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**Required Texts:**  
Barnet and Bedau, *Current Issues and Enduring Questions, 10th ed*  
Palmquist, *The Bedford Researcher, 4th ed*

**Introductory Remarks**

This English 201 course is taught completely online; you are not required to attend classroom sessions on campus. However, this is not a correspondence course, completed on your own timetable in isolation. There are specific deadlines, and you will be communicating with your instructor and classmates regularly.

At the end of this course, students will be able to write a humanities-style research paper which includes as part of its composition or process:

- Write an objective summary of a complex college level essay
- Critically evaluate source material, in terms of style, tone, logic, overall persuasiveness
- Write a critical analysis of source material
- Synthesize source material and integrate it into students’ writing smoothly and appropriately
- Be comfortable using outside sources and materials
- Use an appropriate note-taking system
- Cite sources properly, both in text and on Works Cited pages
- Be able to develop, organize and support a clearly defined thesis in a 8-10 page research paper
- Have a firm grasp of grammar and mechanics and be able to edit own work

If you signed up for this course thinking that it would have less work than a course in the classroom, you were mistaken. Any online course has more writing work than a class on campus as all of our communication must be written. Please be advised that the workload may be very difficult for you if work and/or family demands do not allow you a minimum of two to three uninterrupted hours every weekday to work on the assignments for this class. I have tried to focus and space assignments to facilitate as many learning styles as possible, but extra time may be needed, especially around paper writing/editing time.

**What do I have to do for this course?**

**Grading**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tr>
<td>Short Discussion Papers (4 at 50 each)</td>
<td>200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weekly Discussions (10 at 25 each)</td>
<td>250</td>
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<tr>
<td>Response Paper</td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Short Argument</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weekly Quizzes</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Informative Research Paper</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Project</td>
<td>200</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1000</strong></td>
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To figure out your grade at any time, simply divide the total points you have earned by the total points you have submitted to that point. I use standard percentage markings:

94-100% = A, 90-93% = A-, 87-89% = B+, 84-86% = B, 80-83% = B-, and so on. ..

You must complete all assignments to receive a passing grade in this course. The instructor reserves the right to adjust assignments or points as needed throughout the quarter. Students will be notified when this happens.

Reading: There will be a tremendous amount of reading in this course. The average amount is 20 pages per day. I strongly suggest that you read these pages as early in the week as possible. Your best plan is to read them the weekend before so that you will be ready to participate in the Weekly Discussions. There is no point value for reading (I can’t exactly look over your shoulder while you do it) but every assignment is based upon the reading. DO THE READING.

Discussion Papers: Every OTHER week you will write a short (2-5 paragraphs) Discussion Paper. Typically, these papers get posted by Sunday before each new week begins. The majority of each week’s discussion will focus on these papers so they MUST be posted on time. Each student will be assigned a group and those groups will alternate posted papers each week.

Discussion: You are required to participate in discussions every week. Grading for each weekly discussion will be purely subjective. You will be graded based upon the depth and quality of your participation, not the number of times you post. However, you must respond to at least three Discussion Papers each week in order to achieve ANY credit.

Papers: You will write 1 response paper (1-2 pages), 1 informative research paper (3-4 pages), and 1 short formal academic paper (3-4 pages) in this class plus a final large (8-10 page) research paper. Each paper must follow these rules

1. Directions for submitting your final draft to me are posted in the Course Info. Once the paper crosses my virtual "desk," its grade is permanent.
2. Only original work is acceptable. That means that YOU wrote it and that you wrote it specifically for this course. Recycled papers will not be accepted.
3. All essay assignments must be double spaced with a 12-point font and no extra space between paragraphs. Indent the first line of each new paragraph.
4. A cover page only for essays that are longer four full pages.
5. If sources are required, you must use MLA format.

You can find sample research essay on pages 313-325 in Current Issues and pages 317-321 in The Bedford Researcher. Take note of not just the content but also the format. We will be learning to follow the rules of MLA formatting so you will need to make sure that your essays look just like these. Written assignments must be submitted by midnight on the due date.

Weekly Quizzes: Every Friday there will be a quiz on the reading from that week. Quizzes will be short answer and multiple choice. They are not very long and should be quite easy IF you have done the reading. The quizzes will be available all day Friday but they cannot be made up. You MUST complete them each Friday.

Instructor Expectations

As you know, every teacher has expectations. These are mine.

1. I expect that you signed up for this course because you want to learn. In this case, I hope you want to learn about the genres of fiction. Therefore, I expect that you will complete the work I have created to teach you these skills.
2. I expect that you have come to this class with a working usage of modern English grammar and a writing level equal to BC’s English 101. I encourage you to utilize the Writing Lab’s virtual tutor or go to the Writing Lab on campus for help with grammar or other writing problems. Major grammatical or other writing errors will diminish you grade on essays and exams.
3. I expect that you will participate in all class activities. You must complete every assignment in a timely manner to pass this course.

4. I expect that you will take care to back up your papers and journal assignments on more than one disk and/or store them on your hard drive AND a disk or other portable media. It is your responsibility to keep track of this material. If some computer catastrophe should occur, you will still be responsible for producing the work by the due date in order to get a grade. Be careful–save and back your work up regularly!

5. I expect that you will show respect to everyone by responding to e-mail and discussion postings in a way that is not judgmental, degrading, or derogatory. Even though we may disagree with the interpretations of others, please use some self-restraint and compassion in dealing with these issues. Logical and questioning responses are encouraged. Choose your words and the tone of your message with utmost care. I also expect tolerance for others' abilities and learning styles. Please notify me immediately if you feel another student has not extended these courtesies to you.

7. I expect each assignment will be submitted to the appropriate locations and in the manner specified by the date shown on the specific assignment page and the class calendar. Assignments submitted after that date will lose 10% for each 24 hour period that they are late. I will not accept assignments more than three days late. Do not wait until the last minute to submit your work to avoid losing points for late work.

8. I expect honesty. I expect that you will neither do work for others nor use work done by others. Recycling essays used in other courses is considered cheating. Cheating and/or plagiarizing will not be tolerated. Plagiarizing is cheating, as is copying answers on a test, borrowing passages from other papers, swapping papers, buying papers, using ideas from other sources without proper documentation, writing papers for others, or having them written for you. BC utilizes plagiarism detection software, and all assignments will be submitted. If you cheat or plagiarize, the following actions will be taken:

   o You will receive a grade of "0" on the work (no exceptions).
   o A report of the incident will be filed in the Dean of Students' Office. This report may become part of your permanent record or the Dean may choose to pursue further disciplinary action.

9. Personal conferences can be held in my office if you can come to the campus at a convenient time; otherwise, an e-mail conference can be held. You will NOT be able to just "catch me" in my office so please contact me first to set up an appointment BEFORE coming to the campus.