**ENGL 131--FIRST YEAR ENGLISH I (3 credits)**

**Civic Memorial High School**

**Fall 2018**

**INSTRUCTOR:** Christiann Wiest **OFFICE:** Room 200

**E-MAIL ADDRESS**: cwiest@bethalto.org **PHONE**: 618-377-7230

**CONTACT HOURS**: I am available to meet with students after school.

**Course Description:** Focuses on practicing, through the writing process, skills in creating clear, concise, and carefully edited essays and summaries. Essentials of grammar, mechanics, and punctuation are stressed. The course also introduces/reviews MLA format, writing with sources, and critical thinking to prepare students for analytical writing. *Prerequisite: ACT/SAT score or GPA requirements*

**Required Texts:** *The Student Writer: Editor and Critic*, 9th ed., Barbara Fine Clouse

**Learning Objectives**

**Upon completion of this course, students will be able to perform these tasks:**

1. Plan, write, and revise (using various rhetorical patterns) unified, coherent, logically reasoned, and well-developed 3-5 page essays with clearly recognizable theses.

2. Create 1-page responses to reading.

3. Complete a 5-page research project.

4. Complete an in-class essay.

5. Edit essays to avoid repeated errors in grammar, punctuation, spelling, and usage.

6. Produce clear, specific, and logical prose through repeated practice in the writing process.

7. Critically evaluate and analyze the writing of others.

**Course work:** Reading assignments

 Quizzes

 Discussion

 Group assignments

 Essay and research projects

**Evaluation:** The course work is evaluated with a point system using criteria listed in the above "Course Objectives" and the attached "Composition Evaluation" form. Students must earn at least a “C” in ENGL 131 to advance to ENGL 132. **Letter Grades:** 90% and above = A; 89% to 80% = B; 79% to 70 % = C; 69% to 60% = D; and 59% and less = F. **Course assignments are weighted, with essays being worth 90 percent of the overall grade and all other assignments/quizzes being worth 10 percent**. The final exam is worth 20 percent of the semester grade, and each quarter is worth 40 percent of the final grade, per CM policy.

**Late essays:** Ten points will be deducted from the final score of an essay if it is not ready by the rough draft due date.Ten points (a letter grade) will be deducted for **each school day** (not class period) a final draft is late. **Every essay must be completed in order to pass the course. Being absent from school is not an excuse for not turning in a paper on time. Final drafts are due by 11:59 p.m. on the due date via Schoology. Essays and assignments will not be accepted after two weeks have passed from the due date. They will be scored as a zero at that point.**

**Plagiarism:** Assignments that have been copied from another student or another source will not be scored.  “Academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and forgery, violate the Student Conduct Code and will lead to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion” (*LCCC Online Catalog).*

**Attendance, Promptness, and Participation:** Preparation for class and participation in class discussions are noticed. See the Civic Memorial student handbook for attendance and make-up work policies.

**Cell Phones/ Email:** Civic Memorial’s policy on electronic devices will be adhered to.

**Writing Help**

A link to the Purdue Online Writing Lab (OWL) is available on my school webpage. This is a valuable resource and offers information on MLA format, as well as many aspects of writing. The writing desk at LCCC accepts papers electronically 24/7 at OPS@lc.edu.  The OPS (Online Paper Submission) requires at least 24 hours turnaround time.

**Course Projects:**

**Weeks 1-3** **Description 100 pts.**

 (3 pages)

**Weeks 4-6** **Exemplification/Illustration 100 pts.**

 (3 pages)

 **Weeks 7-9** **Causal Analysis w/Research 100 pts**

 (5 pages)

 **Weeks 10-12** **Compare/Contrast 100 pts.**

 (3 pages)

**Weeks 13-15** **Classification and Division 100 pts.**

 (3 pages)

**Weeks 16-18** **Argumentation**  **100 pts.**

 (3 pages)

**See the final page for the composition evaluation form.**

**By remaining in this section of English 131, you are indicating that you agree to abide by these policies.**