

Community College of Philadelphia

English 102

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Course Syllabus

Course Description

The purpose of English 102 is to expand the writing skills you developed in English 101 by incorporating external sources: in 102 you are expected to acquire new ideas and knowledge, through research, which you will integrate into your research paper to bolster your thesis. Your research must support a thesis with information that is properly documented according to MLA or APA style sheets discussed in the handbook.

To receive a passing grade all assignments must be written according to 101 exit standards: ie., they must be clearly organized, logically developed, and generally free of grammatical and mechanical errors. Plagiarism is the submission of materials written by someone else or copied from sources without acknowledgment (it is described more fully in the handbook); any research paper containing evidence of plagiarism will receive a grade of F. Also, research papers will not be accepted late and grades of incomplete will not be given.

Required Text

Hacker, Diana, *Rules for Writers* (St Martin Press: New York, NY, 6th ed., 2008) isbn: 0-312-48573-5

Required Workbook

Hoehn, Douglas B., *Understanding Communication: A Workbook Approach* (Kendall Hunt: Dubuque, Iowa, 2002, 3rd revised ed.) isbn: 0-7872-8406-8

Also access to any dictionary and thesaurus.

General Concepts

English requires time. If you do not have the time to write each paper with care, to organize each essay effectively, and to carry out each assignment without careless mechanical errors, this is not the course for you. If you find that you do not have the time to carry through this course, please drop officially. You may also drop a course for reasons other than time – family or work problems or conflicts, schedule changes and so on.

Successfully completing this course means following a timely schedule. Completing a research project requires many steps, done over several weeks. A solid research paper must evolve and be built step-by-step. Assimilating your ideas, collecting information, and developing your paper will follow a carefully prepared course schedule which will, by the end of the course, culminate in a college level research paper. Students who attempt to research and develop a finished research paper in a few weeks will not be able to satisfactorily meet the requirements of the course. If you prudently follow the schedule around which this course is anchored, you will not find the work overwhelming, resulting in a finished research paper you can be proud of.

Course requirements include writing essays of varying length and a final research paper of approximately 12 to 15 pages. There is no midterm or final exam. There are quizzes as well as weekly homework assignments. All work must be satisfactorily completed to receive a passing grade for the course.

Assignment Schedule

Assignments are directly specified under the timeline tab.