

# English 100: Elements of Writing

## Fall 2005

**Instructor:** Dr. Adela Najarro  
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**Course #** 42329  
**W** 6:00-9:10  
**Room:** 515

### PREREQUISITES & COREQUISITES

- Prerequisite: Assessment or ENGL 255/ESL 204B.
- Concurrent enrollment in one unit of ENGL 100L is required.

### REQUIRED MATERIALS

- *Harvest of Empire: A History of Latinos in America* by Juan Gonzalez.
- *Growing Up Latino: Memoirs and Stories* edited by Harold Augenbraum and Ilan Stavans.
- *Simon and Schuster Handbook for Writers, Seventh Edition*, by Lynn Quitman Troyka and Douglas Hesse.

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

English 100 focuses on college level writing and reading skills. In accordance with the Cabrillo College course outline, you will write numerous narrative, analytical and expository essays that focus on a topic, that contain varied sentences and well-developed paragraphs, and that flow in terms of grammar and mechanics, such as spelling and punctuation. You will also work on reading comprehension by annotating, paraphrasing, and summarizing various texts, by analyzing and evaluating the ideas of other writers, and by examining texts carefully to identify main points and the writer's point of view. Hopefully, you will see the connections between individual parts and the whole and develop well-organized responses to readings in essays and essay exams.

In order to facilitate the above mentioned goals, this course is organized on a theme and class sessions center on small group work. The course theme centers on the Latino experience in the United States. We will read a history text and various short stories, all of which express diverse perspectives on the US Latino experience. During class we will discuss the readings, the craft of effective writing, and your own writing. Every class session includes group work where you may be asked to share your writing. This might sound like a frightening proposition, but sharing does not always mean criticizing. At times you will be asked to share your writing for no other reason than to allow others to hear your ideas and thoughts. And yes, at times, you will share your writing in order to receive feedback for revision. I have organized the class in order to create a learning environment where we work as a writing community in support of each other's efforts.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING POLICY

During the semester you will be required to turn in the following assignments:

1. 11 one-page reader responses.
2. Three 3-5 page essays.
3. Three in-class timed writings.
4. A final portfolio.

Grading percentages are as follows:

11 reader responses:	20%
Essays 1, 2 and 3:	15% each for a total of 45%
Three in-class timed writings:	5% each for a total of 15%
Portfolio:	20%

In order to pass the course all assignments must be turned in and all assignments must be passing in regards to quality of work completed. **I must emphasize the point that if you do not turn in all assignments, then you will not pass the course.** The best route to follow in order to receive credit for the course is to come regularly to class having completed the required reading and writing assignments. Keep up with the work. This course is very demanding and if you fall behind, it will be very difficult to catch up. So again, please follow the syllabus and come prepared for each class session.

If you do not pass a particular assignment, you will have the opportunity to redo the assignment, except for the final portfolio. Communication is the best route by which to deal with problems that may arise. Please see me before or after class or send an email if you have questions about required assignments, due dates, etc. It is strongly suggested that you come see me during office hours or make an appointment if you do not pass a particular assignment.

## ATTENDANCE

This section of 100 meets only once per week, and so attendance is very important. If you miss a class, you are responsible for making up missed work. **If you must be absent, send an email in order to receive the in-class writing assignments, which you can then do on your own.** Missing class may mean missing steps in the writing process, so you need to make-up class time independently and/or by coming to my office hours. There is no free ride or class that you don't have to go to—every class counts because we only meet once a week. I reserve the right to drop students who exceed Cabrillo's attendance policy concerning unexcused absences.

## LATE POLICY

I must restate that in order to pass the course all assignments must be turned in. **You will not pass the course if you do not turn in all assignments.** However, I understand that life gets complicated, that time management is difficult, and that the unforeseen occurs. You may use the following late passes twice during the semester: once for a reading response and once for an essay. The late pass must be turned in one the assignment due date.

<b>Late Pass Reader Response</b>	<b>Late Pass Essay</b>
Name: _____	Name: _____
I will turn in Reader Response # _____	I will turn in Essay # _____
on _____.	on _____.

### **Schedule Essay One:**

The required texts are referred to as:

*Harvest of Empire*: HARV

*Growing Up Latino*: LAT

*Simon & Schuster*: SS

8/31 **Introduction**

9/7 **Read:** LAT: “Silent Dancing” (22) & “The Ruins” (73)

HARV: “Introduction” (ix-xx)

**Due Homework:** Reading Journal 1, 2, 3

**Bring *Simon & Schuster* book**

9/14 **Read:** HARV: “Conquerors and Victims. . .” (3-26)

**Due Homework:** Reading Journal 4

**Due:** 1<sup>st</sup> Draft Paper One

**Bring *Simon & Schuster* book**

9/21 **Due:** Paper One

In-class Writing

