

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY-AFRICA
ENG 1106: COMPOSITION 1
COURSE SYLLABUS
CREDIT: 4 UNITS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course will focus on equipping students with the skills of effective composition with emphasis on expository writing, analytic and critical reading of texts.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The students will:

1. Use appropriately the grammar (and structure) of the English language
2. Demonstrate, through various writing assignments, expository writing skills,
3. Master the skills of comprehension and analysis of written skills
4. Begin to think more critically.

COURSE CONTENT

WEEK 1: INTRODUCTION TO COMMUNICATION

Monday: A discussion on the distinguishing characteristics of both written and spoken communication.

Wednesday: Further discussion on key elements of written communication and an examination of selected texts to exemplify the strength and weaknesses of written communication.

Reference: Students own experiences and relevant literature

Assignment: To complete a structured essay

WEEK 2: GRAMMAR REVIEW

Monday: Sentence sense: identification of elements of a sentence, the parts of speech and how to vary sentences using this knowledge.

Wednesday: Exercises on “ sentence sense”

Reference: Harbrace pg 2-30

Assignment: The development of ones autobiography: guide provided in a separate handout

WEEK 3: AN INTRODUCTION TO THE PROCESS OF WRITING

Monday: Narration: a discussion on the key features of
- Examples

Wednesday: Quiz on “grammar” & “comprehension”

Reference: -Harbrace handbook

-Any relevant text from the library

WEEK 4: CHOOSING TOPICS FOR WRITING

Monday: Selecting topics and arriving at simple theses for a narrative essay

Wednesday: Basic research skills, using the library, reading and study skills, note making and summarizing.

References:
-Harbrace handbook
-Lecturer's notes

WEEK5: THE PROCESS OF WRITING CONT.

Monday:
-Preparing outline
-Writing the composition

Thesis topics will be covered in groups with a discussion topic of their choice. The groups will then present to the class, followed by questions and answers.

Wednesday: Mid- quarter exams

WEEK 6: PARAGRAPH DEVELOPMENT

Monday: The thesis, support and conclusion of paragraph/sentence variety and supporting ideas.

Wednesday:

Reference: Harbrace

Assignment: Production of a descriptive piece of writing by each student.

WEEK 7: PUNCTUATION

(The expository composition)

Monday: An examination of all types of punctuation marks. Examples and the context is the expository essay.

Wednesday: Group work: groups choose and discuss various topics suitable for expository work. The group presentation is a piece of expository writing where attempt has been made to include the punctuations learnt. (Same day presentation)

Reference: Harbrace handbook

Assignment: Term paper given: guidelines in handout.

WEEK 8: ACKNOWLEDGING AND DOCUMENTING SOURCES

Monday: Borrowing from published works: how to

Assignment: Continued work on the term paper in incorporating new information.

Wednesday: Revision

WEEK 9: EXAMINATIONS

MAIN REFERENCE BOOK

Harbrace handbook

ASSESSMENT

Assignments (2) 20 marks

Group work (2) 20 marks

Quiz 10 marks

Mid quarter exam 25 marks

Final exam 25 marks

GRADING

A	90 – 100
A-	87 - 89
B+	84 – 86
B	80 – 83
B-	77 - 79
C+	74 – 76
C	70 – 73
C-	67 - 69
D+	64 – 66
D	62 – 63
D-	60 - 61
F	0 - 59