**ENC 1101.521: Composition I**

**Fall 2014**

*USF Sarasota-Manatee Department of English*

**Instructor:** Lynn Ramsey  
**Time:** T/Th, 9:15am – 10:30am  
**Location:** IMG, Pendleton Building, Room 116  
**E-mail:** lramsey@sar.usf.edu  
**Office Hours:** Before and after class, and by appointment.

**Required Course Texts & Materials**
- Purdue University’s Online Writing Lab (OWL)  
- Composition notebook  
- Notebook with folders to hold all papers and drafts  
- Flash drive or memory stick

**Course Description:** Three hours per week. ENC 1101 prepares students for academic work by emphasizing the basics of expository writing, library research, and the major rhetorical patterns of writing encountered in college level writing. This course meets Area I requirement for the A.A. General Education requirements, and the 6000-word Gordon Rule requirement as mandated by the Florida State Board of Education, Rule Number 6A-10.30.

**Course Goals:**
- **Communication**  
  Prepares students for real-world situations that require powerful and effective oral and written communication in traditional and emergent media.  
- **Critical Thinking**  
  Develops critical, constructive, and reflective thinkers who analyze, interpret, evaluate, and decide what to believe and do.

**Course Outcomes:**
- Students will demonstrate *composing processes* through prewriting, drafting, revising, and editing individually and with peers in a range of media.  
- Students will demonstrate *rhetorical knowledge* by focusing on audience, purpose, context, genre, medium, and message.  
- Students will demonstrate *critical thinking, reading, and writing* skills to include locating, evaluating, analyzing, and synthesizing sources, as well as integrating them with their own ideas.  
- Students will demonstrate *knowledge of conventions*, such as appropriate tone, mechanics, and documentation in a variety of formats.  
- Students will demonstrate the ability to work in *electronic environments* throughout the composing process: researching, drafting, reviewing, revising, editing, and sharing texts.

**Email, Canvas, Textbooks, & Technology:** Students may communicate with me via the USF email address above, and should check their email regularly, as well as the course site for announcements and assignment schedule. *Email correspondence should be formatted with a salutation and closing and must include your name in the subject line of the email.*
The class syllabus is posted in Canvas, an online course management system. In this class, Canvas will be used for online discussions, additional readings, assignment submissions, and general course announcements.

Information on how to use Canvas is available at:
http://www.usfsm.edu/infocommons/students.php;
Toll-free helpline: 866-974-1222;
Live online help: http://usfsupport.custhelp.com/cgi-bin/usfsupport.cfg/php/enduser/chat.php

From Web-based assignments and material to email and Canvas, ENC 1101 requires consistent access to the Internet, word processing, and a printer. Not having access to a computer will not be an acceptable excuse for not checking the syllabus for homework, not checking your email address for class announcements, or not completing the required online informal writing posts. Laptops will be permitted in class for specific assignments such as in-class essays.

The textbooks for this course are mandatory, and are designed to cover ENC 1101 and ENC 1102. You will receive extensive feedback on your writing as you progress through this course, much of which will be keyed to specific sections in the Handbook which accompanies the main text.

You are also encouraged to take advantage of the USFSM Learning Commons. Writing consultants are available to guide you through any part of the writing process. To schedule an appointment, visit http://www.usfsm.edu/infocommons/library.php, for Library services, or http://www.usfsm.edu/infocommons/writing.php, for Writing Support Services.

### Major Projects and Assignments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homework—including quizzes, reading and short writing assignments, oral presentation, participation, &amp; other teacher assigned work</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Informal Writing (Discussion Board)</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>In-class Essays</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Literacy Narrative</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rhetorical Analysis</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annotated Bibliography</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Essay</td>
<td>25%</td>
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</tbody>
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**Grading:** All assignments must be turned in on time, at the beginning of class. **I will not accept late in-class assignments, late homework assignments, or handwritten work.** I may accept late major projects; however, late projects will be penalized one whole letter grade for each business day the paper is late. Missed in class work cannot be made up.

To determine final grades, the individual percentages will be converted as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Range</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>(97–100)</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>(94–96.9)</td>
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<tr>
<td>A–</td>
<td>(90–93.9)</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>(87–89.9)</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>(84–86.9)</td>
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<tr>
<td>B–</td>
<td>(80–83.9)</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>(77–79.9)</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>(74–76.9)</td>
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<tr>
<td>C–</td>
<td>(70–73.9)</td>
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<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>(67–69.9)</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>(64–66.9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D–</td>
<td>(60–63.9)</td>
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Remember that your final posted percentage will not reflect your final attendance or participation grades.
Guidelines for Written Work: All papers must be typed, double-spaced, twelve point Times New Roman, one-inch margins all around, on clean, white paper (one side only, please). All work submitted electronically must be formatted as a Word document, (.doc or .docx file extensions). Follow APA pagination and format guidelines for your research project. Please proofread carefully, and accept spell- and grammar-checkers at your peril. Papers not in compliance with these specifications cannot earn an A, no matter how insightful and otherwise excellent they may be. Assignments and sequence may be adjusted during the course of the term. You will have ample notice of due dates and revisions.

