Dear English 101 students,

Welcome to the first day of class! I am so glad you have decided to join this class, and I look forward to getting to know each of you through your writing and discussions. This class will be conducted entirely online. **The first day of class begins January 5th.** Please make sure to orient yourself to all of the Blackboard functions and have a working College of the Canyons email. If you are new to Blackboard and/or the online experience, you may participate in online tutorials. Below are some links to these tutorials along with some additional helpful information:

Blackboard Tutorials and Information: [http://ondemand.blackboard.com/](http://ondemand.blackboard.com/)

Setting up COC email account: [https://my2.canyons.edu/WebAdvisor](https://my2.canyons.edu/WebAdvisor)

Technical Questions: [http://www.canyons.edu/Offices/Distance_Learning/](http://www.canyons.edu/Offices/Distance_Learning/)

Give yourself some time to feel comfortable; sometimes adjusting to the online environment takes a little bit of time. In addition, the first assignment you will complete requires you to read a brief description of what is known as “Netiquette.” You will find the details about this first assignment on the first day of class. This will help establish the way that we all work together in the Discussion Boards and assignments. Finally, take the time to read through this letter, as it contains important information for the course.

**Student Success is Attainable for Every Student**

Below are several ways to help you reach success in this class

- **Access** to a working computer and the Internet is a necessity. Plan on logging in about every other day.
- **Weekly Planning** will help you organize your time. Make sure to read through the entire calendar and note important due dates in your personal calendar.
- **Consistency** will help you avoid missing important due dates. Meeting online deadlines requires self-motivation and discipline. Do your best to create a routine to check in at the same time or on the same days each week.
- **Accountability** will help keep you focused. Using the Discussion Board as a starting point, find one or two people that you can email or call to help you stay on track with this course.
- **Accommodation** is available for all students under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Please make sure to make the instructor aware of any accommodation needs as determined from the Disabled Students Programs and Services (DSPS) at College of the Canyons.

**DSPS Contact Information:**

Phone: (661) 362-3341  
TDY: (661) 255-7967  
Fax: (661) 362-5716

**Course Description**

English 101 Builds critical reading and expository writing skills through the analysis and evaluation of college-level, non-fiction readings and the composition of well-organized, full-length essays containing properly documented evidence.
Student Learning Outcomes

Analyze and critically evaluate college-level texts for argument, structure, and rhetorical strategies.

Compose persuasive, well-organized, grammatically correct full-length essays, synthesizing properly documented and relevant research and other evidence to develop and support a unified thesis.

Course Textbook


There is only one required textbook for this course. Make sure to find the textbook with Readings and Handbook. It is an orange color. The bookstore carries this text, or you can purchase this online. There is also an ebook available for this text.

Assignments

Throughout the course, you will compose four multi-paragraph essays including a research paper. Every paper will require you to complete a step-by-step writing process, which will be explained over the first week of class. Discussion Boards will help us work through new writing terms, techniques, and strategies. In addition, the Discussion Boards will help reinforce the reading assignments. While there will be a final reading exam, there will not be a mid-term exam. I work hard to ensure that students are well prepared for the final exam. Students who actively and consistently participate in the course, tend to do well. Please email me regarding any concerns or questions. I believe that open communication is a key to learning.

Please keep in mind the pace of a Winter session course. You will need to have access to Blackboard at least every other day. The pace moves quickly but is manageable, and I do my best to organize due dates after the weekend so that you have ample time to complete your papers.

Grades

You will find a detailed list of assignments and their points on the syllabus. Grades will be posted on a weekly basis. Please provide instructor about the same time to grade as is provided for assignment completion. In other words, if you have a week to write a paper, please do not request grades sooner than a week. I am usually very prompt in providing grades.

I look forward to getting to know each of you and trust that this is going to be a great session!