

English B50 – Introduction to College Composition

Syllabus

Instructor: William Mitchell
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Required Texts:

- *A Pocket Style Manual, 2016 MLA Update Edition*, by Diana Hacker and Nancy Sommers (ISBN: 978-1-3190-8352-6)
- *Models for Writers: Short Essays for Composition*, by Alfred Rosa and Paul Escholz (ISBN: 978-1-4576-6784-8) (eBook OK)
- *The Martian*, by Andy Weir (eBook OK) (ISBN: 978-0-5534-1802-6)

Required Materials:

- Internet access
- Dictionary and Thesaurus
- White, ruled, loose-leaf notebook paper—NO SPIRAL FRINGE
- Stapler and staples
- Extra ink or toner cartridges for your personal printers
- Large envelopes for submission of papers and copies of sources
- Funds for printing and/or photocopying all sources
- **Recommended:** USB flash drive or “cloud” storage for saving in-class work

Supportive Services

Students with disabilities who believe they may need accommodations in this class are encouraged to contact Disabled Student Programs & Services (661-720-2000), Delano Campus, Room 1001, as soon as possible to better ensure such accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion

IMPORTANT . . .

- Students created a Bakersfield College email account at registration. Each student must check this account regularly as it is the primary means to communicate with students on or off campus.

Disclaimer

The readings and video presentations (if any) in this class often deal with adult themes, so a certain level of maturity and tolerance is required from every student. We may encounter violent and/or sexually explicit material, as well as writings that pose difficult questions about religious or political beliefs. If reading about or discussing these topics makes you uncomfortable or upset, I suggest you consider enrolling in another course. Your continued enrollment in this class after reading this disclaimer implies your willingness to read and respond to all classroom assignments (and the opinions of your classmates) in a mature and thoughtful manner.

Course Description: (From the Bakersfield College 2014-2015 Catalog)

- **ENGL B50 Introduction to College Composition**

Prerequisites: ENGL B60 or ENSL B60 with a grade of ‘C’ or better or Writing - 1 Level Prior to Transfer.

Description: Emphasizes the writing of expository and argumentative essays and the comprehension and analysis of readings. Prepares transfer students for English B1a.

Hours 72 lecture

English B50 Student Learning Outcomes (SLO’s)

Student Learning Outcome (SLO) for Course	Method of Evaluation/Assessment	Level
<i>At the completion of English 50, the student will be able to perform the following:</i>	<i>Examples of assessment methods include but are not limited to the following:</i>	<i>I = Introduced D = Demonstrated M = Mastery</i>
1. Read and think critically about at least 1 book-length work in addition to selected readings	Demonstrate understanding of the readings through quizzes, journal assignments or essays.	I, D
2. Evaluate and establish the credibility an author’s work	Write a critique (analysis/evaluation) of an argument.	I, D
3. Demonstrate the legitimate use of credible sources by <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • summarizing and paraphrasing sources. • synthesizing multiple sources. • avoiding plagiarism. 	Write essay(s) using multiple credible sources. Observe ethical standards of academic community—no plagiarizing sources.	I, D
4. Write papers that <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • demonstrate the use of expository and argumentative or persuasive forms of writing. • demonstrate correct MLA form and citation. • show evidence of drafting, editing, and revision to reflect an academic style and tone. • use a variety of sentence patterns appropriately and correctly. • use the standard conventions of written English—spelling, punctuation, and capitalization. 	Write essays in and out of class. Write homework including but not limited to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • exercises • annotations of texts • journals and other brief writings 	I, D

Attendance, Drop Policies, and Student Conduct:

