

Course Syllabus
ENGL 102 – English Composition II
3 credits

Prerequisites: Students should have a basic understanding of the conventions of standard, written English. Students should be proficient in using English as a spoken language.

Instructors: Stacie Vesolich, MS

Contact Info: Instructor may be contacted through the Portage messaging system

Course web site address: www.portagelearning.com

Course meeting times: ENGL 102 is offered continuously

Course Description: English 102 enhances the writing practices and skills acquired in English Composition 101. In response to the reading of a wide variety of texts, students will engage in writing activities that promote critical thinking, literary analysis, and the ability to create argumentative essays that establish a position supported by evidence. The extensive sampling of reading and writing for this course includes the following genres in the study of American, British, and World Literature: 1) Poetry 2) Prose Fiction 3) Drama, 4) Historical Fiction 5) Thematic Short Stories 6) Biography/Autobiography 7) Novel 8) Research Paper (Argumentative Format with Documentation.) The course will conclude with a comprehensive final exam on the reading selections.

Course Outcomes:

The student will be able to:

- o Analyze text organization and content to derive meaning.
- o Evaluate text organization and content to determine the author's rhetorical stance.
- o Make inferences from a text while developing a topic.
- o Write essays demonstrating knowledge of the standard conventions of English Writing.
- o Write effective analytical, persuasive, and synthesis essays.
- o Support argument with well-documented evidence.

Each of these ENGL 102 student learning outcomes is measured:

- Directly by: (1) Essay assignments (with instructor feedback)
(2) A final exam

Indirectly by an end of course student-completed evaluation survey

Course Procedures:

- 1) Read all the literary selections in each module.
- 2) Respond in a well-written essay to the specific prompt requested for each module.
- 3) Multiple-choice questions pertaining to the dramatic context, rhetorical stance, content, and literary elements of each selection will be included in the Final Exam (Module 9).
- 4) MLA formatting is required. This includes proper formatting for in-text citations and a works cited page.
- 5) Essays should be formatted as follows: Double spaced using a 12-point font in Times New Roman.
- 6) Submit assignments by following the directions provided in each module.

Plagiarism Policy:

Students enrolled in English 102 should understand the precise definition of plagiarism: **“The practice of taking someone else’s words and passing them off as your own.”** To do so in a writing class places one in a position of violating copyright laws. One of the highest abuses of this is what is referred to as “cyber-plagiarism.” This occurs when a student copies and pastes material from the Internet and submits the work as original writing, not using citations. To avoid this, all writing that includes works, data, and statistical information from others should be properly documented with in-text (parenthetical citations) and an extensive works cited page. MLA format will be required for all essays submitted in this course (manuscript form, citations, works cited page, English standards and conventions.) For Helpful Writing Tips: Reference MLA guidelines online or the Purdue Owl Lab.

Course Delivery: This course is asynchronously delivered online. Contact hours include 40 - 50 hours of reviewed module assignments with instructor feedback.

It is the policy for all Portage Learning courses that only one essay or paper can be completed each day. Research on best practices in learning psychology indicates that time is needed to process material for optimal learning. Please plan your time accordingly. If you have a legitimate need for an exception to this policy, please contact your instructor.

Required Computer Accessories: It is recommended that students use a desktop or laptop computer, PC or Mac, when taking the course. Some tablet computers are compatible with the course, but not all features are available for all tablet computers. The latest full version of Firefox is required for the optimal operation of the Portage Learning Management System. In addition, you must have the latest full version of Adobe Flash Player. We highly recommend using a high-speed Internet connection when submitting your course work.

Required readings, lectures, and assignments: Portage courses do not use paper textbooks. Students are required to read the online lesson modules and links which contain the standard information covered in a typical course.

Grading Rubric:

Writing Assignment #1 (Poetry Essay)	100 pts.
Writing Assignment #2 (Prose Fiction Essay)	100 pts.
Writing Assignment #3 (Drama Essay)	100 pts.
Writing Assignment #4 (Historical Fiction Essay)	100 pts.
Writing Assignment #5 (Thematic Short Stories Essay)	100 pts.
Writing Assignment #6 (Autobiography Essay)	100 pts.
Writing Assignment #7 (Novel Essay)	100 pts.
Research Paper	100 pts.
Final Exam	200 pts.
Total:	1000 pts.

