DUE, film: *Life in a Day*   **HW: 588-591, “Hipster: The Dead End…”** |
| TH, 9-13 | Discussion; counterargument exercise  **HW: “Add Cake, Subtract Self-Esteem” (handout)** |
| Week 6 | T, 9-18 | Group Prez 1, exercise: women in ads, prompt 2   **HW: 524-527, additional reading TBA** |
| TH, 9-20 | Discussion, genre exercise   **HW: Klosterman essay (handout)** |
| Week 7 | T, 9-25 | Discussion, archetypes exercise   **HW: 505-515, 602-607** |
| TH, 9-27 | Group Prez 2, gender assumptions discussion |
| Week 8 | T, 10-2 | NO CLASS—Individual conferences |
| TH, 10-4 | ROUGH DRAFT OF ESSAY 2 DUE, bring 2 copies for peer review |
| Week 9 | T, 10-9 | *No Class: Fall Break* |
| TH, 10-11 | FINAL DRAFT DUE, film: *Food Inc.*  **HW: “Consider the Lobster” (handout)** |
| Week 10 | T, 10-16 | Finish *Food Inc*., group prez. 3, prompt 3  **HW: 539-546, 553-557** |
| TH, 10-18 | Elements of Argument  **HW: 616-640** |
| Week 11 | T, 10-23 | Discussion, in-class debate 1  **HW: 602-607, “People Like Us”** |
| TH, 10-25 | Mapping out arguments, in-class debate 2  **HW: “War is a Force that Gives us Meaning”** |
| Week 12 | T, 10-30 | group prez 4, in-class debate 3 |
| TH, 11-1 | ROUGH DRAFT OF ESSAY 3 DUE, peer review |
| Week 13 | T, 11-6 | Final Draft Due, FILM: “Restrepo”   **HW: 642-656** |
| TH, 11-8 | Meet with research librarian   **HW: *New Yorker* on prisons (handout)** |
| Week 14 | T, 11-13 | Group prez. 5 |
| TH, 11-15 | Library Day |
| Week 15 | T, 11-20 | Library Day |
| TH, 11-22 | *No Class: Thanksgiving* |
| Week 16 | T, 11-27 | Peer review |
| TH, 11-29 | Class evaluations, reflection |
| Finals | T, 12-4 | No Class |
| X, 12-X | No Class, **research paper due Fri by 5 pm** |