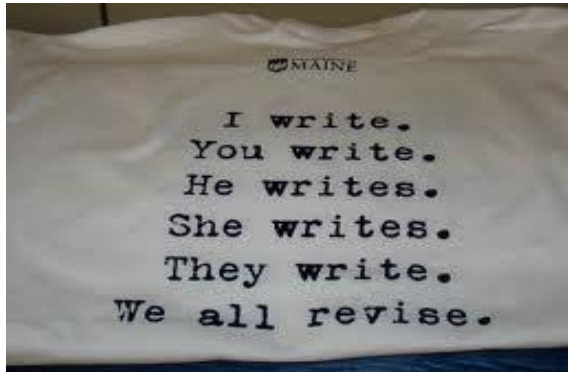


## ENGLISH 100: COLLEGE COMPOSITION/ FALL 2013/ 9559



**Instructor:** Morgan Lynn

**Email:** mlynn@losmedanos.edu

**Meeting Times:** T/TH 11-12:20

**Location:** Room 14

**Office:** A 7

**Office Hours:** M: 9-11, TU 11-1,  
W: 1-2:30, TH: 9-11, or by appt.

### **Course Description:**

This college-level course will help you to improve your critical reading, thinking and writing skills—skills that are essential for future success! Students will analyze course readings and write organized and well-developed essays based on the assigned texts and their own research. Students will also read, analyze and write about one book-length work. This course is required for AA degree and transfer to CSU or UC.

### **Student Learning Outcomes:**

- A) Comprehend, summarize, respond thoughtfully to, analyze, critique and synthesize college-level readings.
- B) Write clear, organized, convincing, in-depth thesis-driven academic essays which synthesize several sources, demonstrating engagement in a full and productive reading, thinking, and writing process.
- C) Think critically at a college level. They can describe and evaluate arguments, recognize bias, identify and avoid logical fallacies, and think critically as part of their own reading and writing process. They can fairly consider and be articulate about points of view different from their own, such the perspectives of people different from themselves in ethnicity, race, gender, class, language, nationality, sexual orientation, religion, or political beliefs.
- D) Conduct basic research using library tools, and can use that research as part of the writing (thinking, and reading) process for major essays.

### **Required Textbooks (available in the bookstore):**

Shrodes, Caroline, et. al. *The Conscious Reader*, 12<sup>th</sup> edition. Boston: Longman, 2012.

Martel, Yann. *The Life of Pi*. [Please get the version available in the bookstore.]

Hacker, Diana and Nancy Summers. *Rules for Writers, 7<sup>th</sup> edition*. Bedford St. Martin's Press, 2012.

**Other Materials:**

3-ring binder to keep handouts, completed work, and notes from class.

Notebook for daily use in class

A portable dictionary/thesaurus, electronic or print (bring to class)

Access to Microsoft Word software: There is a student-priced package of Microsoft Office available for purchase that includes Excel, Powerpoint, and Word. I consider this a good investment on your part.

(\*If access to a computer, the internet, or software is a challenge for you, please come talk to me so we can work something out. Many of our materials will be posted online for you to read, watch, or download and print. There are labs available at both campuses; however, you will also probably need to work online at home to get everything done and/or their hours may not be convenient. Again, if you anticipate access to be a challenge for you, come talk to me.)

**Grading: (out of 1000 points)**

Essay #1: 200 points

Essay #2: 200 points

Essay #3: 300 points

In-Class Essay Exam (#4): 100 points

Essay #5: 50 points

Critical Response Paper: 50 points

In-Class Work: quizzes, in-class writing, writing workshops, reflective writing, group work (variable points, totaling 100)

All essay assignments will be described before you begin writing, and evaluation sheets given with each assignment. We will write multiple drafts of all essays: you will use writing process techniques, peer review, and my feedback to draft, revise and edit. All grades are posted on D2L.

Final grades are percentages of 1000, as follows: 900-1000=A, 800-899=B, 700-799=C, 600-699=D, Below 600=F; in the case that we do not fulfill the entire 1000 points, then grading turns to percentages. EX:  $845/925 = 91.4\% = A$

\*Remember: it is part of your responsibility as a student to keep track of your grades and your standing in the class. All grades are posted on our Desire2Learn course website, and you can talk to me any time to assess how you're doing. You can't wait to get worried until the end of the semester since you can't make up work. (Due to the rewrite policy, you have the opportunity to re-write an assignment immediately, but not later in the semester, unless there is an extreme circumstance and we have worked out an arrangement together).

\*\*There is no extra credit for this class.

**Submission of Written Work:**

All essays should be formatted according to MLA Style, the rules for which we will discuss in class and which are in your Hacker Handbook. Always attach the Evaluation Sheet to a final draft for grading—if you lose it, print a new one from D2L. Present your work neatly and in an organized way. I have many students, many papers to read, and many commitments to the college—so be timely, organized, and pay attention to detail. I will not accept work that does not fulfill these requirements.