Students are expected to adhere to an appropriate level of respect, courtesy, and formality in written communication. This entails careful proofreading and polishing of all correspondence and course communications, including email and discussion posts.

Attendance Policy:
• Attendance is mandatory. This is not a lecture class. Class meetings will be spent engaged in activities that will directly and immediately address your needs as a writer. Excessive absences will necessarily negatively impact your grade.
• You are expected to be punctual. Arriving late or leaving early disrupts class and is unfair to other students. It will adversely affect your grade.
• After the third unexcused absence, one grade level will be taken off your final grade (e.g., for four unexcused absences, a “B” becomes a “C”; for five, the “B” becomes a “D,” and so on).
• Starting with the third tardy, every two tardies will count as one unexcused absence.
• It is impossible to make up missed days.
• Missing a scheduled conference will be treated the same as any other absence.
• Should you anticipate missing class due to the observance of a religious holiday, please notify me in writing by the second week of classes.
• Should you need to miss class for athletic participation, you must submit to me written notification from your coach prior to the event in order to receive an excused absence. You are responsible for making up any missed work.

Furthermore, your intellectual presence in the course is also required, meaning you must be active in class for me to count your time as part of your class participation grade. I may reserve the right to count absent any student who indicates an intellectual absence by engaging in such behaviors as reading non-course related material, and playing/texting on cell phone or electronic devices. Remember that the class often functions as a workshop. There are no “spectator” roles. You are expected to be an active participant.

Student Conduct Policy: Students are expected to abide by all USF Student Handbook guidelines. Please observe common classroom courtesies:
• Turn off cell phone and electronic devices before class in order to avoid disruptive and/or rude behavior. Failure to comply with this policy will result in a recorded absence for that day.
• Though online writing often calls for a less formal approach than that in other contexts, consider how your writing presents you as a writer and as a person. Edit online communications carefully for tone as well as for grammar, style, and spelling.
• Posting deliberately inflammatory material to discussion forums, blogs, or in emails is unacceptable; please observe the rules of netiquette.
USFSM POLICIES

Disruption of Academic Process: In order to maintain a productive classroom environment, it is essential that we maintain a collegial atmosphere founded on mutual respect. This way, all students will experience the same supportive, structured, top-quality learning environment to which their registration entitles them. The University does not tolerate behavior that disrupts the learning process. The policy for addressing academic disruption is included with Academic Dishonesty in the catalog: USFSM Undergraduate Catalog or USFSM Graduate Catalog, USF System Academic Integrity of Students, and the USF System Student Code of Conduct.

Disruption of the academic environment through talking, late arrival, or other distractions may lower your course mark and lead to your dismissal from the class. Students are expected to abide by USFSM Student Handbook guidelines, and must adhere to an expected level of respect, courtesy, and formality in class.

Effort, dedication, and personal responsibility count a great deal in this class, and students are expected to contribute to a serious and productive environment by being present for sessions, in their entirety, and by being well prepared for them. Those not looking for a serious academic environment founded on respect for one’s own learning and that of one’s peers are advised to look elsewhere.

Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty: Plagiarism includes the use of a quotation, that is, the exact words of a text (interview, lecture, periodical, book, or Web site), without quotation marks and documentation; the paraphrasing of ideas or passages from a text without documentation; the inclusion from a text of information not generally known to the general public without documentation; and the following of the structure or style of a secondary source without documentation.

The University considers any form of plagiarism or cheating on exams, projects, or papers to be unacceptable behavior. Please be sure to review the university’s policy in the catalog, USFSM Undergraduate Catalog or USFSM Graduate Catalog, the USF System Academic Integrity of Students, and the USF System Student Code of Conduct. It is theft, a form of theft easily identifiable and proven by your instructor, especially with the increasing use of online technologies. Plagiarism will result in immediate dismissal from class, a term grade of FF and a meeting with the Dean of Undergraduate Students.

The University of South Florida has an account with an automated plagiarism detection service (Turnitin) which allows student assignments be checked for plagiarism. I reserve the right to ask students to submit their assignments to Turnitin through Canvas. Assignments are compared automatically with a database of journal articles, web articles, and previously submitted papers. The instructor receives a report showing exactly how a student’s paper was plagiarized.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), prior to submitting work to Turnitin, students are requested to delete any personal information (e.g., name, address, telephone) from the work being submitted. This protects students from having personal information disclosed to vendors or other outside agencies.

Withdrawal Policy: In accordance with USF policy, students may withdraw from any course, or all courses, without academic penalty, by the withdrawal deadline listed in the USF academic calendar. The withdrawal date for the semester is Nov. 2. Students should take responsibility to initiate the withdrawal procedure, but are strongly encouraged to talk with the instructor before taking any withdrawal action. In addition, students should note that faculty may also withdraw
students for violating policies, procedures or conditions of the class, as outlined in individual class syllabus, and such action could affect financial aid eligibility. **Note:** Students who do not complete each unit’s objectives and activities by the assigned due dates may be dropped from the course.

