

**English 1010**  
**Weber State University**  
**Fall 2006**  
**23971**  
**Helen Handley, Adjunct Instructor**

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English 1010 provides instruction and practice in exposition, It emphasizes critical thinking, the reciprocity of reading and writing, and the production of well-developed analytical arguments. Students will learn to present ideas persuasively and to recognize solid persuasive techniques. This class will be supported online through WebCT. Assignments, class notes, calendar, and grade book will be available to students electronically.

**Course Requirements and Policies**

**Class Time:** 23971 – Monday, Wednesday, Friday – 10:00 to 10:50 am

**Office Hours:** West Center 9:30 to 10:00 am MWF  
West Center 5:00 to 8:20 pm Thursday (additional time by request)  
Promontory Towers 8 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. except for the times listed above.  
It is best to make an appointment and to outline what you want to accomplish during the appointment. This allows time for me to prepare and to focus entirely on you.

**Required Text:** Ballenger, Bruce. The Curious Writer: Concise Edition. New York: Pearson, 2006.

**Online Resources:** [DeVry Online Writing http://www.orl.devry.edu/academics\\_asc\\_lab.html](http://www.orl.devry.edu/academics_asc_lab.html)  
[WSU Library http://library.weber.edu](http://library.weber.edu)  
[MLA Documentation http://www.bedfordstmartins.com/online/cite5.html](http://www.bedfordstmartins.com/online/cite5.html)

**Recommended:** Comprehensive, up to date dictionary. Please bring a dictionary to class each week. If you enjoy working online, try <http://dictionary.com>. Laptops are welcome in class. You may work on your laptop in class and submit assignments by printing in the Computer Lab and submitting your work. Some classroom assignments may be submitted through WebCT.

**Internet Access:** Computers are available in the West Center Computer Lab for student use. You will need your WSU ID card to use the computers and you will need to have a Wildcat Account to print.

This class will use Vista WebCT to submit assignments and handouts. All assignments will be submitted through WebCT. Class assignments, calendar, and lecture notes will also be available through WebCT.

Each Weber State student has a printing budget which is renewed the first of

each semester. A student may access printing in the computer labs until that print budget has expired. This should be an adequate amount of printing to bring handouts to class. Students need a WildCat card to use student printing.

Students also have access to excellent online research materials through Stewart Library. To use your subscription to Electronic Databases, use your W number. This is the same number and password you use to register or enter the student portal. To check circulation records at Stewart Library, use the bar code number on the back of your WildCat card.

**Attendance:** Attendance is required. This class is discussion oriented. Many assignments will be completed during class. Students who are not in class may not make up the assignments. Be courteous to the other students in your class by arriving in plenty of time to participate completely in class.

**Reading** Some assigned chapters may be read quickly, but others will need more time and concentration. Devote as much time as you can to reading. Remember that close reading requires concentration and reflection. Position yourself as Devil's Advocate as you read.

I expect you to bring copies of the reading to class along with your reading notes. As we discuss the readings, I will give you suggestions for analyzing your readings. It is not acceptable to come to class unprepared.

**Quizzes / In-class activities** Pop quizzes will be given periodically to check reading and out-of-class achievement. Quizzes will be given the first few minutes of class. Each quiz will generate points toward your final grade. Some in-class activities will be graded. These activities are not on the calendar. In-class activities cannot be made up. In other words, you must attend to earn credit for completing these assignments.

**Assignment Format:** Format: All written work must be created using a word processor (WORD or WordPerfect, please. Campus supports these processing programs only. Assignments submitted using Notepad can not be opened in VISTA. Use 12 point, Times New Roman, double spaced with one-inch margins and documented according to MLA formats. A title page is not necessary. Simply include your name, class title, assignment number and date in the top left-hand corner.

John Doe  
English 1010  
Assignment  
Date

**Submission:** Please submit all assignments as an attachment to the dialog box in the assignment drop box in Vista. Directions and a demonstration will be given in class. Prepare your papers in either Word Perfect or Word and then **attach** as a file in the appropriate place within the course.

I do mark your grammar and mechanics (punctuation, spelling, etc.) quite heavily throughout your essays. Do not worry. The number of points for grammar and punctuation is noted for each assignment. A highlighted paragraph means that the paragraph has a serious problem. You may use your text sources to correct the paragraph and then return the essay to me for additional points. Assignments must be resubmitted within one week.

I try to respond to all assignments within 48 hours. However, sometimes I cannot meet that requirement. Usually on weekends, when I am away from my computer, you will see more delays.

