

English 098
Preparatory Composition
 098.Z02 M/W/F 8:00-8:50 FH 129
 098.Z06 M/W/F 9:00-9:50 FH 129

Instructor McKenna Rose
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 Office Hours 1:00-3:00 M/W

Course Description

English 098 is a semester long class focusing on the development of prewriting strategies, drafting, collaborative writing techniques, peer review, analysis, reflection, revision, portfolios, and polished final drafts. Through a survey of conventional assumptions and patterns of thought that dominate American Culture, students will emerge from English 098 with an expanded fluency of syntax and mechanics; sentence, paragraph, and essay form; and an ability to meet the requirements of multiple rhetorical situations across the curriculum. Please note that while English 098 is an S/U course that does not count towards your overall GPA, you will emerge with the skill set necessary to read and write critically across academic disciplines.

Required Texts (Please note: you must purchase the texts specified below)

Colombo, Gary, Robert Cullen, and Connie Lisle, ed. Rereading America: Cultural Contexts for Critical Thinking and Writing. 7th ed. Bedford/St. Martin's: Boston, 2007.

Hacker, Diana. A Writer's Reference. 6th ed. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2007.

Assignment	Value	Description
Narrative	10%	A 2-3 page, narrative essay in which you utilize your own experiences to explore your changing attitudes towards "The Model American Family."
Argument	10%	A 2-3 page, essay in which you make a claim about "The Myth of Education and Empowerment" in American society, and then support your claim through personal and textual evidence.
Compare/Contrast	10%	A 2-4 page, essay in which you make a claim about the relationship between myths of race and gender in America, and then support your claim by analyzing and comparing evidence from each text.
Researched Argument	10%	A 3-5 page, argumentative essay in which you take a position on American Imperialism. This essay requires the use of narrative and compare/contrast techniques, as well as researched, outside sources.
Quizzes (6)	10%	All quizzes are intended to facilitate critical thinking and writing through short answer, multiple choice, and short essay questions on specific, assigned readings.
Midterm and Final Conferences	5%	Meetings in groups of three or less to discuss peer collaboration, revision, class performance, and credit by exam. (Handouts due)
Panel Presentation	5%	Reading of Reflective Abstract in small groups with complimentary topics.
Showcase Portfolio	10%	Clean, polished drafts of the Personal Narrative, Argument,

		Comparison/Contrast, and Researched Argument. Please note: I do not accept papers in the final portfolio not handed in on the date due.
Participation	30%	English 098 is S/U. In order to receive an "S," you must arrive to class on time, with all reading and writing assignments completed, and then contribute substantially to class discussions and workshops.

Grade/Scale	Description
A 100-93 A- 92-90	Extremely high quality work, effort, and performance beyond minimum requirements. Excellent attendance and substantial contributions to discussions.
B+ 89 B 88-83 B- 82-80	Well-written work that continues to improve. A level of effort and performance beyond minimum requirements. Good attendance and contributions to discussions.
C+ 79 C 78-73 C- 72-70	Generally competent work and a level of effort that meets course requirements. Regular attendance and contributions to discussions. As English 098 is S/U, please note that anything above a 73% is passing.
D+:69 D 68-63 D-: 62-60	Work that is uneven in quality or suggests incompetence. Irregular attendance and minimal contributions to discussions.
F 59 and below	Incomplete or unacceptable work. No real effort to participate in class discussions. Four or more absences.

Attendance

You have (3) absences to use at your discretion. After three absences points will be deducted from you total grade, and (6) or more absences may result in a failing grade for the course. If you must miss class for school activities (athletics, debate, band, etc.), you should bring, in advance of the event, a list of dates (signed by the appropriate faculty member) indicating when these activities will take place. Dentist and doctor appointments or vacations will not be excused, nor is it acceptable for you to arrive late or leave early due to job obligations. Arriving any more than fifteen minutes late will count as an absence. Please note, lack of attendance and/or excessive tardiness will negatively impact your grade generally, and your participation grade specifically.

Late or Missing Assignments

All work is due on the date and at the time specified on the calendar. Late work may not be accepted. Quizzes and in-class writing assignments cannot be made-up.

Revisions

You are welcome to revise any of the four final papers according to class criteria. You must meet with me to workshop the draft you wish to revise and create a revision plan. The paper revision must be global, i.e. claim/thesis, evidence, interpretation, organization, etc. Your revised draft will then be included, with a copy of the graded draft, in your final portfolio.

Plagiarism

Any evidence of plagiarism in your work will result in a failing grade for the assignment and, possibly, the class. Plagiarism is intentionally passing off sentences, paragraphs, or entire papers written by someone else as your own original work. Submitting papers already written and submitted in other courses also constitutes academic dishonesty. We will discuss how to adequately document sources early in the semester to avoid any inadvertent mistakes. Please consult the University policy on plagiarism at www.unr.edu/stsu/acdipol.html

The Writing Center

Provided for no extra charge by the University of Nevada, the Writing Center is a great resource where professional writing tutors give further collaborative feedback on student papers from all academic disciplines. **To receive full credit, you are required to hand in a Writing Center confirmation slip with final drafts of the Personal Narrative and the Compare/contrast papers (two slips total).** Please make your appointments early, as they get booked very quickly, at (775) 784-6030. The Center is located in room 206 of E. J. Cain Hall (EJCH).

