

**English 102 – Composition II**  
**Course Outline/Policies**  
**Instructor: Laurel Topken**  
**Class: Fernley HS 10 M 7-9:45 pm**

**Number of Credits:** 3

**Transferability of Course within Nevada:** This course is designed to apply toward a WNC degree and/or transfer to other schools within the Nevada System of Higher Education, depending on the degree chosen and other courses completed. It may transfer to colleges and universities outside Nevada. For information about how this course can transfer and apply to your program of study, please contact a counselor.

**Linkage of Course to Educational Program Mission and Outcomes:** This course is a degree requirement for the Associate of Arts and Associate of Science degrees and satisfies the 3-credit writing requirement for these degrees. It is designed to provide instruction that contributes to a student's personal, social and intellectual growth by fostering the abilities to speak and write effectively; to think critically and solve problems, to locate and evaluate information resources; and to appreciate the arts and the humanities. English 102 also contributes to WNC's General Education Mission: The purpose of the Associate of General Studies degree is to provide academic knowledge and skills for personal growth, professional advancement, and/or successful transfer.

**Instructor Contact Information:** email: topken@wnc.edu  
Office: Fallon Academic Skills Center  
Office phone: 423-7565 ext 2278  
Office hours: TH Time TBA

Office is located in Fallon, if you have difficulties and need to meet with me, other arrangements can be made.

**Course Description in WNC Catalog:** Continues the study of expository writing. Students read and analyze writing and discursive techniques of interpretation, argument, and research.

**Course Objectives or Outcomes:**

Upon completion of this course the student should be able to:

- Read and think critically
- Recognize characteristics of various genres (types) of literature.
- Understand and apply terms used to analyze literature.
- Discuss and write about serious literature with critical insight, precision and clarity.

**Required Materials**

Barnet, Burto, and Cain, eds. *An Introduction to Literature*. 15<sup>th</sup> ed. ISBN 0205599095  
Glotfelty ed. *Literary Nevada: Writings from the Silver State*. ISBN 9780874177596  
Notebook for journal

**Grading Policy and Procedures:**

Your grade will be calculated as an average of the grades earned on assignments. Fs will be given when applicable. Your course grade will be calculated as follows:

Preparation and Participation	5%
Writing Workshops	5%
Writing Assignments	30%
Midterm	25%
Final Exam	25%
Journal	10%

**Grade Scale:**

A 100-94	B- 82-80	D+ 69-67
A- 93-90	C+ 79-77	D 66-63
B+ 89-87	C 76-73	D- 62-60
B 86-83	C- 72-70	F 59-0

- If you withdraw yourself from the course, you will receive a W
- If you drop out of sight and do not officially withdraw yourself, or if you plagiarize, turn in unacceptable college-level work, or fail to turn in every written assignment, you will receive an F.

**Scholarly Honesty/ Plagiarism:**

Plagiarism is taking someone else's work and claiming it to be your own. This can be intentional or accidental; that is by choice or by carelessness and misunderstanding. Plagiarizing may result in a failing grade on the paper and/or failure of the course.

**Attendance and Late Work:**

Since this course requires everyone's participation, you have 1 class you can miss without potential consequences. Use it wisely; you never know if there will be a time when you absolutely cannot make it to class. **Absences over 1 may result in your being unable to earn over an A in the class, more than 2 a B, more than 3 a C, and with more than 4 you may not be able to pass the course.** *If you must miss class (death in the family, personal emergency, ECT), you must contact me on the day of the missed class or immediately after to make arrangements. If you must miss class for school activities (band, athletics, etc), you must bring me, before the absences happen, a list, signed by the appropriate faculty or athletic department member, of the dates the absence(s) will occur.* You are responsible for all assignments, whether you are in class or not. Part of your attendance is arriving to class on-time, actively participating, and staying for the entire class period. **Being late to class or leaving early 2 times will count as an absence.** Our workshop days are the most important days; they cannot be made up and others are affected by your absence. If you miss them it will affect your grade.

*Reading and writing assignments are to be completed at the beginning of the class they were scheduled for.* If you absolutely cannot make it to class send it with a friend. All late papers will be docked ½ a letter grade for every day it is late. No late papers will be taken after week 13.

**Preparation and Participation:**

To receive full credit for this portion of your grade, you must come prepared and willing to participate. That means that you have completed any reading or writing required and are ready to discuss or do activities with your classmates. You will join in on the discussions and activities, contributing to the lesson with your perspective and thoughts. Quizzes may be given on reading assignments due to lack of participation. You must also have your writing assignments *ready* to turn in at the beginning of class.

**Writing Assignments:**

In this class, you will be writing three papers 3-5 pages in length, a midterm and final. You will read essays and stories to help you with your assignments and workshop the rough drafts of the first three papers and the research paper.

**All written assignments must be completed to pass the course.** Two of the three papers may be revised for a better grade, but not the midterm or the final. Rewritten papers need to be resubmitted within one week of receiving the original, and must be accompanied with the original. In all cases of revision, the final assigned grade will be an average of the original and rewritten scores. A revision does not automatically guarantee an improved grade. There must be substantial improvement in the revision (not simply correcting errors) to warrant a higher grade.

**Document Style:**

In this class, we will use the MLA Format to cite other's writing. The papers will be in Times New Roman 12 point font double spaced with 1 inch margins on white paper with black ink. The page number must be in the upper right corner, and the entire assignment must be stapled before class. No title pages are necessary; simply list your name, date, class and assignment double spaced in the upper left hand corner. Your title should be centered two spaces below your information, and the body of the paper double spaced below the title. All papers must be at least to the bottom of the minimum page requirement, and will include a rough draft.