When you submit a draft via email for my feedback, use the following format to label the file: last name, assignment title.

EX: Gonzalez Essay #1 Draft.doc

You must respect my guidelines for handing in work. Emailing something on the day it's due does not count as handing it in on time. (Also, I have no way of printing your work.)

***Rewrite Policy:***

A "re-write" is a revision of an essay after it receives a final grade. Rewrites are due one week after the original deadline, no exceptions; all skills that you build in one essay are necessary for the next assignment, so you need to understand them to do well in the next assignment. In order to do a re-write, you must do the following:

1. You must get my permission to do a rewrite. Then, make an appointment with me to discuss your rewrite strategies.
2. Submit the rewrite complete with previous graded drafts and grading sheet
3. Write a cover letter that explains what you revised and why. For instance, you might say: "I added evidence more from the article to my third point because I noticed that the other two points were argued more persuasively. I also thought I was relying too much on my personal opinions and needed more textual evidence to back them up." \*Notice that your explanation includes not just what you revised but also why and how you changed it.

\*Only Essays #1 and #2 are eligible for a rewrite. In both cases you will get an averaged grade: meaning, if you get a 70 on the original, and a 90 on the rewrite, your final grade is an 80.

***Late Work:***

We will do a lot of work in class using your homework: This is not a lecture class. Homework will be used in class for revision, discussion, and so on. If the work is not complete it will prevent you from participating in class. I will collect work at the beginning and/or end of the class, depending on the assignment and our class activities.

I know that you will not always get everything done due to work, family, and other responsibilities, but I expect you to be working as hard as you can. Even if you haven't completed an assignment entirely, bring what you have; it's better than bringing nothing.

You may ask for an extension on one major assignment during the semester, but ask in advance. Any extension is granted for one class period after the original due date.

***Attendance:***

If you know you have to be absent, as in the case of illness or emergency, please email me to let me know you have to miss class, and arrange to give me any work that is due. **Exchange emails or phone numbers with a classmate so you can catch up on missed classwork.**

Students may miss up to 3 class periods for necessary reasons. It is your job to stay on top of the homework and talk with your classmates for notes or other handouts (also on D2L). More than 8 credit hours of absences and you may be required to drop the class.

Please arrive on time. If you will be more than 10 minutes late, do not disturb class by coming in.

***Emailing your Professor:***

Feel free to email me with questions. I will do my best to respond within 12-18 hours. All emails must be professional. Always include a greeting and sign it (like a regular letter), explain why you are emailing in full, and give me any more details that are important to your question.

SAMPLE EMAIL:

Dear Prof. Lynn,

I'm emailing because I had a question about my rewrite for Essay #1. In class, we had talked about \_\_\_\_\_; however, now that I'm thinking about it more, I can't figure out how to \_\_\_\_\_. I've attached a copy of my draft, on which I've highlighted the part I'm working on. Can you read that over and let me know if \_\_\_\_\_?

Thanks so much,

Student's Name

***Your Resources!***

Los Medanos College offers a wealth of resources to students. I will discuss these resources in class.

***Classroom Community:***

You are expected to contribute thoughtfully, respectfully, and intelligently to our classroom environment. Please show your respect to yourself, your classmates, and your teacher by upholding the following classroom expectations:

1. No cell phones: (If you need it on for emergencies, put it on silent. If you have to text to respond to child or other family or job issues, leave the room).
2. Listen carefully to classmates' ideas and respect their perspectives and opinions.
3. Contribute thoughtfully to class discussion.
4. Be prepared with books and necessary materials.
5. Do not eat in class.

If you do not respect our classroom community by following these or other rules we have discussed in class, I will give you a verbal warning and ask you to leave the class. Subsequent infractions will be handled with the Dean of Students.

***Academic Honesty and Integrity:***

We will discuss thoroughly what constitutes plagiarism and other kinds of academic dishonesty. Many of these incidences are accidental, while others are intentional. Each instance will be dealt with according to college regulations as detailed in the Academic Scholarship Standards and Student Code of Conduct.

If you have any issues, fears, or concerns about your academic performance, communicate with me and/or a counselor or advisor. We are here to help you succeed!

***Students with Disabilities and Learning Differences:***

All accommodations will be made for students with documented disabilities and learning differences following college regulations. Please provide your documentation at the beginning of class and discuss with me your specific needs.

**Last Thoughts on Success:**

I have designed this course to give you every opportunity to succeed. I have high expectations for my students and I want to help you achieve them. Take advantage of all your resources: make appointments with me for extra help, or use the tutoring services in the Academic Resource Center, create a study group, organize your time efficiently, and stay positive and motivated.

Remember: you ARE capable of achieving more than you thought possible with the right kind of attention, support, and discipline!

