Syllabus for
Composition I (ENG113)
Online Spring 2024

ACTS: This course is listed in the Arkansas Course Transfer System (ACTS) with the following index number: **ENGL1013**

Mission: UA Rich Mountain provides transformative education to all learners.

Instructor: Mrs. Jennifer Howard
M.A. in English at Arkansas Tech University, 2015
B.S.E from Henderson State University, 2010

Office Location: S232 (across from Biology lab)

Office Hours:

Monday:	9:15-9:30, 10:45-11:00, 12:15-12:30
Tuesday:	9:15-11:00, 12:15-3:00
Wednesday:	9:15-9:30, 10:45-12:30
Thursday:	9:15-11:00, 12:15-2:15
Friday:	8:00-12:00

Telephone: 479-394-7622, extension 1343

E-mail: jhoward@uarichmountain.edu

Prerequisite: A grade of C or better in CLI0013 College Literacy **or** meet the testing requirements listed in the college catalog.

Resources:

- *The St. Martin's Handbook* 8th Edition by Andrea Lunsford
- *MLA Handbook* 8th Edition
- Reliable internet access (all work **must** be submitted through Blackboard)
- Three-ring binder for organizational purposes
- Flash drive or online storage (One Drive, Google Drive, Dropbox, etc.) for writing assignments

Course Description: Composition I is a beginning college-level course that includes an in-depth review of grammar, punctuation, syntax, and paragraph development relating to written composition. The course introduces the five-paragraph structured essay with an emphasis on thesis statement and organization and includes formal research papers. The class is a step-by-step approach to more mature writing, progressing from sentence structure to paragraph development to structured essay.

Program Outcomes: The knowledge and critical thinking skills acquired in the general education component enable students to analyze problems, to arrive at intelligent conclusions, and to make reasoned choices in their professional and personal lives. Many general education courses are designed to deal primarily with processes rather than simply with facts, to help students to develop individually and as members of a group and to instill in students the desire to develop intellectual and emotional skills through lifelong learning.

The general education curriculum provides the means by which students will accomplish the following outcomes:

Students will increase their

- writing, reading, speaking, and listening skills,

- technological and research skills.

ACTS Expected Student Learning Outcomes:
The student will

- Respond appropriately to various rhetorical situations, purposes, and audiences.
- Use writing and reading for inquiry, learning, thinking, and communicating.
- Integrate original ideas with those of others
- Develop flexible strategies for generating, revising, editing, and proof-reading
- Use collaborative writing processes
- Demonstrate knowledge of structure, paragraphing, tone, mechanics, syntax, grammar, and documentation

Rationale: An objective of post-secondary education is to provide a core of knowledge that is shared with most educated people. By studying and developing a deeper understanding of the diverse writings that have influenced modern attitudes, institutions, and thought, students can better comprehend the world they live in today. In addition, they will be better able to communicate with other people with whom they come in contact

Course Objectives, Outcomes, and Descriptions: Upon successful completion of Composition I, the students should be able to do the following:

Course Outcomes:
Students will be able to

1. Write a clearly expressed, grammatically correct five-paragraph essay including a thesis sentence, central paragraphs, introduction, and conclusion.
2. Use the research process to execute academic research papers in MLA format.
3. Use technology in research and writing.

Tentative Course Outline:

- Brief Grammar Review
- Finding, Evaluating, & Using Outside Sources
- One-Paragraph Essay Structure
- Five-Paragraph Essay Structure
- Research Paper Structure

Course Conduct: This class is completely online. Students will complete lessons and quizzes and submit writing assignments in Blackboard. Checking Blackboard and student email regularly (at least 3-4 times per week) is expected for an online class. The midterm and final will be proctored either in person on the Mena campus or by Zoom.

Students may not use personal communication devices or outside websites during a class, quiz, or exam.

Recording a class or reposting, copying, or distributing any course materials (notes, PowerPoints, quizzes, homework, etc.) is expressly forbidden unless the instructor has given written permission.

Credit Hour Calculator: For every course credit hour, the typical student should expect to spend at least three clock hours per week of concentrated attention on course-related work, including but not limited to time attending class, as well as out-of-class time spent reading, reviewing, organizing notes, preparing for upcoming

quizzes/ exams, problem solving, developing and completing projects, and other activities that enhance learning. Thus, for a three-hour course, a typical student should expect to spend at least nine hours per week dedicated to the course.

Credit Hour Definition: A credit hour is an amount of work represented in intended learning outcomes and verified by evidence of student achievement that is an institutionally established equivalency that reasonably approximates not less than one hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours of out-of-class student work each week for approximately fifteen weeks.

Course Requirements/Evaluations:
Cumulative grades are reflected by the following:

- Writing Assignments
- In-class activities/assignments
- Quizzes

} ~30%

- Midterm Exam: ~30%
- Final Exam: ~40%

Writing Assignments: Students will write assigned essays dealing with various assigned topics. Students must submit typed papers using MLA format. The files must be in *Word*, or a *Word* compatible format, to be accepted for grading and submitted into Blackboard. If using Google Docs, the student is responsible for converting the file to a *Word* document and fixing any formatting errors before submitting in Blackboard. Do not post a Google Docs link or attempt to email a link to the instructor.

