

# Northern Marianas College

## CURRICULUM ACTION REQUEST

Course: EN101 English Composition I

**Effective Semester / Session:** Spring 2023

**Type of Action:**

- New
- Modification
- Move to Inactive (Stop Out)
- Cancellation

**Course Alpha and Number:** EN101

**Course Title:** English Composition I

**Reason for initiating, revising, or canceling:**

This course has been modified for periodic updates: Modifications are reflected in the required textbook, SLOs, and Instructional Goals.

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Professor Michael Nurmi      *Michael Nurmi*      12.9.22

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**Proposer**      Date

Professor Ajani Burrell      *Ajani Burrell*      12.9.22

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**Academic Unit Head**      Date

Professor Adam Walsh      *Adam Walsh*      12.08.22

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**Language & Format Review Specialist**      Date

Professor Ajani Burrell      *Ajani Burrell*      12.9.22

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**Academic Council Chair**      Date

Dean Clement Bermudes      *Clement Bermudes*      Dec 14, 2022

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**Dean of Academic Programs & Services**      Date

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### 1. Department

Languages & Humanities

### 2. Purpose

Students must be able to organize and present ideas effectively in formal writing. This course focuses on several of the most common strategies for developing ideas in writing and on the conventions and grammatical patterns associated with each of them. EN 101 and EN 202 equate to the full year of first-year English composition required by all colleges and universities.

### 3. Description

#### A. Required/Recommended Textbook(s) and Related Materials

Required:

Ballenger, B. (Latest Edition). *The Curious Writer*. Upper Saddle River, New Jersey: Pearson.

- or -

Ballenger, B. (Latest Edition). *The Curious Researcher*. Upper Saddle River, New Jersey: Pearson

- or -

Bullock, R., Goggin, M. D., & Weinberg, F. (Latest Edition). *The Norton Field Guide to Writing with Readings and Handbook*. New York, NY: W. W. Norton & Company.

Recommended: None

#### B. Contact Hours

1. **Lecture:** 3 per week / 45 per semester
2. **Lab:** None
3. **Other:** None

#### C. Credits

1. **Number:** 3
2. **Type:** Regular Degree Credits

#### D. Catalog Course Description

This course introduces students to the characteristics of formal written discourse and to rhetorical conventions associated with exposition. The objective is to help students develop the ability to express ideas in short, formal compositions (300 to 500 words) which are unified, coherent, and concise. This course also

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provides practice in the skills needed to write academic research papers. It covers methods of generating, supporting, and organizing ideas; of analyzing primary and secondary sources of evidence; and of presenting arguments in convincing, logical prose in a five-to-seven page paper, using either MLA or APA style. (English Placement Level: EN101) Offered in the Spring and Fall.

**E. Degree or Certificate Requirements Met by Course**

NMC core course requirement for all degrees.

**F. Course Activities and Design**

After a period of general discussion, demonstration, and modeling of key elements associated with a particular organizational approach, students are assigned a formal composition which allows them the opportunity to use what they have learned and to practice that approach. Students are encouraged to rewrite their compositions if, in the instructor's judgment, the writing needs correction, more precise diction, or expanded development. It is sometimes helpful for classes to examine excerpts from their own essay assignments, especially when the selections serve to highlight common difficulties with or offer outstanding examples of unity, coherence, concision, or vividness.

Students are introduced to academic research writing. They are instructed in the methods of conducting research using all available secondary sources; in the formats and techniques of citing and recording research sources; in the skills of summarizing, paraphrasing, quoting; and in the process of recognizing non-research and research writing.

**4. Course Prerequisite(s); Concurrent Course Enrollment**

Prerequisites: A passing grade in EN095

Concurrent Course Enrollment: None

**Required English/Mathematics Proficiency Level(s)**

English Placement Level: EN101

Mathematics Placement Level: None

**5. Estimated Cost of Course; Instructional Resources Needed**

To the student: Tuition and fees for a 3-credit course; cost of textbook.

To NMC: Salary of instructor for 4 credits, which includes 3 course credits as well as 1 additional credit for teaching a writing course (Procedure #3000.11); a classroom.

Instructional resources needed for this course include: whiteboard and markers, overhead projector, and computer.

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### **6. Method of Evaluation**

Grades will be based partly on student performance in class, resubmission of corrected essays, and regular exercises; however, the quality and improvement of student writing as exhibited in regular short composition assignments, as well as adherence to standard academic techniques in a final paper assignment, will be the major factors in determining final grades. NMC's grading and attendance policies will be followed.

