

EN 111-51: Composition and Rhetoric
Ms. Maria Shine Stewart, M.A., L.P.C.
Summer I 2014: May 12-June 26. Online.

"Writers write to influence their readers...but always, at bottom, to be more themselves."
--Aldous Huxley

English 111-51 (Summer 2014) is the first part of a two-course sequence in which you will produce effective college-level writing. Keys to success in this class and any writing endeavor include practice, flexibility, and sustained effort. Regardless of your intended career path—science, health care, education, business, the humanities, the fine arts, or any combination of fields—writing well is an expectation of employers, colleagues, and clients. We will collaborate online to boost your fluency as a writer, your precision as a reviser, your insight as a reader, and your ease in a community of thinkers. This course aims to stimulate intellectual and creative growth. Through journaling, discussion board entries, formal essays, close reading, and strategic revising, you will deepen your awareness of the power of language and gain experience with the writing process. Additionally, writing is a satisfying tool for self-expression and lifelong learning; habits honed here can extend into your writing future.

Goals:

- To develop ease and confidence with a multistage writing process;
- To create prose that is thoughtful, organized, clear, and precise;
- To adjust writing style for multiple audiences and purposes;
- To improve academic voice;
- To analyze and develop arguments;
- To respond with sensitivity to others' ideas;
- To read closely and incorporate selected research with care.

Required Text: Nadell, Judith et al. *The Longman Reader: Brief Edition*, 10th edition. Boston: Pearson: 2013. Print.

Portfolio: Your portfolio will include evidence of your ability to write, revise, and innovate. It will include journal entries; selected revisions, representative discussion posts, a letter, self-assessment(s), essays, and your PowerPoint. Revision can be dramatic and transformative; it is not simply grammatical fine-tuning. You will incorporate feedback from instructor and peers.

Online Learning: Bring your imagination and spirit to explore; have a technology back-up plan. Words have a particular resonance in cyberspace. A particular advantage of online study is it allows you to select times and places to read, write, and reflect that work best for your schedule; it also requires a sense of audience honed with attention and even intuition. As we will cover online in seven weeks what occurs over a full semester on ground, plan other early summer commitments accordingly.

Grades: Assessment is based on formal essays (descriptive, narrative, and persuasive or argumentative), discussion board threads, targeted revision, and a PowerPoint examining the style of a writer you admire, with appropriate documentation.

EN 111-51 Instructor: I am a professional writer who writes often for online and print publications, and I will write along with you.