- **All students** (wait listed and registered) must attend the first four (4) class meetings. Any student missing one of the first four class meetings may be dropped.
- **Students still on the waitlist** by the census date will be dropped from the waitlist at that time.
- **LRNC B510** is accelerated and meets four days per week, which is equivalent to **two weeks** of class for a normal class.
- **Bakersfield College Catalog:** “Instructors may drop a student from a course when absences number the equivalent of **two weeks** of class recorded from the first day of instruction.” (25).
- **Tardiness:** Tardiness is both rude and disruptive to the class and to the instructor. However, should you be tardy,
 - ☆ It is your responsibility to see me at the break or immediately after the class in which you were tardy and request that your absence be changed to a tardy.
 - ☆ Being tardy three times will be counted as an absence; thus excessive tardiness can contribute to being dropped from class.
 - ☆ Students who arrive fifteen (15) or more minutes late, or who leave 15 or more minutes early will be charged with an absence.
- **Late Arrivals:** Students may not participate in class work or tests begun prior to their arrival. As a result, students will earn a zero for participation and test grades.
- **People Not Registered in the Class:** If a person is not registered for the class or is not on the waitlist, they cannot stay in the classroom. If a student needs to care for someone not registered in the class, do so outside of class.

Course Schedule and Instructor's Web Page:

- **Time Management:** *Pay close attention to the **Class Schedule**.* Note: For English B50 you will spend, on average, 6 hours For every two class sessions working on this course outside of class. Average means that some weeks may require fewer hours, and other weeks may require considerably more hours. Schedule your time carefully.
- **Class Schedule Changes:** Check the on-line **Class Schedule** daily for instructions and/or changes to assignments, such as due dates. I will announce changes in class, but if you are not sure of due dates for assignments, check with me to verify you are working with the most recent information.
- **My Webpage:** My web page, <http://wmitchellbc.weebly.com>, is an important tool for this course. If you do not have a computer with Internet access at home, you must schedule time to use a computer that has Internet access. Keep in mind that you can use the computers in the BC
- **Webpage Problems:** If you have difficulty viewing information on my webpage, please see me for help.
- **Student Handbook:** For matters of student conduct, refer to your Student Handbook for causes for suspension from class.

IMPORTANT:

1. Emails to me must contain student's last name and course name (English B50) in the "Subject" line. All unidentified emails are deleted unread.

Course Requirements:**Course Content:**

- **Eligibility for passing:** To be eligible to pass this course, you must complete all writing assignments, complete all steps of the writing assignments, such as drafts and peer reviews, give oral presentations, and attend class regularly, missing no more than 4 class sessions.
- **Academic Dishonesty and Plagiarism** Academic dishonesty includes cheating, fabricating or falsifying information or sources, improper collaboration, submitting the same paper for different classes without permission, and plagiarism. Plagiarism occurs when writers deliberately or unintentionally use another person's language, ideas, or materials and present them as their own without properly acknowledging and citing the source. Academic Dishonesty and Plagiarism in this course results in one or more of the following consequences: failure of the assignment, referral to the Dean of Instruction, and/or disciplinary actions by the Director Student Life. Cite sources carefully, completely, and meticulously; when in doubt, cite. Familiarize yourself with BC's Student Code of Conduct and KCCD's definitions of plagiarism and cheating (KCCD Board Policy 4F8D, pg. 144).
- **Expectations:** English B50 is a college level class and deserves your time and effort.
- **Due Dates:** All assignments are due at the beginning of class. Once collected, no further assignments will be accepted.

Late Work: Accepting late work is unfair to those students who take their commitment to school seriously.

- **Late Definition:** Late means any assignment received after I've collected the work.
- **Late Excuses:** Printer and/or computer problems do not extend due dates.
 - **Print** assignments well before class.
 - **Save** all work **often** both on **and** off of your computer.
 - I recommend using a USB drive, or cloud storage such as Dropbox or iCloud Drive.
- **Late Coupons:** These coupons will allow you to turn in three assignments up to one week late without any late penalties. **I will not accept any late work without the appropriate coupon.**
- **Some Restrictions Apply:** Coupons may not be used on the following:
 - Assignments due during the first two weeks of English B50.
 - The final synthesis assignment for English B50.

