ENG 165: COMPOSITION II
SYLLABUS

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Section 05  CID#7955 Room Evans 260
Time: 10-11:50
Office Hours: MW 3-4 and daily by appointment

Course Description
ENG 165, Composition II, continues the study of skills and methods used in writing university-level essays, with an emphasis on researched argument and persuasion. This course emphasizes the development and support of effective argumentation, including researching and using support from various sources. It also includes an oral report component. ENG 165 is the second half of SHSU’s two-semester freshman composition sequence.

Prerequisite
Completion of ENG 164 with a grade of D or higher.

Course Objectives
Through a sequence of writing, reading, and workshop assignments, you’ll learn to:

- strengthen your composing process,
- strengthen your argumentative skills,
- strengthen your analytical reading and critical thinking skills,
- strengthen your ability to conduct research,
- strengthen your oral presentation skills, and
- use collaborative learning in various contexts.

Texts

Recommended: a good collegiate dictionary (e.g., one of the Webster’s series or The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language), a handbook of grammar, mechanics, and usage (e.g., the Harbrace)

Materials

a 2”-3” 3-ring binder
loose-leaf notebook paper
regular-sized manila folder (for submitting formal essays)

notebook dividers
computer diskette
a large (10” X 13”) envelope

Requirements
1. Prepare for, attend, and participate in class activities. Excessive absences may adversely affect your grade (see Absence Policy statement below).

2. Keep a Writer’s Notebook.

3. Read and respond in writing to assigned readings. These responses will form one section of your
4. Write four essays, including a 6-10 pp. term paper.

5. Give an oral report.

6. Participate constructively in class activities, but especially in peer review group sessions.

7. Take a final exam.

**Essay Grades**

Each essay will be graded on an “A” through “F” basis. For the first two essays, an additional assessment of “R” (Revise) may be used by your instructor. You may revise the first essay once for an improved grade, following a conference with your instructor on each essay. If you receive an “R,” then you must revise it for a grade in order to be eligible to pass the course. This revision must be completed within one week of the time the original is returned to you.

**Course Assessment**

ENG 165W is a “Writing Enhanced” course, so that at least 50 percent of the semester’s grade must be based on writing. In this course, 80 percent of your grade will derive from writing. Here’s a breakdown on grades:

- Essays 1-3  30%
- Term Paper  20%
- Oral Report  20%
- Final Exam  20%
- Participation  5%
- Writer’s Notebook  5% (Completion grade)

**Incomplete (X) Grade**

At times, due to extenuating circumstances beyond your control, you may not be able to finish the course, and you may request a grade of X (incomplete). Students who request an X grade for ENG 165 must provide adequate documentation of the reason for their not being able to complete the course, and they must have satisfactorily completed at least 50 percent of the course’s assignments in order to be eligible for a grade of X. If an instructor feels an X to be warranted, the instructor will recommend this grade to the Department Chair who then will decide whether the X should be entered as the semester’s grade. If an X is approved, the student has one semester to complete the remaining work; if the student does not complete the work in that time period, the X grade automatically converts to an F.

**Plagiarism and Academic Misconduct**

It is academically dishonest, and often illegal, to present someone else’s ideas of writing as your own. You cannot use even short phrases or parts of sentences obtained from other sources unless you properly document those sources. Documentation includes marking quotations as well as providing notes, citations, and a reference list. If you receive assistance from a source other than your instructor, your colleagues in the class, or The Writing Center, then you must acknowledge that assistance. Identify the source and the nature of the assistance in an acknowledgments note at the end of the assignment. Failure to acknowledge constitutes academic misconduct. In addition, it is academically dishonest to submit your own previously written work for a current assignment or to submit an assignment in more than one class without the prior permission of the instructors.

You will be held responsible for furnishing upon request all the sources and preliminary work (notes, rough drafts, etc.) that you used to prepare written assignments. If you cannot produce those materials upon
request, the assignment will be considered incomplete and so will not fulfill the requirements. You will be
given the opportunity to redo the assignment on a different topic, one you negotiate with your instructor.

You are responsible for protecting your own work. It is your responsibility to ensure that other students do
not copy your work or submit it as their own. Allowing your work to be used in this manner constitutes
academic misconduct.

Plagiarism and academic misconduct of any kind may constitute grounds for failing this course and may
result in further disciplinary action according to university policy. Consult the SHSU Student Handbook
regarding your responsibilities and rights concerning plagiarism and academic dishonesty. (In addition,
writing textbooks often contain useful discussion of plagiarism.)

Your instructor may require that you submit all of your essays to a plagiarism detecting service such as
turnitin.com. Your enrolling in the course and electing to stay in that section constitutes your agreeing to
submit your work as your instructor requires.

**Attendance Policy**

You are responsible for your success in this class, so regular attendance is important. After your third
absence, your grade may be adversely affected by additional absences. For each absence over five, you may
be assessed a five-point deduction from your end-of-semester grade.

**Student Absences on Religious Holy Days Policy**

Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education
excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the
observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is
excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an
examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time
after the absence. University policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student
and instructor.

**Americans With Disabilities Act**

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to
providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may affect
adversely your work in this class, then I encourage you to register with the SHSU Counseling Center and to
talk with me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential.
NOTE: no accommodation can be made until you register with the Counseling Center. Please contact the
Chair of the Committee for Continuing Assistance for Disabled Students and Director of the Counseling
Center, Lee Drain Annex, or by calling (936) 294-1720.