

FORM VERSION: 5/95  
DATE REVISED: 11/1/99

PALOMAR COLLEGE  
COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD FOR  
DEGREE CREDIT COURSE

\_\_\_\_\_ Transfer course      X   A.A. degree applicable course

**COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE:** English 50 - Introductory Composition

**UNIT VALUE:** 4

**MINIMUM NUMBER OF SEMESTER HOURS:** 64

**BASIC SKILLS REQUIREMENTS:** Appropriate language skills

**ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS**

**PREREQUISITE:** A minimum grade of "C" in ENG 10 or eligibility determined through the English placement process

**COREQUISITE:** None

**RECOMMENDED PREPARATION:** None

**SCOPE OF COURSE:**

A writing course for the student who wants to develop fundamental essay writing skills, acquire an A.A. degree, or enter a transfer program, but who needs further preparation in composition skills. A grade of "C" or better is required for eligibility for ENG 100.

**SPECIFIC COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

Successful students will be able to

1. prewrite, draft, revise, and edit
2. write unified paragraphs and short essays, using clear and precise thesis statements and topic sentences

3. develop paragraphs and short essays that explain, analyze, and develop a position using as support examples, facts, statistics, and/or references to authority drawn from personal experience or drawn from assigned reading material evaluated by the student
4. write coherent paragraphs and short essays by using appropriate transitions and by repeating central ideas, topics, or terms
5. write sentences that vary in length and structure and that use subordination to express the relationships between ideas
6. write sentences, paragraphs, and short essays that are free of substantial errors in grammar, punctuation, and usage
7. synthesize and evaluate assigned reading material on a variety of topics, evidencing both comprehension and perceptiveness
8. quote, paraphrase, and summarize accurately from assigned reading material

**CONTENT IN TERMS OF SPECIFIC BODY OF KNOWLEDGE:**

I. The Writing Process

- A. Prewriting techniques
- B. Drafting techniques
- C. Revising and editing techniques

II. Elements of Successful Paragraphs and Essays

- A. Topic sentences and thesis statements
- B. Unity
- C. Support
- D. Coherence
- E. Organization
- F. Introductions and conclusions

III. Sentence-Level Work

- A. Sentence variety and subordination
- B. Accurate quoting, paraphrasing, and summarizing
- C. As needed, a review of fragments, comma splices, fused sentences, misused modifiers, subject-verb agreement, pronoun use, and any other problems in grammar, usage, and punctuation

IV. Reading Comprehension

- A. Identifying central ideas in assigned reading material
- B. Identifying supporting ideas in assigned reading material
- C. Identifying types of support in assigned reading material

V. Writing in Response to assigned reading material

- A. Summary
- B. Synthesis
- C. Exposition
- D. Argument

**REQUIRED READING:**

Instructors may choose their texts; however, text content must be consistent with knowledge and skills defined in "SPECIFIC COURSE OBJECTIVES" and "SPECIFIC BODY OF KNOWLEDGE" (in this outline).

The following texts are representative choices:

Joy, Anna. We Are America. New York: Harcourt Brace, 1992.

McDonald, Steven and William Salomone. Reading Based Writing.

Belmont, California: Wadsworth, 1996.

McWhorter, Kathleen. The Writer's Express: A Paragraph and Essay Text with Readings. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1997.

Robinson, William and Stephanie Tucker. Texts and Contexts: A Contemporary Approach to College Writing. Belmont, California: Wadsworth, 1998.

**SUGGESTED READING:**

None

**REQUIRED WRITING:**

Writing assignments listed here (A-E) should, when appropriate, evidence the skills enumerated in Specific Course Objectives (1-8).

- A. If single-paragraph compositions are included, no more than three should be assigned (revised as many times as the instructor thinks is necessary).

- B. Students will compose a minimum of four satisfactory essays of 500-750 words each (as many as time allows).
- C. Students will compose at least one in-class practice final examination essay of 500-750 words each (as many as time allows).
- D. Students will compose a holistically graded final exam essay of 500-750 words.
- E. Write the following in response to assigned reading material: a summary of one article and/or a synthesis of two or more articles; an expository response to one article (e.g., a response expressing a similar idea to that expressed in the article); an argumentative response (i.e., a response that expresses an argument, evaluation, or opinion).

**OUTSIDE ASSIGNMENTS:**

**Students are expected to spend a minimum of three hours per unit per week in class and on outside assignments, prorated for short term classes.**

Students fulfill the following types of assignments:

1. read texts and complete exercises
2. read, analyze, and evaluate articles
3. compose brief essays of 500-750 words

**INSTRUCTIONAL METHODOLOGY:**

**Check all that apply:**

- lecture
- laboratory
- lecture-laboratory combination
- directed study

A combination of lecture, discussion, and individual tutorial sessions provides students with information and suggestions for writing, revising, and improving their essays.

**This course may be offered as a distance education course and meets Title 5 regulations 55370, 55372, 55374, 55376, 55378, and 55380.**

Yes  No

**If yes, check all that apply.**

- telecourse
- mediated instruction
- computer assisted instruction

**GRADING POLICY AND STANDARDS:**

All essays receiving a grade of C or better must demonstrate the writer's understanding of any articles under consideration and ability to write in a clearly organized, well supported, and coherent manner. In addition, all essays receiving "C" or better must be relatively free of major sentence level errors in grammar, usage, and punctuation.

The following weights will be given to the work done in "Required Writing" above:

- A. Written work during the semester: 70% of course grade.  
(No more than 10% of this portion of the grade can be based on single-paragraph compositions)
- B. Holistically graded final exam essay as described in "D" of Required Writing 30% of course grade.

**IS COURSE REPEATABLE FOR REASON(S) OTHER THAN DEFICIENT GRADE?**

Yes  No  Number of times course may be taken for credit 1.

If yes, identify specific provision of Title 5 Division 2 section(s) 55761-55763 and 58161 which qualifies course as repeatable.

**CONTACT PERSON:**

Bruce Orton, extension 2723.

**SIGNATURES:**

SIGNATURES ON FILE
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