SYLLABUS
English Composition I, Fall 2013
Instructor: Garrett Nichols
ENGL 101, Sec: HYH, MW 10:30 – 11:20 a.m.

CONTACT INFORMATION
E-mail: garrett.nichols@bellevuecollege.edu
Office Hours: M 3–4:30 p.m. or by appointment

Welcome to English Composition I. In this course, we will learn about and practice effective composition strategies across a variety of writing situations. We will also learn about and discuss different rhetorical concepts and put them into practice in our writing.

Course Description and Prerequisites:
Prerequisites: Placement by assessment or ENGL 092 or 093 with a C- or better
Course Description: Develops clear, effective writing skills and emphasizes writing as a process. Students practice writing in a variety of forms and modes.

Learning Outcomes and Course Objectives
After completing this course, student should be able to:
- Demonstrate various invention practices: brainstorming, free writing, outlining, journaling
- Demonstrate ability to write in various modes: personal narrative, expository, analytical, descriptive, argument
- Demonstrate the phases of writing: draft, revision, analyzing, discussion
- Create a thesis statement that suggests the focus of the paper, does not point out the obvious, and is written as a sentence
- Develop and include enough details and examples to support the identified thesis and reinforce focus
- Demonstrate various patterns of organization and use the organization pattern that suits your identified purpose & audience
- Illustrate the concept of Audience in your writing
- Artfully combine Audience, Purpose, and Tone in compositions written in and outside of class
- Write in a vocabulary appropriate to your subject and identified audience
- Begin and conclude a paper effectively
- Show effective control of mechanics: paragraphing, punctuation, spelling
- Differentiate between key ideas and supporting details in reading
- Locate the thesis statement in reading assignments
- Practice good group skills: how to give useful feedback and how to make use of feedback you receive
- Develop self-assessment skills

Textbooks & Resources
- **REQUIRED:** Losh, Elizabeth, Jonathan Alexander, Kevin Cannon, and Zander Cannon. *Understanding Rhetoric: A Graphic Guide to Writing*. Boston: Bedford St. Martin's, 2013. Print.
- **REQUIRED:** *The Purdue Online Writing Lab (OWL)* (available free online at owl.english.purdue.edu)
- **REQUIRED:** A 1" three-ring binder and dividers
- **REQUIRED:** Internet access and access to MyBC and Canvas.
- **REQUIRED:** A working e-mail address that you will check regularly.

Grading Policies and Assignments
In this course, we will complete three major projects, as well as smaller daily in-class and homework assignments. These assignments are designed to help you refine your approach to writing and rhetorical analysis. Class participation is also a significant factor in your grade, measured not only by

verbal participation in class but also by your ability to work with your classmates on peer review, discussions (online and in the classroom), etc.

Portfolio Format
Grading for this course is done via portfolio, which means that you will have multiple opportunities to revise and resubmit your work before you receive a final grade. Every time you submit a major project, I will make comments and issue an "advisory grade." An advisory grade is a grade that you would receive if you were to submit that draft as your final draft at the end of the quarter. During the last two weeks of the semester, you will work on revising all of the major projects throughout the term, a process that will involve more than simply "fixing" the grammar of your documents. I expect a deep and thorough revision, a process that will require you to think through multiple aspects of your writing process, the rhetorical situations for the different pieces, and your rhetorical strategies for each piece. Even projects that received a high "advisory grade" are expected to be substantially revised. We will talk more about this closer to the end of the quarter.

Grade Breakdown:
Course Participation: 10%
Homework/Daily Work: 10%
Portfolio: 80%*

*The portfolio counts for 80% of your grade, but this total will be broken down into smaller components, such that each assignment within the portfolio will be graded on its own, and each grade will be compiled together for the total portfolio grade.