The current course grade and progress is continuously displayed on the student desktop.

Grading Scale:

89.5% - 100% (89.5 - 100 pts)	= A
79.5% - 89.4% (79.5 – 89.4 pts)	= B
69.5% - 79.4% (69.5 – 79.4 pts)	= C
59.5% - 69.4% (59.5 – 69.4 pts)	= D
<59.5% (<59.5 pts)	= F

Guidelines for Writing Assignments:

- Superior Paper (A): Demonstrates the writer's ability to control a wide range of the elements of effective composition: focus, content, organization, style, and the use of correct grammatical conventions.
- Good Paper (B): This paper is well-written, but lacks the writing control of a superior paper in demonstrating focus, content, organization, style, and use of correct grammatical conventions.
- Average Paper (C): The writing is adequate in conveying the writer's ideas, but the paper is lacking in organization, stylization, grammatical competency, and focus.

- Weak Paper (D): The writing of this paper is underdeveloped and inadequate in organization, grammar, focus, content, and the use of correct grammar.
- Failing Paper (F): This is a poorly written essay that neglects to adhere to the directions of the writing assignment. The paper completely lacks focus, stylization, organization, and grammatical competency.
- Plagiarized Paper: This paper reveals evidence that the submitted work is not the writer's original work, or the submitted information has not been properly documented using the MLA format. The instructor has the right to refuse to accept this paper.

Module Topics

Module 1: **Poetry**

Module Text:

- William Blake: "The Chimney Sweeper from Songs of Experience" and "The Chimney Sweeper from Songs of Innocence."
- Richard Crashaw: "To the Infant Martyrs" and "Upon the Infant Martyrs"
- Robert Frost: "Mending Wall"
- Thomas Hardy: "Channel Firing"

Module 2: **Prose Fiction**

Module Text:

- Leo Tolstoy: "How Much Land Does A Man Need?"

Module 3: **Drama**

Module Text:

- Henrik Ibsen: *A Doll's House*

Module 4: **Historical Fiction**

Module Text:

- Jonathan Swift: "A Modest Proposal"

Module 5: **Thematic Short Stories**

Module Text:

- Katherine Mansfield: "The Doll's House"
- Frank O'Connor: "My Oedipus Complex"

Module 6: **Autobiography**

Module Text:

- Frederick Douglass: *The Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass*
- Connecting Poem: Maya Angelou: "My Guilt"

Module 7: **Novel**

Module Text:

- Things Fall Apart by Chinua Achebe
- Opener: "The Second Coming" by William Butler Yeats

Module 8: **Research Paper**

The research paper will be submitted in Module 8.

1. Editing, Proofreading, and Submitting a Revised Paper
2. MLA: Parenthetical Citations
3. Works Cited Page

Module 9: **Final Exam**

- Questions will be based on a comprehensive summation of all the reading selections

Holidays:

During the following holidays, all administrative and instructional functions are suspended, including the grading of exams and issuance of transcripts.

New Year's Day	Easter
Memorial Day	Independence Day
Labor Day	Thanksgiving weekend
Christmas Break	

The schedule of holidays for the current calendar year may be found under the Student Services menu at www.portagelearning.com

Suggested Timed Course Schedule (to complete the course within a typical college semester)

All Portage courses are offered asynchronously with no required schedule to better fit the normal routine of adult students, but the schedule below is suggested to allow a student to complete the course within a typical college semester. Despite this suggestion, the students may feel free to complete the course at their desired pace and on a schedule determined by them.

<u>Time Period</u>	<u>Assignments</u>	<u>Subject Matter</u>
Days 1-14	Module 1, Essay 1	Poetry
Days 15-28	Module 2, Essay 2	Prose Fiction
Days 29-42	Module 3, Essay 3	Drama
Days 43-56	Module 4, Essay 4	Historical Fiction
Days 57-66	Module 5, Essay 5	Thematic Short Stories
Days 67-76	Module 6, Essay 6	Autobiography
Days 77-90	Module 7, Essay 7	Novel
Days 91-97	Module 8, Assignment 8	Research Paper
Days 98-108	Module 9, Final Exam	Final Exam

Suggested External References:

If the student desires to consult a reference for additional information, the following texts are recommended as providing supplemental information regarding the course subject matter.