**Access/Disability:** The University is happy to accommodate any recognized special needs among its student body. Students are responsible for registering with the Office of Students with Disabilities Services (SDS) in order to receive academic accommodations. Reasonable notice must be given to the SDS office (typically 5 working days) for accommodations to be arranged. It is the responsibility of the student to provide each instructor with a copy of the official Memo of Accommodation. Contact: 941-359-4714, or www.sarasota.usf.edu/Students/Disability/

**Contingency Plans:** In the event of an emergency, it may be necessary for USFSM to suspend normal operations. During this time, USFSM may opt to continue delivery of instruction through methods that include but are not limited to: Canvas, Elluminate, Skype, and email messaging and/or an alternate schedule. It’s the responsibility of the student to monitor Canvas site for each class for course specific communication, and the main USFSM and College websites, emails, and MoBull messages for important general information. The USF hotline at 1 (800) 992-4231 is updated with pre-recorded information during an emergency. See the Safety Preparedness Website for further information.

**Fire Alarm Instructions:** At the beginning of each semester please note the emergency exit maps posted in each classroom. These signs are marked with the primary evacuation route (red) and secondary evacuation route (orange) in case the building needs to be evacuated. See Emergency Evacuation Procedures.

**Religious Observances:** USFSM recognizes the right of students and faculty to observe major religious holidays. Students who anticipate the necessity of being absent from class for a major religious observance must provide notice of the date(s) to the instructor, in writing, by the second week of classes.

**Web Portal Information:** Every newly enrolled USF student receives an official USF e-mail account. Students receive official USF correspondence and Canvas course information via that address.

**Expectations**

*What you can expect:*
This class is writing intensive, focusing on preparing you for higher level academic writing and research, as well as effective real world writing and communication. Writing assignments will include three formal essays during the course of the semester, weekly readings and short analyses and responses, an oral presentation, in-class essays, conferencing, collaborative and peer review assignments, as well as discussion posts, journaling, outlines, and multiple drafts of essays. Since writing is a process, you can expect to do much editing and revising of drafts as you polish your essays. You will receive detailed feedback on your writing over the course of the semester, which is designed to address your specific needs as a writer.
What I expect from you:

- Read, print out, and sign the Classroom Policies Agreement; adhere to the rules of good conduct as set down in the USF Performance Standards.

- Actively engage in the writing process, to include idea-generating and organizational strategies, rough drafts, revision and editing, proofreading, and final drafts.

- Take full responsibility for your own work and performance in the course; avoid making excuses.

- You are responsible for turning in all work on time.

- Obstacles to success: In the event of problems (personal, attendance, or academic), students should contact the instructor at the onset. The professor cannot undo damage, but can help with damage control.

- Ask questions. My job is to facilitate your growth as a writer. You are never bothering me with questions—ever. I will respond to e-mails as quickly as possible. Also, don’t hesitate to ask questions in class.

**Canvas**

To access Canvas: [http://my.usf.edu](http://my.usf.edu)

Enter your Username & Password, and click on the Canvas tab.

- Since this course employs Canvas as a learning management system, you will need to check it regularly for course updates and homework assignments.

- All homework will be listed in the course calendar, with most work due by the beginning of the following class period.

- Response papers are due in class on Tuesdays.

- Discussion posts are due by 9 a.m. Thursdays.

**Important dates for fall 2014**

*Aug. 26:* Introduction to class.

*Sept. 1:* Labor Day holiday, campus closed

*Nov. 2:* Last day to withdraw from class without academic penalty

*Nov. 11:* Veteran’s Day, no class

*Nov. 27-28:* Thanksgiving holiday, no class

*Dec. 4:* Last day of classes

*Dec. 11:* Final Exam
Schedule of Assignments

* Readings are taken from *The McGraw-Hill Guide* or *Handbook*; supplemental readings can be accessed from in Canvas.
* Readings are to be read *before* class on the day marked.
* The schedule may be updated throughout the semester; you may check it on Canvas.

Week 1: Orientation: introduction to class. Introduction to Canvas; Diagnostic Essay.

Weeks 2-5: Exploration
  - Preparing to Write & Reading Strategies
  - Summary & Paraphrase
  - Narrative
  - Informing/Explaining
  - Avoiding Plagiarism
  - APA Format
  - Revision & Editing Workshop & Peer Review
  - Literacy Narrative due Tuesday, September 18

Weeks 6-8: Analysis
  - Analyzing & Evaluating Texts
  - Thesis Statements
  - Logos/Pathos/Ethos
  - In-class Essay
  - Revision & Editing Workshop & Peer Review
  - Rhetorical Analysis due Thursday, October 9

Weeks 9-12: Research Strategies
  - Library Orientation
  - Evaluating & Synthesizing Sources
  - Revision & Editing Workshop & Peer Review
  - Conference
  - Annotated Bibliography due on Thursday, Nov. 4

Week 13-16: The Research Essay
  - Revision & Editing Workshop & peer review
  - Oral presentations
  - Research Essay due Thursday, December 4
  - Final Exam Essay
  - Final Reflection

**Note: There may be minor adjustments to this document during the course of the semester.

*The talent of success is nothing more than doing what you can do well
and doing well whatever you do.*—Henry Wadsworth Longfellow