**Students with Disabilities:**

If you have a disability needing academic adjustments, please contact me or the Disability Support Services Coordinator (445-3275) as soon as possible to arrange for timely and appropriate accommodations.

If an issue occurs, that will affect your education, please contact a counselor immediately. They are there to help you get the most out of your time in college. Please note that in an effort to help students successfully complete their courses, the Counseling Office on campus will ask faculty for names of students they feel may be in need of additional assistance. A counselor may contact you to offer some ideas.

**Code of Conduct:**

We are a class full of adults and I expect considerate behavior. This is a class, as well as Western Nevada College, where ideas are shared, debated, and sometimes argued over. I encourage this, as it is one of the great reasons to come to college. But be aware that others may not share the same values as you and you should judge your comments and actions accordingly and speak respectfully. If you become disruptive, I will ask you to leave or have you taken out of the class.

Some of the papers you will read in class may be sensitive; they need to be handled with care. Do not discuss them with people not taking the class. On the other hand, keep in mind that when you share your writing it then becomes public. You may want to carefully consider what you write about. Do you want others to know about this topic? Will you be able to take constructive criticism on the writing?

Finally, **please turn off your electronic devices** (i.e. cell phones, PDAs, MP3s, ect.) and put away your ear buds and headphones at the beginning of class. If there are multiple offences you may lose participation credit for the day. Lap tops may be allowed on workshop days with prior approval. **Also, there will be no texting in class.**

**Additional Resources:**

Your classmates and I are your prime resources. Workshopping, office time, and before and after class you can talk to me or your classmates about the assignments. Also, in the event that you do miss a class, make sure to contact a classmate or me for the next class's assignment. It is your responsibility to find out what you missed (handouts, changes, due dates, etc.) Missing a class is no excuse for coming to the next class unprepared.

Conferences – Conferences are recommended. It is personal time to discuss the readings and your papers.

Academic Skills Center (ASC) – Visits to the tutors in the ASC are not required, but they can give you five extra credit points on every final draft. This only counts if you attended the scheduled class workshop, you spend at least ½ hour with a tutor working on your draft, and the tutor signs on your draft. If you miss a workshop, you can only make it up by going to the ASC. For these visits, you will need to make an appointment. The ASC is located in Room 307 in Getto Hall, Fallon Campus. Go through the library to the back and through the double glass doors on the left. The ASC phone number is 423-7565 ext. 2278.

Grammar and Punctuation practice –I recommend doing additional practice or work on specific problems through [www.dianahacker.com/bedhandbook](http://www.dianahacker.com/bedhandbook); [www.bedfordstmartins.com/exercisecentral](http://www.bedfordstmartins.com/exercisecentral) or additional exercises out of a handbook. There are also many websites you can find.

**English 102 Composition II TH 7-9:45**  
**Spring 2010 Tentative Syllabus (subject to change)**

Week 1

1/27 Introductions, Syllabus, KWL+ Syllabus, Classroom Bingo, 1<sup>st</sup> day paper

*Intro* Chpt 1 What's literature?

Week 2

2/3 *Intro* Chpt 2 The Pleasures of Reading and of Writing Arguments about Literature  
Discussion

Scheduling discussion roles

Week 3

2/10 *Intro* Chpt 3 More about Writing about Literature: Rome idea to Essay  
Discussion

*Intro* p. 81-82, Chpt 4 p. 83-93

Week 4 Short Stories

2/17 *Intro* Chpt 5 stop at Anton Chekhov  
*Intro* Chpt 8

Questions and Background

*Lit NV* Porched Suitcases

*Lit NV* Water Babies at Cooye Lake

Week 5

2/24 *Intro* Chpt 6 stop at John Updike  
*Intro* The Yellow Wallpaper

Questions and background

*Lit NV* NV Correspondence

*Lit NV* from Reno

Week 6

3/3 *Intro* Chpt 7 stop at Nathaniel Hawthorne  
*Intro* The things they Carried  
Questions and Background  
*Lit NV* The Critter  
*Lit NV* The Manure Spreader

Workshop

Week 7 Poetry

3/10 Compare and Contrast Paper Due

*Intro* p. 585-586, Chpt 11

Guest Speaker – Cowboy Poetry

Week 8

3/17 Midterm Due

Guest Speaker – Gail Marie Phamier

*Intro* The Speaking Tone of Voice, pps. 638-640, 643-644, 648-650, 652-654, 662-664

Questions and Background

*Lit NV* pps. 250-252, 260-261

Week 9

3/24 *Intro* Chpt 19 stop at Seven Essays by Students

*Intro* pps. 668-677, 683-685, 701-704, 705-707

Questions and Background

*Lit NV* pps. 273-275, 383-388, 595-597

Week 10

3/31 *Intro* pps. 717-720, 723-729, 730-735, 743-750

Questions and Background

*Lit NV* pps. 437-475, 563-567, 607, 611-612

Workshop

Week 11

4/7 Spring Break

Week 12 Drama

4/14 Analysis Paper Due

Presentations

*Intro* pps. 945-956, Chpt 25 stop at Tennessee Williams

Week 13

4/21 *Intro* Chpt 26 stop at Two Plays by Sophocles

*Intro* p. 1467

Questions and Background

Guest Speaker – Cheryll Glotflety

Week 14

4/28 *Intro* Chpt 27 stop at William Shakespeare  
*Intro* p. 1467  
Questions and Background

Week 15

5/5 *Intro* Chpt 29 stop at Five Essays by Students  
*Intro* p. 1532  
Questions and Background

Workshop

Week 16

5/12 Argument Paper Due  
*Intro* Chpt 31  
Discussion on Critical Theories and Final

Week 17

5/19 Final Due  
Pick up journals