Students with Disabilities

If you are a student with a documented disability, please contact me at the beginning of the semester. The English Department and I will do everything possible to accommodate your needs. You can also contact the Disability Resource Center: Face to face at Thompson Building, Suite 101, or online at www.unr.edu/acssv/acssv/drc/drchome.html.

Content Issues

Ideas and materials presented during this course may prove challenging. Talk to your instructor if you anticipate any difficulties; accommodations may be made.

Credit by Exam

Instructions for the UNR English Credit by Exam are available on the Department of English home page under the drop down menu "Core Writing." If you plan to take the CBE, read the online information thoroughly. I will be happy to answer any questions you have about the CBE during scheduled office hours, at conferences, or by appointment. I will not answer CBE questions during class time.

Calendar

(Please note all assignments are listed on the days they are due, and the calendar is subject to change)

Monday, August 27 Introduction/Syllabus Harmony at Home: <i>The Myth of the Model Family</i>	Wednesday, August 29 Harmony at Home: <i>The Myth of the Model Family</i> (17-26) <i>Looking for Work</i> (26-31)	Friday, August 31 <i>What We Really Miss About the 1950's</i> (31-41)
Monday, September 3 No Class-Labor Day	Wednesday, September 5 <i>What We Really Miss About the 1950's</i> (41-7) <i>Aunt Ida Pieces a Quilt</i> (48-51)	Friday, September 7 <i>An Indian Story</i> (51-61) <i>Visual Portfolio</i> (81-7)
Monday, September 10 <i>It Takes a Family</i> (88-97) Quiz 1	Wednesday, September 12 Workshop for Paper 1	Friday, September 14 Workshop for Paper 1
Monday, September 17 Paper 1 Due Learning Power: <i>The Myth of Education and Empowerment</i> (113-120)	Wednesday, September 19 From <i>Report of the Massachusetts Board of Education</i> (121-131)	Friday, September 21 <i>Idiot Nation</i> (132-149)
Monday, September 24 <i>Against School</i> (152-161)	Wednesday, September 26 <i>"I Just Want to Be Average"</i> (161-173) Quiz 2	Friday, September 28 Quiz 2

Monday, October 1 Workshop for Paper 2	Wednesday, October 3 Workshop for Paper 2	Friday, October 5 Class Cancelled
Monday, October 8 Paper 2 Due True Women and Real Men: <i>Myths of Gender</i> (370-380)	Wednesday, October 10 <i>How the Americans Understand the Equality of the Sexes</i> (376-380) <i>Girl</i> (381-3)	Friday, October 12 <i>"Two Ways a Woman Can Get Hurt:" Advertising and Violence</i> (417-27)
Monday, October 15 <i>"Two Ways a Woman Can Get Hurt:" Advertising and Violence</i> (427-43) Quiz 3	Wednesday, October 17 Midterm Conference Class Cancelled	Friday, October 19 Midterm Conference Class Cancelled
Monday, October 22 Created Equal: <i>The Myth of the Melting Pot</i> (481-486) C.P. Ellis (519-29)	Wednesday, October 24 <i>Talking About Racism: How Our Dialogue Gets Short Circuited</i> (547-55) <i>Visual Portfolio</i> (556-61)	Friday, October 26 No Class-Nevada Day
Monday, October 29 <i>Assimilation</i> (584-97)	Wednesday, October 31 <i>The Pressure to Cover</i> (598-609) Quiz 4	Friday, November 2 Workshop for Paper 3
Monday, November 5 Workshop for Paper 3	Wednesday, November 7 Workshop for paper 3	Friday, November 9 Paper 3 Due <i>Land of Liberty: The Myth of Freedom in a "New World Order"</i> (755-762)
Monday, November 12 No Class-Veterans Day	Wednesday, November 14 <i>America the Beautiful: What We're Fighting For</i> (768-79)	Friday, November 16 <i>The Oblivious Empire</i> (781-93) Quiz 5
Monday, November 19 <i>In Torture We Trust</i> (814-23)	Wednesday, November 21 <i>Under the Sign of Mickey Mouse & Co.</i> (824-35)	Friday, November 23 No Class-Family Day
Monday, November 26 <i>Resistance to Civil Government</i> (836-48)	Wednesday, November 28 <i>Let America Be America Again</i> (848-51) Quiz 6	Friday, November 30 Workshop for Paper 4
Monday, December 3 Final Conference Class Cancelled	Wednesday, December 5 Final Conference Class Cancelled	Friday, December 7 Presentation of Abstracts Showcase Portfolios Due Paper 4 Due in Portfolio
Monday, December 10 Presentation of Abstracts	Wednesday, December 12 No Class-Dead Day	Finals Schedule * Presentation of Abstracts

*Eng 098.Z02 December 17th 7:30-9:30 & Eng 098.Z06 December 13th 9:45-11:45