



Course Outcome Summary

Written Communication (EWRCOM)

Course Information:

Description: Students use the writing process to complete written projects. In the process of doing so, students analyze audience and purpose; generate ideas for writing; employ appropriate rhetorical strategies; research, synthesize, and organize information; use an approved documentation system for research writing; use technology to format documents appropriately; and follow grammar and punctuation rules. * Advanced Standing Course: Students who successfully complete this course with a B or above will not have to take Keyboarding Fundamentals at Western Technical College.*

Instruction Level:

Total Credits: 2

Course Standards:

College and Career Readiness Standards Skill Band (28-32) Writing level (9)

Essential Question: What are the important skills in writing that allow citizens to be articulate members of society?

Unit

1. Intro to College Writing
2. Illustration
3. Research
4. Narrative

Unit Outlines

1. Intro to College Writing

Standards:

- Show competent use of language to communicate ideas by
 - correctly employing most conventions of Standard English grammar, usage, and mechanics, with few distracting errors but none that impede understanding
 - generally choosing words that are precise and varied
 - using several kinds of sentence structures to vary pace and support meaning

Essential Question:

- What purposes are there for writing, and what are the most important grammatical conventions that will allow the writer to be an articulate member of society?

Essential Knowledge:

Students will:

- Articulate the importance of drafting
- Articulate the importance of considering audience
- Name the conventions of rhetorical strategies such as illustration, narrative, classification, essential and extended definition, comparison, and description
- Identify sentence fragments and run-ons and other common conventional errors
- Employ common comma rules

2. Illustration**Standards:**

- Maintain a focus on discussing the specific issue in the prompt throughout the essay
- Present a thesis that establishes a focus on the writer's position on the topic.
- Provide thorough development in support of ideas; extend ideas by using some specific, logical reasons and illustrative examples.
- Show some movement between general and specific ideas and examples.
- Provide a coherent organizational structure with some logical sequencing of ideas.
- Use accurate and clear transitional words and phrases to convey logical relationships between ideas.
- Present a generally well-developed introduction and conclusion.

Essential Question:

- How does the ability to organize an essay in a logical way allow the reader to tell a story clearly to his or her audience?

Essential Knowledge:

Students will:

- Write introductions and conclusions
- Organize paragraphs in MEL-Con format
- Craft topic sentences that control their paragraphs
- Use transitions that effectively move from one thought to the next
- Write thesis statements that are clear and control the essay
- Create sentences that are varied in structure
- Use diction and tone suited for a formal essay
- Write in a concise manner

3. Research

Standards:

- Generate thoughtful reasons for a positions; show recognition of the complexity of the issue in the prompt by
 - Partially evaluating implications and/or complications of the issue
- Maintain a focus on discussing the specific issue in the prompt throughout the essay
- Present a thesis that establishes a focus on the writer's position on the topic.
- Provide thorough development in support of ideas; extend ideas by using some specific, logical reasons and illustrative examples.
- Show some movement between general and specific ideas and examples.
- Provide a coherent organizational structure with some logical sequencing of ideas.
- Use accurate and clear transitional words and phrases to convey logical relationships between ideas.
- Present a generally well-developed introduction and conclusion.

Essential Question:

- How does thorough research aid in understanding and underscore the importance of the topic of an essay?

Essential Knowledge:

Students will:

- Research topics in the LMC databases and stacks
- Identify a credible source
- Format a paper in MLA or APA format
- Understand when and how to quote from a source
- Paraphrase information identified in credible sources
- Plan and outline a research essay
- Take notes on credible research sources
- Use the correct verb tense with each sentence's subject
- Cite sources correctly both in the text and in the reference page.

4. Narrative**Standards:**

- Maintain a focus on discussing the specific issue in the prompt throughout the essay
- Provide thorough development in support of ideas; extend ideas by using some specific, logical reasons and illustrative examples.
- Show some movement between general and specific ideas and examples.
- Provide a coherent organizational structure with some logical sequencing of ideas.
- Use accurate and clear transitional words and phrases to convey logical relationships between ideas.
- Present a generally well-developed introduction and conclusion.

Essential Question:

- How does writing using minor details improve the reader's experience and make a story more interesting to read?

Essential Knowledge:

Students Will:

- Write using descriptive details to bring a story to life
- Use figurative language including simile and metaphor to improve the readability of a story
- Identify and repair misplaced modifiers
- Articulate the elements of descriptive and narrative writing

