

# **COURSE OUTLINE**

**ENGL-097**

**Fundamentals of Writing**

**3 Semester hours**

## **HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

### **Description**

In ENGL-097, students will acquire the skills needed to write and revise a series of multi-paragraph essays. Students will also learn to write clearly and convincingly using logical organization and appropriate styles of standard written English. The varied writing assignments will be supplemented by topical readings, oral and electronic discussions, peer review and grammar instruction as needed. This course meets in a networked, computerized environment. Prerequisite: Appropriate score on English placement tests or successful completion of ENGL-094. (4 hours weekly)

### **Overall Course Objectives**

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Implement independently the writing process, including pre-writing, drafting, and revising;
2. Use a variety of pre-writing strategies to develop ideas for writing topics;
3. Analyze writing to determine purpose and audience;
4. Generate and limit ideas that lead to writing topics based on class discussions and readings;
5. Organize essays around a thesis statement that is clear, significant and indicative of critical thinking;
6. Support topic sentences with specific, relevant details;
7. Construct effective titles, introductions and conclusions;
8. Develop unified, coherent paragraphs;
9. Use a variety of organizational strategies;
10. Compose grammatically correct sentences using a variety of patterns;
11. Write in standard written English for academic audiences;
12. Revise and edit their own work;
13. Make thoughtful connections between reading and writing by responding critically to texts. This may include agreeing, challenging or questioning some idea the author or character presents;
14. Use the computer as a tool that facilitates writing;
15. Provide constructive feedback about writing to aid peers in revision;
16. Draft in-class essays for timed writing assignments.

### **Major Topics**

- I. The Writing Process
  - A. Prewriting
  - B. Writing
  - C. Revising
- II. Essay Structure
  - A. Thesis statement
  - B. Introduction
  - C. Topic Sentences
  - D. Body

- E. Conclusion
- III. Elements of Effective Writing
  - A. Unity
  - B. Specific, relevant support
  - C. Logical organization
  - D. Transitions
- IV. Editing and Revising
  - A. Revision strategies
  - B. Editing strategies
    - 1. Sentence skills
    - 2. Sentence variety
    - 3. Usage
    - 4. Consistency
- V. The computer as a writing tool
  - A. Word processing
  - B. Computer assisted writing instruction

### **Course Requirements**

**Attendance:** Because this is a skill building course, attendance is required in ENGL 097. Absence of more than four days may affect a final grade.

**Grading:** Final grades will be based on essays written both in and out of class, editing and revising ability, and other tasks as assigned by individual instructor. Two essays will be double graded by members of the developmental writing faculty.

### **Other Course Information:**

ENGL-097 is a developmental, non transferable course carrying quality points but does not fulfill any graduation or elective requirements.

**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.