

**Basic Writing: English 099 2021-2022 Syllabus**  
**Western State University**  
**at Thomas Jefferson High School**

**Course Description:** This course integrates and contextualizes college level reading and writing. Students will read and understand complex materials and respond to ideas and information through writing informative and/or persuasive texts.

**Learning Outcomes:**

- Demonstrate knowledge of and ability to read for multiple levels of understanding, to read critically, and to apply the steps of the reading process, including pre-reading, annotating and analysis, using college-level readings and materials.
  - Demonstrate knowledge of and ability to summarize course materials applying the steps of the reading and writing processes, using college-level resources.
  - Demonstrate knowledge of and ability to use the writing process—including prewriting, drafting, revising, and editing—to write informatively and persuasively in multiple genres using college-level course materials.
  - Demonstrate knowledge of and ability to reflect on their own reading and writing processes and to apply strategies to cross-curricular reading and writing tasks.
  - Demonstrate knowledge of and ability to engage in the behaviors of persistent and successful college students.

**College Credit Information**

In order to receive college credit for this course, you will take the ACCUPLACER test in the fall to matriculate into WSU Western State University. *We will go over WSU policies, procedures, and portals at the beginning of second semester once everyone has tested in.*

**Instructor Policies:**

**Method(s) of Evaluation:**

1. Summary and Response Essay
2. Literary Analysis Essay
3. Synthesis Essay
4. Rhetorical Analysis Essay

## 5. Exploratory Essay (requires research)

### Required Materials

- 1.5” or 2” 3-ring binder with lined paper, and a marbled composition notebook
- 2-3 packs of sticky notes
- Pen, pencil and highlighter

Homework, late work, and make-up work: It is expected that students complete homework on time and individually, unless the assignment is explicitly to be done in pairs or groups.

Process Assignments: The weekly expectation is all assignments are turned in by 5PM on Sunday. After which, process assignments are not accepted. “Students are expected to follow given due dates but Sunday is the last possible day to turn process assignments in...”

Product Assignments: Full completion will result in a minimum 60% passing grade. Sunday due dates are encouraged for consistency, yet late work may be accepted if a student advocates for extra time and seeks one-on-one help during office hours. *NOTE: incomplete assignments or assignments that would not normally receive a passing grade will not be given an automatic 60%.*

### Criteria for Grading/Grading Standards\*

**All assignments in this course will be evaluated according to the following criteria:**

- “A” grades are earned by submitting excellent work that exceeds assignment criteria with exceptional skill, quality, style, persuasiveness, or sophistication
- “B” grades are earned by submitting very good work that meets assignment criteria with skill, quality, style, persuasiveness, or sophistication
- “C” grades are earned by submitting good work that meets the minimum assignment criteria;
- “D” grades are earned by submitting work that meets some of the assignment criteria but contains flaws that should have been corrected in the process of planning, drafting, revising, or meeting with your instructor or a tutor
- “F” grades will be earned by submitting poor work filled with numerous, severe flaws and does not meet assignment criteria

**Online Course Evaluations:** As this course nears completion, you will have the opportunity to complete a confidential evaluation of the class online. Login instructions will be sent to your ‘student.cccs.edu’ e-mail address. Your feedback is important, and ensures that WSU continues to offer quality instruction that meets your needs. Please take time to complete the survey – I appreciate your feedback.

**GT Pathways Statement:** The Colorado Commission on Higher Education has approved ENG 099 for inclusion in the Guaranteed Transfer(GT) Pathways program in the GT-CO1 category. For transferring students, successful completion with a minimum C- grade guarantees transfer and application of credit in this GT Pathways category. For more information on the GT Pathways program, go to <http://highered.colorado.gov/academics/transfers/gtpathways/curriculum.html>.”

**Academic Integrity Statement:** as well as academic penalties imposed by TJHS (no credit for the work). This includes turning in work from other classes. Unless specifically instructed to work in groups or pairs, work is to be done individually.

**Checking grades/progress:** Parents/guardians and students are strongly encouraged to monitor academic progress and grades. **Infinite Campus** is a computer-based grade, attendance, and behavior tracking system and is the easiest and most thorough resource for keeping up to date with grades. TJ’s website (<http://www.tjjournal.com>) has a link for Parent Portal/Student Portal access to Infinite Campus under the “Spartan links” section. Further instructions can be found after clicking on the link. All students are required to have Infinite Campus access and can check their own progress on the computers at the school library or at home if Internet access is available.

**Attendance and Tardies:** Attendance in class is extremely important—seniors need a 91% attendance rate to walk for graduation. Students are expected to be in the classroom prepared to study when the bell rings. The accumulation of tardies in any class will result in disciplinary action, including after school detention and possible in-school or out-of- school suspension and Saturday school. See school policy.

**“Right to read” policy**—because this is a concurrent enrollment course, it is the expectation to read college-level texts. Some of these texts contain mature content or controversial themes. By opting-in to the college credit, you acknowledge this and waive your right to opt-out of the college level texts taught. *Readings for this course include or are taken from the following:*

*The Glass Castle*—Jeannette Walls

*The Bluest Eye*—Toni Morrison

*The Devil’s Highway* –Luis Alberto Urrea

*Into the Wild* –John Krakauer

- Thomas Jefferson High School and Western State University are committed to academic honesty and scholarly integrity. Our school can best function and accomplish its mission in an atmosphere of the highest ethical standards. All members of the College community are expected and encouraged to contribute to such an environment while observing all accepted principles of academic honesty. Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to: plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, grade tampering, misuse of computers and other electronic technology,

and facilitating academic dishonesty. Those found in violation may also be subject to potential disciplinary sanctions under the Western State University Code of Conduct.

**Topical Outline:**

**Unit 1: The Glass Castle- Synthesis Essay (S1, 8weeks)**

MLA Citation

Rhetorical situation

Memoir

Identity, class, education & family Grammar: NO Red Ink

**Unit 2: The Bluest Eye (S1, 8weeks)**

Rhetorical summary and response Argumentative Essay

Racism and its impact on the individual and society Grammar: NO Red Ink

**Unit 3: The Devil's Highway Thematic Analysis Essay (S2, 8 weeks)**

Non-fiction writing Reading for deeper meaning

Review: Symbolism and Thematic Development Rhetoric & Author's Bias

Review: Literary devices and their effect Grammar: NO Red Ink

**Unit 4: Into the Wild (S2, 6 weeks)**

Non-fiction writing

Self-actualization & Capitalism

Review: Symbolism and Thematic Development Rhetoric and Author's Bias

Grammar: NO Red Ink

**Unit 5: Research Exploratory Essay (S2, 4 weeks)**

Reflections Ch. 16, review Ch. 18 Research

Formal argument (Toulmin model) APA

**The following portion shows that you have read and understood the course guidelines, and asks for information so that I may contact you if the need arises.**

Please detach and return this page by **Friday, August \_\_\_\_\_**.

\_\_\_\_\_ Class Period \_\_\_\_\_ Student Name  
**(please print)**

\_\_\_\_\_ Parent(s) /  
Guardian(s) Name **(please print)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone E Mail Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
How would you prefer I contact you, if necessary? Is there a best time?

***We have read and understood the course syllabus.***

\_\_\_\_\_ Student Signature/Date

\_\_\_\_\_ Parent Signature/Date