Extra Credit: There is no extra credit.

Library Instruction and Research:

- **Ask a Librarian:** The librarians are your friends. When you have questions about your research, when you are having trouble finding resources, or when you are confused about the validity of a source, ask a librarian. BC has truly AWESOME librarians who are willing and pleased to help you with your research.
- **Resources:** Web sites (.com, .org, .edu) **ARE NOT** permitted as sources in any essays written for this class. If there are exceptions, they must have my prior approval. All sources must be from the Bakersfield College Library, including books, journals, or sources found on BC's electronic databases.
- **Wikipedia** is **NEVER** considered a scholarly source for any college level research and, therefore, must never be cited as a reliable or authoritative source.

English B50 is a detail-oriented course that requires strict adherence to instructions and guidelines given by the instructor. As this course meets two days each week, students need to complete all assignments on schedule to prevent falling behind. The course is writing intensive, but will reward diligent students.

Reading Assignments: Discussion, In-Class Essays, Tests

- **Read Critically:** Get in the habit of annotating your readings. In essays make notes of the author's thesis and key points or ideas presented to support the thesis. Indicate points that are unclear and points with which you clearly agree or disagree.
- **Read Analytically:** Analyzing reading materials is much more involved than reading for the story alone. Therefore, you will need to annotate your reading materials, as well. Look for recurring themes and motifs; examine character development and motivation; note uses of irony, simile and metaphor; pay attention to the setting, point of view and the narrator. You don't just need to understand the story; you also need to understand how the story was created.

Writing Assignments: Essays, Summaries, MLA work

- **Quantity of Writing:** In English B50 you will be writing several short writing assignments and a multipage synthesis paper. You will have some opportunity to work on the papers in class, and there will be peer reviewing of some of your drafts before the final paper is due.
- **Revisions:** Once you've received your graded essays back, you should **immediately** look them over, and begin making revisions and corrections to the essays. You should make needed changes as soon as the papers are returned to you. **DO NOT PROCRASTINATE!**
- **All assignments completed outside of the classroom must be typed!**
- *The Pocket Style Manual*: **Don't leave home without it!** ☺

MLA Layout: You will use MLA format for all assignments. Therefore, it's a good idea to set the default on your computer at the beginning of the semester. If you are working on a campus computer, you may need to reset the default each time you log on.

- Use Times New Roman, 12 point font.
- Double space everything.
- Use one inch margins.
- Capitalize Your Titles.
- Do not underline titles or use **Bold** for titles.
 - *Italicize* titles of long works, and put titles of short works within "quotation marks."
- ***There is no place in MLA for underlines!***
- ***There is no place in MLA for BOLD!***
- Use insert page number to set up your header.

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- See the class website for guides to setting up MLA documents for most major word processing programs.

Grade Breakdown
English B50

Assignment and Grade Distribution	% of Grade
Writing Assignments: Summaries, paraphrases, essays, etc.	40
Reading Responses	15
Synthesis Paper: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum of 3 pages, plus a Works Cited page. • Minimum of 3 scholarly/academic sources • Minimum of 1 primary source 	20
Synthesis Steps: Proposal, Working Bibliography, outline, draft, conference, peer review, oral presentation, etc	15
Misc.: Tests, classwork, participation, exercises, team presentations, etc.	10

Important Dates:

- **Jan 30, 2017:** Census date – last day for a refund for semester length classes
 - **Jan 29, 2017:** 20% date – Last day to drop semester length classes without receiving a "W"
 - **Mar 24, 2017:** 60% date – Last day to withdraw from semester length classes and receive a "W"
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Notes:

Warning: You must communicate with me and keep up with the work. Be aware that missing class is no excuse for falling behind in the assignments. Find a classmate that you can count on if you need to ask questions or copy notes from a day that you are absent.

Classmate _____ **Email** _____ **Phone** _____

Classmate _____ **Email** _____ **Phone** _____