Gibaldi, Joseph. *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*. New York: The Modern Language Association of America, 2004.

Glencoe Language Arts. **Grammar and Composition Handbook**. New York: Glencoe McGraw-Hill, 2002.

Sadlier, William. *Writing A Research Paper*, Student Guides. New York, New York, 2007.

Learning Support Services:

Each student should be sure to take advantage of and use the following learning support services which are provided to increase student academic performance:

Messaging system which provides individual instructor/student interaction

Tech support which is available by submitting a help ticket through the student dashboard

Accommodations for Students with Learning Disabilities:

Students with documented learning disabilities may receive accommodations in the form of an extended time limit on exams, when applicable. To receive the accommodations, the student should furnish documentation of the learning disability at the time of registration, if possible. Scan and e-mail the documentation to studentservices@portagelearning.com. Upon receipt of the learning disability documentation, Portage staff will provide the student with instructions for a variation of the course containing exams with extended time limits. This accommodation does not alter the content of any assignments/exams, change what the exam is intended to measure or otherwise impact the outcomes of objectives of the course.

One-on-one Instruction

Each student is assigned to his/her own instructor. Personalized questions are addressed via the student dashboard messaging system.

Online learning presents an opportunity for flexibility; however, a discipline to maintain connection to the course is required; therefore, communication is essential to successful learning. Check your messages daily. Instructors are checking messages daily Monday-Friday to be sure to answer any questions that may arise from you. It is important that you do the same so you do not miss any pertinent information from us.

Code of Conduct: Students are expected to conduct themselves in a way that supports learning and teaching and promotes an atmosphere of civility and respect in their interactions with others. Verbal and written aggression, abuse, or misconduct is prohibited and may be grounds for immediate dismissal from the program.

This is a classroom; therefore, instructors have the academic freedom to set forth policy for their respective class. Instructors send a welcome e-mail detailing the policy of their class, which students are required to read prior to beginning the course.

Academic Integrity is a serious matter. In the educational context, any dishonesty violates freedom and trust, which are essential for effective learning. Dishonesty limits a student's ability to reach his or her potential. Portage places a high value on honest independent work. In a distance learning situation, we depend on the student's desire to succeed in the program he or she is entering. It is in a student's own best interests not to cheat on an exam, as this would compromise the student's preparation for future work. It is required of each student to take exams without consulting course materials or study aids including another person, the lesson pages, printed materials, or the Internet. To this end, your instructor will be alert to any indications that a student may be violating this principle. It will be necessary to show all your

work on exams. When the nature of the course does not require numerical or symbolic determination (perhaps instead just requires recitation of learned descriptions), our experienced staff is able to detect the unauthorized consultation of study aids when answering exam questions. A violation of the academic integrity policy may result in a score of zero on the exam and possible expulsion from the course, at the discretion of the instructor with consultation with an administrative-instructional committee.

Review the Student Handbook for more specifics. If you have any questions regarding the academic integrity policy, please consult your instructor **prior** to taking module exam one.

Grievances: If for any reason a student has a complaint about the course work or the instructor, the student is advised to first consult the instructor, who will be willing to listen and consider your concern. However, if you don't feel you have received a satisfactory reply, you are encouraged to contact the Academic Dean of Portage Learning for further consideration of your complaint. The formal grievances process must be initiated via written communication. If desired, please file a written grievance to academics@portagelearning.com to initiate the process.

Remediation:

At Portage Learning we allow a "one-time" only opportunity to re-take an alternate version of **one** module exam on which a student has earned a grade lower than 70%. This option must be exercised before the final exam is started. If an exam is retaken, the original exam grade will be erased and the new exam grade will become a permanent part of the course grade. However, before scheduling and attempting this retest, the student must resolve the questions they have regarding the material by reviewing both the old exam and the lesson module material. Once ready to attempt the retest of the exam they must contact their instructor to request that the exam be reset for the retest. Remember, any module retest must be requested and completed **before** the final exam is opened.

Students needing remediation for grammar, spelling, and/or reading comprehension may be referred to a verbal skills course offered by Portage. If students need remediation in addition to a review of verbal skills, they may withdraw from the course in a manner consistent with the published refund policy in order to complete the prerequisites for ENGL 102 prior to beginning the course.