## **7. Course Outline**

This is a topical outline and does not necessarily indicate the sequence in which the material will be presented.

### **1.0 Introduction to Writing**

- 1.1 Introduction strategies
  - 1.1.1 Thesis statements
- 1.2. Developmental / Supporting strategies
  - 1.2.1 Topic sentences
  - 1.2.2 Controlling ideas
- 1.3 Conclusion strategies
  - 1.3.1 Relationship to the introduction
  - 1.3.2 Relationship to developmental paragraphs
- 1.4 Modes of discourse
  - 1.3.1 Narration
  - 1.3.2 Exposition
  - 1.3.3 Argumentation

### **2.0 Narration**

- 2.1 Expounds on an event / moment
- 2.2 Ordered chronologically; or
- 2.3 Time sequenced in some way

### **3.0 Exposition**

- 3.1 Illustration / Exemplification
  - 3.1.1 Purposes of specific examples
  - 3.1.2 Appropriate number of examples
  - 3.1.3 Levels of detail in examples
- 3.2 Compare / Contrast
  - 3.2.1 Point-by-Point
  - 3.2.2 All of one / All of the other
- 3.3 Classification / Division
  - 3.3.1 The principle
  - 3.3.2 The system
- 3.4 Process
  - 3.4.1 Directional
  - 3.4.2 Informational
- 3.5 Cause and Effect
  - 3.5.1 Causal analysis
  - 3.5.2 Effects analysis
  - 3.5.3 Causal chains
- 3.6 Definition
  - 3.6.1 Limit the subject's meaning: what it is not

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3.6.2 Specify the subject's meaning: what it is

4.0 Argumentation

4.1 Appropriate vs. Inappropriate theses

4.2 Supporting the argument

4.2.1 Logical fallacies

4.2.2 Syllogism

4.3 Opposition

4.3.1 Refutation

4.3.2 Concession

4.4 Organizational approaches

5.0 Introduction to Academic Research Writing

5.1 Topic selection

5.1.1 Research suitable

5.1.2 Scope

5.2 Research resources

5.2.1 NMC Library

5.2.2 Community library (CNMI Library)

5.2.3 Internet sources

5.3 Using sources

5.3.1 Extracting pertinent information

5.3.2 Exact quotations

5.3.3 Summarizing and paraphrasing

5.3.4 Recording complete source information

5.4 Writing drafts

5.4.1 Prewriting techniques

5.4.2 Outlining and organizing techniques

5.5 Improving drafts based on instructor feedback

5.5.1 Interpreting instructor's feedback

5.5.2 Incorporating instructor's feedback

5.6 Formatting

5.6.1 APA style

5.6.2 MLA style

## **8. Instructional Goals**

The course will introduce students to:

- 1.0 Writing skills needed to successfully complete college level assignments;
- 2.0 Thinking analytically about problems and issues by:
  - 2.1 Sequencing an event;
  - 2.2 Choosing relevant examples to support a thesis;
  - 2.3 Pointing out both similarities and differences between two entities;
  - 2.4 Classifying members of a group;
  - 2.5 Breaking a process into a series of discrete steps;
  - 2.6 Relating causes to effects; and
  - 2.7 finding supporting points for both sides of an argumentative issue
- 3.0 Recognizing good writing and the qualities that make it so;
- 4.0 Developing a basic expository essay, utilizing various rhetorical modes in three to six short papers of two to three pages; and
- 5.0 Investigating a (guided) topic of choice and writing a final paper of five to seven pages that integrates sources using MLA or APA format.

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**9. Student Learning Outcomes**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- 1.0 Use Standard English spelling, grammar, and punctuation in college-level writing;
- 2.0 Evaluate the quality of college-level, academic texts;
- 3.0 Summarize college-level, academic texts;
- 4.0 Paraphrase college-level, academic texts;
- 5.0 Assemble thoughts in clear, concise, coherent, college-level prose;
- 6.0 Integrate college-level, academic texts to support arguments; and
- 7.0 Use MLA or APA formatting in the development of formal writing.

**10. Assessment Measures of Student Learning Outcomes**

Assessment of student learning may include, but not be limited to, the following:

- 1.0 Writing Assignments;
- 2.0 Formal Essays; and
- 3.0 Final Research Paper.