## Grading

Grades are based on a numeric scale. WebCT will give you a grade throughout the semester so that you can track how well you are doing. Areas for grading will include:

*Weekly Reading Responses:* The reading assignments for each week require a one-page (typed, double-spaced) response that analyses some aspect of the reading. I will give you specific things to look for and some ideas. You may include your own opinions and reflections. The responses should be well organized and thoughtful. Quick writing will not be accepted and the assignment will be returned to the student for re-writing. Each response is due before class begins each week. Ten reading responses must be completed during the semester. Do the writing responses toward the first of the semester to ease time management toward the end when work loads usually increase.

*Formal Essays:* You will write four formal essays. Each essay will be a short (4-5 pages) essay. Essay topics and assignments can be found in Vista. Your last essay will be a book review. Your book selection is due by Friday of the second week.

Your last essay will be a book review. You may choose a book you would like to read. Tell me which book you have chosen in a brief paragraph in Vista. The book must be appropriate for this class and I must give you approval of the book you choose to read. I will have a reading list in class to help you choose a book. You may not read a book you have read before. See the assignment in Vista to see a list of books for this assignment.

*Mid-term:* a written test covering all information for the first-half of the semester. Questions will require a short, written response. At least one question will be an essay question. Directions to prepare for this test will be given in class.

*Final:* Comprehensive exam covering information for the last-half of the semester. The first half of the exam will be a practical exam dealing with MLA citations and the last half will be an essay exam. Be prepared to write a paraphrase and a summary.

*Extra Credit:* You should leave this class with a strong awareness of the media world. Watch for media examples of our discussions throughout your

day. Record examples. Cut out that article. Record that advertisement. Take that picture. Bring your example to class and do a quick 2-minute presentation. Then turn in your materials for extra credit. Points will be awarded based on the amount of work and the relevance to the class discussions.

#### Grading Rubric:

- “A” Paper      A strong, focused thesis  
Ample supporting evidence to support your thesis  
Smooth, clear transitions between paragraphs and ideas  
Well-chosen details  
No major mechanical or grammatical problems  
A sense of the writer’s voice or personality  
Documentation of any outside sources (either in-text or MLA)  
Avoids the obvious
- “B” Paper      Most of the characteristics of the “A” paper  
Clear purpose and thesis  
Above average writing  
Ideas may need further development  
Paragraphs may lack unity  
May need a more sophisticated structure  
May have mechanical/grammatical problems
- “C” Paper      Weak thesis – purpose is unclear or lacking  
Ideas are thin and depend on the obvious  
Cliches  
Mechanical errors and typos  
Hurried writing – feels forced  
Documentation errors  
Does not fulfill the assignment requirements  
Needs more work

E and UW grades      If you stop attending any college class without officially withdrawing, you receive a “UW” (unofficial withdrawal) for the class. A grade of UW has the same effect on your GPA as a grade of E and can undermine scholarships or financial aid. A grade of E is a failing mark and equals a numerical value of 0 on your transcript. You have the option of withdrawing from the class or changing your status to Credit/No Credit. If you choose any of these options, be sure you understand how the change will affect your financial aid. Last day to withdraw or change your status to CR/NC or audit for this semester is October 27.

Plagiarism:              Plagiarism is the attempt to claim another’s work as your own. The WSU Student Code defines plagiarism as “the unacknowledged use of any other person or group's ideas or work” (Section 6-22, part IV, subsection D). Any attempt to claim credit for another’s work, in whole or in part, is a

violation of this policy and is regarded by the Composition Program as a serious offense, and plagiarism may result in failure of the courses.

**Accommodation:** Any student requiring accommodations or services due to a disability must contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) in room 181 of the Student Service Center. SSD can also arrange to provide course materials (including this syllabus) in alternative formats if necessary.

**Conflict Resolution** Weber State University recognizes that there are times when course content may differ from a student's core beliefs. Faculty, however, have a responsibility to teach content that is related to the discipline and that has a reasonable relationship to pedagogical goals. If you, as a student, believe that the content of the course conflicts with your ability to pursue the topic, you may request a resolution from the instructor.

PPM 6-22 outline the procedure for students to follow:

“Determine, before the last day to drop the courses without penalty, when course requirements conflict with the student's core beliefs. Of there is such a conflict, the student should consider dropping the class. A student who finds this solution impracticable may request a resolution from the instructor. This policy does not oblige the instructor to grant the request, except in those classes when a denial would be arbitrary and capricious or illegal. This request must be made to the instructor in writing and the student must deliver a copy of the request to the office of the department head. The student's request must articulate the burden the requirement would place on the student's beliefs.