Syllabus Spring 2008
Eng 165W.14 - Composition II - EV 358 - 2 p.m. MWF
David T. Gaines      Smith-Kirkley 233
(936) 294-4097      eng_dtg@shsu.edu
(936) 825-4626      dt.gaines@hotmail.com

Class Schedule
Eng 165W.35 3573  MWF 10:00  EV 260   (If you need me during
Eng 265W.06 1601  MWF 11:00  EV 251   the class day, this is
Eng 165W.07 1532  MWF 01:00  EV 262   where you can find me.)
Eng 165W.14 1561  MWF 02:00  EV 358

Essay Schedule
Essay #1 Position Essay   1 Feb
  Chap 12, p 539, Research
  Bible, 1st Samuel, Chapter 17
  Chap 9, p 363, Position Essays
Essay #2 Problem/Solution Essay  29 Feb
  Chap 11, p 495, Problem/Solution Essays
  Part V, p 631, Basic Grammar
Essay #3 Reflective Self Evaluation Essay   21 Mar
  Chap 8, p 347, Reflection Essay
  Part V, p 659, Common Grammatical Problems
Essay #4 Evaluation Essay (Marisol presented 1 Apr) 11 Apr
  Chap 8, p 313, Evaluation Essays
  Part V, p 648 Local Revisions
  Peer Review  91-93, 99-100, 172-176, 303, 357-359, 421, 488-489, 5240-528, 576-578
Essay #5 Persuasive Essay     2 May (includes oral component)
  Chap 10, p 431, Persuasion Essays
  Chap 13, p 591, Oral Presentations

Required Text and Material
Text:   The Longwood Guide to Writing, 3rd Ed., by Ronald F. Lunsford and
Bill Bridges
  Plus a good collegiate dictionary
Material: 3-ring binder and paper (your notebook, 20% of your grade)
  manila folder (for your required Peer Review Project as part of Essay #4)
  computer diskettes (you'll need these for all college classes)

Grading Essays   600 points 50%   A 1080-1200 points
  Notebook  240 points 20%   B 960-1079
  Final exam  240 points 20%   C 840-959
  Class participation 120 points 10%   D 720-839
  Total  1200 points    F 838 or below
(The first four essays are worth 100 points each. The fifth essay is worth 200 points)

Objectives: In Eng165W, you will learn to produce a college level research paper through reading,
research, and writing assignments. You will learn to take full advantage of the many research tools
available in the Newton Gresham Library. You will learn to view yourself as a valuable source of
information. You will work individually and within groups. When you have completed this course, you will
have strengthened your research, organization and writing skills, strengthened your analytical reading
and observational skills, strengthened your critical writing skills, and strengthened your ability to work
with others to improve overall performance within a group.

Essays: Eng 165W, Composition II, is a “writing enhanced” course meaning that development of college
level writing skill is the primary objective.
Toward this end, each student will write four (4) essays of five (5) pages each plus one (1) essay of ten
(10) pages. An example of the proper form is attached.
Each essay will be graded A - F. The first two essays may be given an "R," which stands for "revise," meaning the student must revise the essay. A grade of R will be given only when it is clear the student has put forth meaningful effort and deserves a chance to improve his work and thereby better his grade. The highest grade available for a revised essay is 79, a C. Failure to revise an essay given an R will earn a grade of 50, an F. Work turned in after due the date cannot be revised. Work of less than the required number of pages cannot be revised.

A cumulative total of 420 must be achieved on the five essays in order to qualify for the final exam. Failure to achieve a cumulative essay grade of 420 will result in an F for the course. Failure to turn in any essay will result in an F for the course.

Late Work: Work is due at the beginning of class on date specified. Work turned in late will be penalized 10 points. An additional 10 points will be charged for each additional late day. Work turned in late cannot be revised.

Peer Review Essay: You will be assigned to a Peer Review Group as part of Essay #4, the Evaluation Essay on the play Marisol by Jose Rivera. Active participation in the Peer Review Group is required. Failure to participate actively in the Peer Review Group will result in an F for the course.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism results in an automatic F for the course. Plagiarism is a form of theft defined as the use of someone else's information without proper credit. Don't plagiarize!

Notebook: Your notebook will contain your essays, any handouts, including this syllabus, and a short analysis of each class activity. Each analysis will begin with a description of the day's activities plus your considered opinion concerning the value (or lack of value) of each exercise. Each analysis will be a minimum of five (5) sentences. The notebook is required.

Final Exam: If you are passing all class work, you will qualify for the final exam. The final is required. You will not be exempt.

Class Participation: The biggest ten percent in grading. Class participation can boost your grade or strangle it. Failure to participate in class, failure to attend class, failure to participate actively in class projects, such as the Peer Review Project, will result in an F. University policy gives you three cuts for classes that meet thrice weekly, two cuts for classes that meet twice weekly, no questions asked.

Use your cuts wisely. Expect to lose five points off your final grade for each unexcused absence after five. Students with Disabilities; Disabilities that may affect academic performance should contact the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities in the Counseling Center, then make arrangements with me to accommodate any special needs.

Religious Holy Days: Students needing time off for a religious holy day should see me. A religious holy day can be observed by any religion whose place of worship is tax exempt.

Class Attire: Proper semi-formal attire is required for attendance of the required play and any required class presentations. You are supposed to be preparing for a career. Look like it.

Gentlemen - do not wear caps or hats in class. Do not wear pants too low. Flip flops, torn clothing (whether stylish or not) is discouraged. You are preparing for a career. Look like it.

Ladies - use discretion in choosing what to wear. Flip flops, torn clothing (whether stylish or not) is discouraged. You are preparing for a career. Look like it.

Class Decorum: You are expected to conduct yourselves as ladies and gentlemen in keeping with the highest standards of behavior and the finest classroom tradition. To this end, Eng 165W will be the only subject studied during time allotted for Eng 165W. Portable telephones must not be seen during class. A telephone seen during class will result in an absence. Visitors should not be brought to class without prior approval.

Visitors under age 17 are prohibited. Use of tobacco and intoxicants is prohibited. These rules apply whether class is held in the classroom or somewhere else.

Instructor Evaluation: SHSU administrators claim you will have an opportunity to evaluate me.

Office Hours: MWF 9 - 10 a.m., 12 -1 p.m., 4:15 - 5 p.m. (It's a good idea to call ahead)

Call me any time day or night. I won't mind talking to you. If you call during late hours, give me a moment to wake up. Don't be bashful. If you need to call, do!