

PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF EDISON TOWNSHIP
OFFICE OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION



English Composition

Length of Course:	Full Year
Elective/Required:	Required
Schools:	High School
Eligibility:	Grade 12
Credit Value:	5 Credits
Date Approved:	August 17, 2021

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Course Summary:

English Composition is a senior year intensive writing course designed to immerse high school students into the expectations and rigor of college writing. During the first semester, students will read, comprehend, analyze, and evaluate multiple nonfiction texts used in *English Composition 121* at Middlesex College. Through the process of writing multiple drafts of expository essays, exploratory pieces, and reflection papers, students will develop independent theses that connect and respond to the ideas and information in the texts they read. Their study of composition will culminate in a multimedia presentation that demonstrates and extends their knowledge of effective writing, research, and synthesis techniques and conventions. During the second semester, students will extend their understanding of the college writing process by reading and making connections across thematically linked fiction and nonfiction multimodal texts. Students will continue to learn and develop the skills of clear, correct, effective English by reading essays and longer works of nonfiction prose. Students will complete a variety of writing projects requiring techniques such as cause and effect, analysis, evaluation, synthesis, argumentation and persuasion. The course content aligns with Middlesex College's *English Composition 121*.

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A copy of this curriculum guide for review on the District website and in the Office of Curriculum and Instruction.

Course Syllabus and Grading Policies 2021-2022 School Year

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Course Description: English Composition is a senior year intensive writing course designed to immerse high school students into the expectations and rigor of college writing. During the first semester, students will read, comprehend, analyze, and evaluate multiple nonfiction texts used in *English Composition 121* at Middlesex College. Through the process of writing multiple drafts of expository essays, exploratory pieces, and reflection papers, students will develop independent theses that connect and respond to the ideas and information in the texts they read. Their study of composition will culminate in a multimedia presentation that demonstrates and extends their knowledge of effective writing, research, and synthesis techniques and conventions. During the second semester, students will extend their understanding of the college writing process by reading and making connections across thematically linked fiction and nonfiction multimodal texts. Students will continue to learn and develop the skills of clear, correct, effective English by reading essays and longer works of nonfiction prose. Students will complete a variety of writing projects requiring techniques such as cause and effect, analysis, evaluation, synthesis, argumentation and persuasion. The course content aligns with Middlesex College's *English Composition 121*.

Required Texts:

- Summer Reading materials for College and Career Project to be completed during the 1st marking period
- Nonfiction texts and essays (provided by teacher)
- Selection of fiction and nonfiction to be completed during the 4th marking period

The certified learning goals for English Composition 121 are:

1. To communicate complex ideas effectively, in standard written English, to a general audience.
2. To evaluate and critically assess sources and use the conventions of attribution and citation correctly.
3. To analyze and synthesize information and ideas from multiple sources to generate new insights.

Middlesex College Writing Course Requirements and Policies:

- Compose an expository writing sample.
- Read nonfiction texts, and participate in discussion and learning activities about assigned readings.
- Write **three** out-of-class essays (minimum of 3 pages for Essay 1; minimum of 4 pages for Essay 2; minimum of 4-5 pages for Essay 3).
- Complete a **multimedia remix presentation** after the third essay, and present this to the class.
- Write a typed outline, thesis proposal, rough draft, and final draft for each assignment **(and demonstrate significant revision between drafts)**.
- Complete in-class exploratory pieces before each essay and reflection papers after each essay.
- Submit all rough drafts on Google Classroom and all final drafts on Google Classroom.
- Keep all rough and final drafts in a folder for mid-semester and end-of-semester folder review.
- Review and abide by Middlesex College's Policy on Academic Integrity. **This policy will be enforced in this class.**

Middlesex College Grading Policy:

- You must complete all preliminary components of the paper: exploratory paper, thesis proposal, outline, in-class work on your rough draft, and peer revision. You must also complete a reflection paper after you have completed your final draft.
- You must complete the multimodal remix presentation to receive credit for this course.
- Half a letter grade will be deducted from the final draft for each calendar day the rough draft is late or incomplete; one full letter grade will be deducted from a final draft for each day it is late. Incomplete final drafts will fail.
- The lowest passing grade for a paper and for the course is a C.

Course Requirements and Policies:

- **You must submit rough and final drafts of all three papers--as well as the multimodal remix-- to pass the class. These drafts MUST meet the page requirements and be submitted on time to pass the class. You must also submit all other elements of the essays and presentation: exploratory piece, outline, thesis proposal, and reflection paper.**
- **If a draft is missing, this automatically results in a failure of the paper. Failure to complete ANY paper elements and steps will impact the final paper grade by up to one letter grade.**
- All drafts and finals must be submitted to Google Classroom.
- Edison Public Schools Grading, Plagiarism and Lateness Policies apply to this course. Please see the Student Handbook on the website for more details.

Grading Policy for English Composition

The Middlesex College Writing Program sets high standards for “passing” papers; to maintain these standards, and to qualify for college credit for their writing, students must not only meet deadlines, but also hand in original and fresh work for every paper component, draft, and final paper. Your grade within our Edison Township class will also depend on additional assignments, close-reading, and projects completed within class. Your final Middlesex College Grade will be calculated using the paper process steps and percentages listed in the grade breakdown below; **all final grades are subject to Middlesex College approval and review.**

Essay #1: 20% of your Middlesex College Grade

Final drafts are worth 100 points on Google Classroom.

Process steps are, collectively, worth 100 points on Google Classroom (below).

- Exploratory Writing: 10 points
- Annotation: 10 points
- Thesis: 10 points
- Outline: 15 points
- In-class rough draft: 20 points
- Revised draft: 15 points
- APA Revision: 10 points
- Reflective Writing: 10 points

Essay #2: 25% of your Middlesex College Grade

Final drafts are worth 100 points on Google Classroom.

Process steps are, collectively, worth 100 points on Google Classroom(below).

- Exploratory Writing: 10 points
- Annotation: 10 points
- Thesis: 10 points
- Outline: 15 points
- In-class rough draft: 20 points
- Revised draft: 15 points
- APA Revision: 10 points
- Reflective Writing: 10 points

Essay #3: 30% of your Middlesex College Grade

Final drafts are worth 100 points on Google Classroom.

Process steps are, collectively, worth 100 points on Google Classroom (below).

- Exploratory Writing: 10 points
- Annotated Bibliography: 10 points

- Thesis: 10 points
- Outline: 15 points
- In-class rough draft: 20 points
- Revised draft: 15 points
- APA Revision: 10 points
- Reflective Writing: 10 points

Multimodal Remix: 25%

We look forward to a successful and productive year together! Should you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to us at the instructor email address provided in this syllabus.