

COURSE OUTLINE
ENGL-084
Academic Intermediate Writing and Grammar for ESL Students
4 Semester Hours

HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Description

This course will allow students to acquire the English language skills needed to produce paragraphs at an intermediate proficiency level. Contemporary reading selections and discussion activities will serve to prepare students to compose narrative, descriptive and expository paragraphs and essays. Grammatical skills will be developed through formal instruction, group editing and computer-assisted instruction. This course will meet for four hours per week. Prerequisite: Appropriate score on English placement tests. (4 hours weekly in class and lab)

Overall Course Objectives

In ENGL-084 the student will develop the ability to write compositions that reflect an appropriate degree of mastery of the English language. Upon successfully completing this course, the student will be able to:

1. Write narrative, descriptive and expository compositions.
2. Compose compositions focused on a main idea that is developed with supporting information.
3. Make use of major parts of the writing process.
4. Write introductions that express the main idea of a composition.
5. Write body paragraphs that develop the main idea stated in the introduction.
6. Write conclusions that bring a composition to an end.
7. Write correctly structured sentences.
8. Use a variety of basic verb forms
9. Demonstrate acquisition of English mechanics including articles, prepositions, pronouns and punctuation.
10. Edit and revise your own writing and that of your classmates.

Major Topics

1. Essay formats
2. Paragraph structure
3. Types of sentences
4. Coordination and subordination
5. Basic verb forms
6. Articles and prepositions
7. Pronoun and verb agreement

Course Requirements

Writing Lab

In the two hours a week that this class is scheduled in the Language Lab, students will meet with their instructor or an assistant to discuss their writing. Students will also make use of a variety of computer programs to enhance their writing skills. All students are expected to practice their language skills with computer-based materials during the class's scheduled writing lab time and for one additional hour during open lab hours in the Language Lab.

Attendance

Attendance in ENGL-084 is required; your grade may be lowered on level if a student misses more than 4 classes. More important is the fact that learning to write in a second language is a long and difficult process that requires consistent practice.

Support Services

Students often require assistance beyond that which is offered during scheduled class and lab hours. Extra help can be arranged by visiting the Learning Assistance Center, Open Writing Lab, or Write Room.

Grading

While your instructor will announce specific writing topics, students will be graded on the following:

- Graded in-class compositions
- Grammar and editing quizzes
- Completion of all assigned compositions
- Homework
- Use of computer materials
- Final exam composition

Students who complete course assignments but who require more than one semester to develop an appropriate level of proficiency with the forms of written English will receive an "L" grade. This grade is not computed in the student's grade point averages, but it indicates that the course must be repeated.

Other Course Information

This course is non-transferable. Students, however, receive college credit upon successful completion.

Third Try Developmental Repeaters Policy: Any student who repeats a developmental education course for the third (or more) time(s) will be required to participate in free one-on-one tutoring through the Learning Assistance Center for a minimum of one hour per week. Failure to attend the weekly tutoring sessions will result in the student receiving a failing grade in the course.