Grade Scale
A: 100 – 93%
A-:   92 – 90%
B+:   89 – 87%
B: 86 – 83%
B-:   82 – 80%
C+:   79 – 77%
C: 76 – 73%
C-:   72 – 70%
D+:   69 – 67%
D: 66 – 63%
D-:   62 – 60%
F: 59 – 0%

Class Schedule and Major Deadlines
All classwork is due on the date listed. Similarly, readings are to be completed by the date listed (we will be discussing them in class that day). For major projects, you will receive an assignment sheet at the beginning of the project with smaller deadlines broken down. Keep track of these assignment sheets – you will be asked to refer to them to guide you through these projects.

Course Participation
This includes participation during class activities (both online and in the classroom). I do not grade on how much you talk during class, because I recognize that everybody learns and contributes to classes differently. Rather, I expect you to make a contribution to the classroom learning environment, whether through verbally adding to class discussion, working with peers on drafts, contributing to online conversations, etc.

The most significant part of participation for this class will be peer review. You are expected to offer insightful and thoughtful commentary on the drafts of your peers' writings. Save a copy of the peer review sessions you complete for your peers as well as the peer reviews that your peers give you. You will be turning these in with your

Homework
This includes any daily take-home work or other assignments not included in any of the larger projects. Many of these assignments will take place as we practice different techniques and composition strategies.

Personal Narrative – **Due Monday, October 14th**
In this project, you will compose a narrative about a personal experience or history. Making use of expository, descriptive, and narrative writing strategies, you will shape this narrative into a story that illustrates a point or lesson that you want to convey to your audience.

Persuasion Project – **Due Monday, November 4th**
In this project, you will seek to persuade audiences to adopt a given viewpoint or commit to a given action. You will make this argument through three different formats, each with its own specific rhetorical situation: a letter to the editor (you choose the newspaper), a Twitter account, and a poster on campus. You will write an accompanying essay explaining the rhetorical and generic decisions you made as you composed these different pieces.

Rhetorical Analysis – **Due Monday, November 25th**
In this project, you will choose an advertising campaign from the Ad Council website and analyze the rhetorics of two to three videos within that campaign. You will make an argument (beyond basic evaluation or observation) about what the rhetorical choices of these ads reveal about the campaign, the audience, the context, etc. You will need to back up your argument with researched sources.

Revised Portfolio – Due Monday, December 9th, by 9:20 a.m. (Scheduled final exam time)
You will deeply revise all of your final projects and compile them into a portfolio, along with an explanatory essay, for a final grade. This is due during the time we would normally meet to proctor a final exam.

** See *Canvas* for a detailed list of reading and homework assignments and due dates.**

Course Policies
Attendance
Because composition happens in community, attendance at class meetings is crucial. You are allowed up to two (2) unexcused absences. Every unexcused absence from class beyond the two allowed absences will result in a 5% grade deduction (i.e. one-half of a letter grade). If something comes up that will require you to miss class, please let me know ahead of time so we can work something out.

Late Assignments
Homework assignments must be uploaded to Canvas by midnight on the date listed. Late homework and journaling assignments are not accepted. Major projects are to be turned in during class or uploaded to Canvas on the date listed. If you are struggling with an assignment or anticipate a reason you may miss a deadline, please see me about a reasonable extension. I'm not a monster.

Classroom Etiquette
In this class, we will be participating in a writing community in which we must necessarily rely on each other to produce ethical and culturally respectful writing. As in any community, we must be respectful of all members and their experiences, thoughts, and beliefs. Any talk or actions that single out or demean others are unacceptable and will not be tolerated. If something like this happens, depending on the occasion, I will personally talk with the person(s) responsible to convey why and how such language or actions are inappropriate. If it happens repeatedly, I will ask the offending person(s) to

leave. *Remember that offensive talk or actions is not limited to what happens verbally during class but also includes what is written in your assignments.*

Please review the Bellevue College "Affirmation of Inclusion" statement:
"Bellevue College is committed to maintaining an environment in which every member of the campus community feels welcome to participate in the life of the college, free from harassment and discrimination. We value our different backgrounds at Bellevue College, and students, faculty, staff members, and administrators are to treat one another with dignity and respect. http://bellevuecollege.edu/about/goals/inclusion.asp"

Plagiarism
The writing you complete in this class is expected to be honest and original. Turning in and taking credit for writing that you did not create is neither honest nor original. (Seriously. Aside from the fact that it didn't originate in your head, plagiarism is *so* five years ago.) In this course, you will learn how to identify and incorporate outside sources into your writing in an ethically responsible way.

