

## English 0370.3

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**Course Purpose:** Basic English “is a compensatory course designed to improve basic thinking and writing skills.” This course “emphasizes essay development and use of conventional English.” In addition, the course “requires essays composed in response to various prompts and prepares the student for testing assessment and English 1301, Composition and Rhetoric.” Odessa College Catalog, 2005-2007, page 128.

### Instructional Materials:

A storage device preferably a USB drive

A journal of some sort that is binded so I can take it up

Pen and paper to take notes

**Learning Outcomes:** Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to :

- Recognize and write correct sentences
- Recognize and correct sentence structure errors as well as other grammatical errors
- Identify different parts of speech and grammatical components and use them correctly and effectively
- Write essays which meet the following criteria:
  - Write unified, coherent five-paragraph essays, each containing a clear thesis statement, an adequately developed introduction, topic sentences, substantive content, and a closing paragraph
  - Write a unified, coherent paragraph that contains a clear topic sentence
  - Provide adequate supporting detail, and distinguish between general and specific information
  - Demonstrate an ability to proofread and revise work

### Course Requirements:

Five essays at 10% each	50%
Journal	15%
Class Activities/quizzes	15%
Final	20%

### Attendance

Taking attendance in this class is mandatory for me, as the instructor. You are expected to attend class. We will do the majority of the work on your essays in class. I am here to help you. If you are absent you will miss material that you will need to complete your essays. If you drop this course because you have passed the THEA or COMPASS you will receive the grade that you have in class at the time you pass the writing assessment.

### **Late Work**

Grammar assignments will be done in class. If you miss a graded grammar assignment you will not be able to make it up. All final essays will be written in class. It is important that you are here when an essay is written. If you have to miss class you need to make arrangements with me prior to your absence. This will be the only way that I will allow you to make up major essay assignments.

**Credit by Examination:** During the semester, some of the students will pass the writing portion of the THEA or will pass the COMPASS test writing sample, and will decide to withdraw from the course. Students who exit the course using either of these test scores will receive the grade they have in the course when they exit the course for the semester. NO student will receive an automatic "A" for the course based solely on their THEA or COMPASS scores.

### **Classroom Behavior:**

Please, no social use of technology. Silence your cell phone and do not text during class. Also we are fortunate enough to have computers for this class, I ask that you do not surf the internet or play any games during class. Please respect your classmates and respect me. We are all here for a purpose and I will not tolerate classroom disruptions.

**Special Needs:** Odessa College complies with Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you have any special needs or issues pertaining to your access to and participation in this or any other class at Odessa College, please feel free to contact me or the Office of Disability Services at 335-6861 to request assistance and accommodations.

**Student Success Coaches:** Odessa College now has student success coaches for your benefit. When your grade drops below a 70 in this class you will be flagged and referred to a student success coach. You will have the opportunity to work with them to address the issues that may be influencing your grade.

### **Class Schedule:**

**Unit One:** Students will address the correct writing form. There will be class assignments associated with this unit.

**Unit Two:** Students will address the different modes of writing and apply those to the construction of the model five paragraph essay. Essay writing assignments will associated with this unit.

**Unit Three:** Students will learn to construct essays based on given prompts. Class assignments will be associated with this unit.

\*Grammar assignments will be interspersed throughout each unit. Grammar will be a constant daily lesson with the incorporation of online and written assignments.