In English 2113, students are introduced to and become proficient in the essential elements of the cycle through which successful writers create and polish persuasive essays. A persuasive essay states an opinion and supports it convincingly. The primary objective of the course is to develop your skills in clear and effective composition and standard usage. The course is required of those who have failed the Writing Proficiency Exam and may not be counted toward an English major or minor or toward English as a first or second teaching field or teaching emphasis.

Until the Writing Proficiency Requirement is met, a student may be required to enroll in and stay enrolled in ENGL 2113 in order to continue taking classes at MSU. Any student with credit for more than 90 semester hours who enrolls in and subsequently withdraws from or is withdrawn from ENGL 2113 will be dropped from all courses. The student will not be allowed to enroll in any course except ENGL 2113 until the Writing Proficiency Requirement is met.

Prerequisites

English 1113 and 1123

Office Hours

The instructor, Dr. Sally Henschel, will be available to meet face-to-face with any interested students on Tuesday, Jan. 18, 2011, from 10:00 a.m. to noon (CST) in Bea Wood 226.

Office Hours:
TR 10:00 a.m. to noon; 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. (CST)
MF by appointment

Mandatory Dates

There is a mandatory final at the semester's end, which may be taken at Midwestern State University, in Wichita Falls, TX, or proctored at a college or university testing site. I recommend that you take the exam onsite, if possible.

Why is the final exam date so early? It is a requirement that you pass the essay section of the final exam in order to pass the class. Should you fail the essay but otherwise be passing the class, I will give you an opportunity to retake the exam. This takes some time to schedule with online students.

Onsite exam date: Saturday, April 30, 2011, from 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., at MSU.

Proctored exam dates: To be scheduled by student at a testing center and taken between Thursday, April 28, 2011, and Saturday, April 30, 2011.

Required Text

The *LB Brief* (LbB). The current edition is the 4th. CourseCompass access code. To be purchased online the first day of class.
Required Software

Microsoft Word (If students do not have access to Microsoft Word, they should contact the instructor immediately.)

Learning Goals, Objectives, and Measurements


Writing as Process (Objective 3.1): Students reflect on their arguments over multiple stages of development. Measurement: successful completion of writing assignments that are characterized by the following:

- Thesis: Students develop a clear claim about a topic and justify this claim with reasons and evidence;
- Support: Students provide adequate, detailed, relevant support for the thesis;
- Organization: Students arrange the materials in a coherent, effectively developed pattern of paragraphs;
- Clarity: Students choose precise wording and effective sentence structures to convey ideas clearly and forcefully; and
- Conventions of Edited American English: Students edit in order to observe the conventions of grammar, spelling, and punctuation expected by a well-read audience.


Engagement (Objective 4.1): Students are aware of a cultural context for their own values and those of their sources. Measurement: synchronous and asynchronous correspondence with instructor. Successful completion of writing assignments.

Grading Policy

Quizzes (30%): Fourteen grammar quizzes. Students are encouraged to meet with the instructor (by phone or online) following each quiz to review the quiz content and their performance.

Writing assignments (40%): Four writing assignments and two graded discussion board postings. Writing assignments will be marked with instructor's commentary, and the grade assigned will reflect overall demonstration of the skills outlined above.

Final exam (30%): The final exam will consist of two parts: (1) a grammar exam and (2) a thesis-driven essay. A student must score 70% on the essay portion of the final exam to pass the course.

All assignments will be due on dates assigned. No late work will be accepted unless specific arrangements have been made prior to the due date. Students falling two assignments behind are subject to administrative withdrawal from the course by the instructor.

100 - 90% — A
89 - 80% — B

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Acceptable Submission Format

All formal writing assignments submitted for grading must conform to the formatting and style guidelines outlined in the Assignment Submission Guidelines extension to this syllabus.

Submitting Assignments

Major assignments are to be submitted to the CourseCompass Dropbox: Access the Dropbox. Click Send File. Click Browse to upload your document. Click Submit. (If a student clicks Add File, the document will be posted to the student’s account not sent to the instructor.)

E-mail Format

When sending emails to the instructor, a student should include in the subject line his or her last name, course and section number, and the content of the email (e.g., Jones 2113-X20, question).

Required Contact

Students are required to interact with the instructor within the CourseCompass course management system at regular intervals during the term of the course. Any student who fails to interact with an instructor via telephone, email, CourseCompass, or in person during any two-week period of the term may be subject to administrative withdrawal from the course by the instructor.

Academic Dishonesty

All students are expected to adhere to the Midwestern State University Student Honor Creed when completing any work for this course. A student’s name on any assignment scheduled to be turned in is his/her pledge that all work contained therein is his/hers alone. When using the ideas of other unpublished and published sources, students must use accepted documentation conventions (i.e., MLA). See the MSU Student Handbook (PDF attached to Course Documents in CourseCompass) to read the Student Honor Creed (4) and the university’s policy on academic dishonesty (71).

Professionalism

Members of this class are expected to treat one another with courtesy, professionalism, and respect. Repeated unprofessional, rude, or inappropriate behavior can result in 50-100 points being deducted from a student’s final grade for the course per instance of such behavior.

Americans with Disabilities Act

Midwestern State University is committed to providing equal access for qualified students with disabilities to all university courses and programs, and by law, all students with disabilities are guaranteed a learning environment that provides reasonable accommodation of their disabilities.

This guarantee is provided through Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act. The ADA reads: "No qualified individual with a disability shall, by reason of such disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs, or activities of a public entity, or be subject to discrimination by any such entity."

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To obtain disability support services, students must

- be accepted for admission to Midwestern State University,
- complete a request for services form available through the Office of Disability Services, and
- provide current documentation from a qualified professional (such as a licensed physician, psychologist, audiologist, etc.) diagnosing the disability, as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act.

For information on Disability Services at Midwestern State University see the following: http://students.mwsu.edu/disability/

If the instructor does not have proper notification, she will expect the same performance from each student enrolled in the course.