

**Michele Singletary**  
**Composition II - ENGL 1020**  
**Fall 2006**

Office: K-205J Phone: 353-3353  
E-mail: michele.singletary@nsc.edu  
Office Hours: MWF 8-9 & 10-11  
TR 9:30-11 & 1-2

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

A study of argumentative and analytical writing. Topics include advanced methods of composition, analysis and explication of literature/essays, elements of persuasion, use of evidence, and advanced methods of research.

*Prerequisites:* ENGL 1010

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

After completing ENGL 1020, students will demonstrate the ability to:

1. Analyze and evaluate oral and/or written expression by listening and reading critically for elements that reflect an awareness of situation, audience, purpose, and diverse points of view.
2. Research, organize, and compose persuasive papers using correct diction, syntax, usage, grammar, mechanics, and MLA format.
3. Recognize the written use of evidence, analysis, and persuasive strategies, including basic distinctions among opinions, facts, and inferences.

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**

In this course, you should:

1. Develop skill in expressing oneself orally or in writing
2. Learn how to find and use resources for answering questions or solving problems
3. Learn to *analyze* and *critically evaluate* ideas, arguments, and points of view

**REQUIRED TEXT:**

Jacobus, Lee A. *A World of Ideas: Essential Readings for College Writers*. 7th ed. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2006.

Ehrenreich, Barbara. *Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America*. New York: Henry Holt and Company, 2001. (This book is **not** available at the NSCC bookstore).

Hacker, Diana. *A Writer's Reference*. 5<sup>th</sup> ed. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2003. (or another current English Grammar Handbook with MLA Documentation included)

A College Dictionary and Thesaurus

**SOFTWARE/HARDWARE:**

You need access to the following:

- A word-processing program (such as Microsoft Word) to submit assignments and papers (in .doc or .rtf files).
- The Internet – all papers must be submitted electronically.

**ATTENDANCE POLICY:**

Attendance is mandatory. You are required to be in class **on time** and to **remain in class** until class is dismissed. Note the following:

- More than **four** absences will result in a grade of **WF** for the term. No absences are excused for any reason. Regardless how well-documented and unavoidable your excuse may be, you cannot miss more than four classes and still pass the course. Use your allowed absences sparingly, if at all, so that should an illness, emergency, or unexpected event arise, you will be able to miss class and still pass the course.
- Roll will be taken at the beginning of each class period. If you are not present at this time, you will be counted tardy. Three tardies will count as one absence (leaving early will count as a tardy).
- **You** are responsible for finding out what you missed in class.

**LATE WORK POLICY:**

- **No** late journals will be accepted for any reason. There may be an opportunity to make up one journal at the end of the semester.
- Late essays will lose ten points for **each calendar day** they are late. Essays can only be submitted up to three days after the due date; otherwise, I **will not** accept them, and you will receive an F.
- In-class work, group work, and quizzes **can not** be made up.

**GRADING CRITERIA:**

Essay # 1	10% of total grade
Essay # 2	10%
Essay # 3	15%
Essay # 4	10%
Journals	20%
Peer Reviews	15%
Project	15%
In class/group work and quizzes	5%

**GRADING SCALE:**

90-100	A
80-89	B
70-79	C
Below 70	F

**CLASS NOTES:**

- **Failure to turn in any essay will result in an F for the course.**
- **Essays and Journals** – All essays and journals will be submitted electronically through the WebCT Supplementary page for this course. Essays must be saved in a word document (.doc) or rich text format (.rtf). I can not open Microsoft Works on my computer, so if you use it make sure you resave the document in an .rtf file. Essays and Journals must be received before class on the due date listed on the schedule.
- **Writing Skills** – The prerequisite of ENGL 1010, Composition I, presumes a mastery of standard English grammar. If you feel you require extra assistance to meet the standards of effective writing, the college provides a free Learning Center (in the Library) where English tutor help is available. I am also available during my office hours or by appointment. **Do not wait until the last few weeks of the course to develop a concern for your final grade.** Do your best work from the beginning and ask for help before your grade suffers.

- **Reading Assignments** – The reading assignments for this course require active reading skills. You will need to annotate and take notes as you read. Many assignments may require more than one reading. Do not put off the reading assignments until the last minute.
- **Participation** – **This class requires participation.** Every student will be asked to read out loud and/or comment on the readings during the semester. Be prepared. This is a discussion class and since it is based on argumentation, we will have debates. Be respectful of your classmates and diverse points of view. Do not interrupt your colleagues or talk while they are talking. Use common courtesy. If it becomes evident through discussion or a quiz that a student has not done the required reading for that day, the student will be asked to leave the classroom. I will not allow a student to benefit from the discussion if he or she did not do the required reading.
- **Peer Reviews** – To participate in peer reviews you must have a draft of your essay completed and typed, as if you were turning in it for a grade. You need to bring **four** copies of the paper to class. Make your copies before class; you will not be allowed class time to make copies. There will be three peer reviews, each one worth 50 points. If you do not have your paper typed and four copies, you will not be allowed to participate, and you will lose the 50 points. You will not be allowed to just read other papers for partial credit – you must have your paper ready to participate. Should you be absent on the day of the peer review, it will be your responsibility to contact at least three people in the class and arrange a peer review for a maximum of 30 points.
- **Revisions** - The first graded essay may be revised for a maximum grade of C. No other revisions will be accepted. The idea is to revise the paper before you turn it in.
- **Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty** - Students who are found guilty of plagiarizing a paper or any part of a paper or engaging in academic dishonesty will receive an **F for the course**. “Plagiarism may result from: (1) failing to cite quotations and borrowed ideas, (2) failing to enclose borrowed language in quotation marks, and (3) failing to put summaries and paraphrases in your own words” (A Writer’s Reference 331). Academic dishonesty may be defined as, but is not limited to, intentionally trying to deceive by claiming credit for the work of another person, using information from a web page or source without citing the reference, fraudulently using someone else’s work on an exam, paper, or assignment, recycling your own work from another course, purchasing papers or materials from another source and presenting them as your own, attempting to obtain exams/materials/assignments in advance of the date of administration by the instructor, impersonating someone else in a testing situation, providing confidential test information to someone else, submitting the same assignment in two different classes without requesting both instructor’s permission, allowing someone else to copy or use your work, using someone else’s work to complete your own, altering documents, transcripts or grades, and forging a faculty/staff member’s signature. Instructors at NSCC have access to a variety of sources to search for plagiarized work including metacrawlers and Turnitin.com.
- **Classroom Conduct** – Be respectful and responsible. No cell phones or beepers; No children for any reason; Do not read newspapers or do work for other classes. No sleeping – if you are that tired you should stay home.

**The Instructor reserves the right to modify this syllabus at any time during the course.**

*Nashville State Community College complies with the Americans With Disabilities Act. If you wish to request any accommodations for this class, please notify the instructor as soon as possible.*