

COURSE OUTLINE

ENGL-087

Academic Advanced Writing and Grammar for ESL Students

4 Semester Hours

HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Description

In ENGL-087 students will acquire the English language skills needed to write multi-paragraph compositions at a level of correctness and fluency appropriate for an advanced learner of English who will soon enroll in a freshman composition class. Readings and discussions will prepare students to write narrative, descriptive, expository and argumentative compositions. Relevant grammatical skills will be developed through formal instruction, group editing and computer-assisted instruction. Prerequisite: Appropriate score on English placement tests or completion of ENGL-084. (4 hours weekly in class and lab)

Overall Course Objectives

In ENGL-087 students will develop their ability to write successful compositions that reflect an appropriate degree of mastery of the English language. Upon successfully completing this course students will be able to:

1. Write successful narrative, descriptive, expository and argumentative compositions.
2. Compose compositions focused on main ideas that are unified, coherent and adequately developed with supporting information.
3. Employ all aspects of the writing process.
4. Write introductions that express the main idea and indicate mode of development 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. Compose varied and correctly structured sentences.
8. Use the English verb system effectively.
9. Demonstrate correct use of English mechanics including articles, prepositions, pronouns and punctuation.
10. Use the rules of grammar and the techniques of revision to organize and present ideas in written communication so that they are clearly stated and can be easily understood by a reader.

Major Topics

1. Types of Essays
2. Essay Structure
3. Transitions
4. Clauses and Complex sentences
5. Complex Verb Forms
6. Editing, Revision and Self-correction

Course Requirements

Writing Lab

In the two hours a week that this class is scheduled in the Language Center, students will meet with their instructor or a tutor 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 make use of computer-based language learning materials during scheduled lab time and at least one additional hour during open hours in the Language Lab.

Attendance

Attendance in ENGL-087 is required; your grade may be lowered on level if you miss 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 individual instructors will announce specific writing topics, students' grades will be based on the following:

Graded In-class Compositions	Homework
Grammar and editing quizzes	Computer Activities
Completion of ungraded writing assignments	Instructor's Option
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.