Small Assignments: We will have many small-point assignments that will help build the skills needed for researching, using sources, and writing essays.

Notes/Videos: Notes and lectures are in Blackboard. Students are expected to read, watch all videos, and take notes. Material found in the note pages and videos will be on tests. NOTE: Many of the videos are housed in YouTube, and questions will come from these videos. Be sure that you can access YouTube.

Quizzes: Quizzes will be given in Blackboard. Typically, missing a test results in an automatic zero for that assignment, and the test cannot be reopened. Technology or lack of technology is not a valid excuse for not completing a test.

Midterm: All students will take an application-based midterm exam applying the skills learned up to that point. This exam must be proctored with no exceptions. Students will be given options to take the test in person on campus or by Zoom.

Final: All students will take a comprehensive, application-based final exam (i.e., students will apply what they have learned on the final). This exam must be proctored at the Mena campus or by Zoom with no exceptions.

Late Work or Missing Assignments: Late work is not accepted. The majority of the assignments for this class are small-point assignments that will not affect the overall grade if a student misses one or two. All assignments will be due on Fridays at noon. Be sure to stay ahead and keep track of current and upcoming assignments. On the other hand, unexpected emergencies happen. When they do, the student will need to file documentation with the VP of Academic Affairs or send to the instructor to document what unexpected event has occurred (death in

the family, hospital emergency, etc.). It is the student's responsibility to **work ahead when a scheduled absence is expected** (doctor appointment, dentist appointment, etc.) because these do not qualify as emergencies.

The grading scale for this course is as follows:

A = 90-100%
B = 80-89%
C = 70-79%
D = 60-69%
F = Below 60%

Procedures/Student Requirements: Although an online class does not have regular attendance in the traditional sense, students are still expected to log into Blackboard at least twice a week and check emails and Blackboard announcements at least 3-4 times a week. Keeping up with emails will be vital for each student's success in this course. Students who do not complete the first and/or second week of class will be automatically removed from the course. All assignments must be submitted by the posted due date. The instructor also reserves the right to require students to come on campus for tests or for a proctored essay, even if the student has already submitted the essay.

Missing an excessive number of classes is detrimental to the success of students in this course causing them to fall behind. The following number of absences is considered excessive:

- On-line classes - failure to participate in posted assignments for more than a week

Students who do not attend class may receive a grade of NF, which can negatively affect financial aid.

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating or plagiarizing on a test or assignment is not tolerated.

Some types of plagiarism (not a complete list):

- Submitting another's work as your own (includes paraphrasing)
- Sharing assignments/answers with other students (both receive a zero)
- Skimming information off of the internet without correctly citing sources
- Falsifying sources

Consequences of plagiarism:

- 1st offense of plagiarism:
  - Less than 10% of an assignment plagiarized → proportional grade deduction on assignment
  - 10% or more of an assignment plagiarized → automatic zero on the assignment
- 2nd offense of plagiarism → removal from the course with a W

Consult College Handbook for more information. ***If you ever have any questions about plagiarism or how to document a source, please ask me. I want you to avoid plagiarism, too.***

Artificial Intelligence: The instructor strongly advises against students using AI to complete assignments. Our small assignments during the semester are practice for passing the proctored midterm and final exams. The goal is to learn the essay writing process and structure, not simply to get an answer. Using AI to do assignments will hamper a student's ability to pass the midterm and final, which are worth a considerable portion of the overall grade.

American with Disabilities: It is the policy of UA Rich Mountain to accommodate students with disabilities, pursuant to federal law, state law, and the college's commitment to equal educational opportunities. Any student with a disability who needs accommodations (ex: seating placement, examinations, or access to information on the web) should inform the Vice President for Student Affairs at the beginning of each semester. To contact the Vice President, students seeking accommodation should call 394-7622, ext. 1400.

Arkansas Clean Air Act: In compliance with the Arkansas Clean Air Act, UA Rich Mountain is a smoke and Tobacco free facility. Students and guests are to refrain from the use of all tobacco products while on campus, including electronic devices.

Student Misconduct: Students committing misconduct are subject to disciplinary sanction(s) and or restrictions. Misconduct or prohibited behavior includes, but is not limited to endangerment, harassment, disruption, sexual misconduct, dishonesty, illegal drugs and/or alcohol, fire or safety issues, gambling property violations, computer violations, or other violations as listed in detail in the UA Rich Mountain catalog.

Student Support Services: The Student Support Services (SSS) is available to help students reach their educational goals through individualized instruction, counseling, and tutoring. There is no fee for these services. The computer lab is available for students in online classes. SSS is located in the Johnson Learning Commons in the Spencer Building.

Campus Security: UA Rich Mountain strives to provide a safe learning environment; therefore, students who know of any security risk are asked to contact a college official. http://www.uarichmountain.edu/at-a-glance/disclosures

Title IX Sexual Harassment

If there is an issue of this nature, it should be reported immediately to the Title IX Director, Terry Francis at (479) 394-7622, Ext. 1460. To report a concern, or to learn more about UA RICH MOUNTAIN's Title IX and Non-Discrimination Policies, visit https://www.uarichmountain.edu/title-ix-policy

Any part of this syllabus is subject to change at the instructor's discretion.