When you turn in writing assignments on *Canvas* your work will be checked for originality with the Turnitin software. I encourage you to upload your assignments early in order to catch any inadvertently un-cited sources in your assignments.

Please refer to the BC Student Code:
"Cheating, stealing and plagiarizing (using the ideas or words of another as one's own without crediting the source) and inappropriate/disruptive classroom behavior are violations of the Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue College. Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to: talking out of turn, arriving late or leaving early without a valid reason, allowing cell phones/pagers to ring, and inappropriate behavior toward the instructor or classmates. The instructor can refer any violation of the Student Code of Conduct to the Vice President of Student Services for possible probation or suspension from Bellevue College. Specific student rights, responsibilities and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct, available in the office of the Vice President of Student Services." The Student Code, Policy 2050, in its entirety is located at: http://bellevuecollege.edu/policies/2/2050_Student_Code.asp

A good resource on plagiarism is the BC Writing Lab:
http://bellevuecollege.edu/writinglab/Plagiarism.html

Useful Links
Bellevue College E-mail and Access to MyBC
All students registered for classes at Bellevue College are entitled to a network and e-mail account. Your student network account can be used to access your student e-mail, log in to computers in labs and classrooms, connect to the BC wireless network and log in to *My*BC. To create your account, go to: https://bellevuecollege.edu/sam .

BC offers a wide variety of computer and learning labs to enhance learning and student success. Find current campus locations for all student labs by visiting the Computing Services website.

Disability
The Disability Resource Center serves students with a wide array of learning challenges and disabilities. Please visit the DRC if you have any questions about classroom accommodations whether you are a student or a faculty member.

If you are a student who has a disability or a learning challenge for which you have documentation or have seen someone for treatment and if you feel you may need accommodations in order to be successful in college, please contact the DRC staff as soon as possible.

The DRC office is located in B132 or you can call our reception desk at 425-564-2498. Deaf students can reach us by video phone at 425-440-2025 or by TTY at 425-564-4110. Please visit our website for application information into our program and other helpful links at www.bellevuecollege.edu/drc Remember if you are someone who has either an apparent or non apparent disability and requires assistance in case of an emergency situation, such as a fire, earthquake, etc., please meet with your individual instructors to develop a safety plan within the first week of the quarter. DRC has moved temporarily to the Library Media Center, D126.

Public Safety
The Bellevue College (BC) Public Safety Department's well trained and courteous non-commissioned staff provides personal safety, security, crime prevention, preliminary investigations, and other services to the campus community, 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Their phone number is 425.564.2400. The Public Safety website is your one-stop resource for campus emergency preparedness information, campus closure announcements and critical information in the event of an emergency. Public Safety is located in K100 and on the web at: http://bellevuecollege.edu/publicsafety/

Academic Calendar
The Bellevue College Academic Calendar is separated into two calendars. They provide information about holidays, closures and important enrollment dates such as the finals schedule.
- Enrollment Calendar - http://bellevuecollege.edu/enrollment/calendar/deadlines/. On this calendar you will find admissions and registration dates and important dates for withdrawing and receiving tuition refunds.
- College Calendar - http://bellevuecollege.edu/enrollment/calendar/holidays/0910.asp. This calendar gives you the year at a glance and includes college holidays, scheduled closures, quarter end and start dates, and final exam dates.