WR101: Composition I

Course Description:

In WR 101, you will study the fundamental principles of rhetoric, develop the ability to think, read, and write critically, and refine your writing strategies and behaviors. You will be introduced to writing as a process, including such essential practices as invention, arrangement, and revision. You will write primarily expository essays to practice advancing ideas logically to a particular *audience* for a specific *occasion* to achieve a clear *purpose*. By defining these elements of the rhetorical situation for writing, you will cultivate a clear voice and presence in your writing as you strive to communicate your ideas to others.

As part of the core curriculum, first-year composition courses encourage active learning and are conducted as writing workshops in which you will regularly meet in small groups to discuss and respond in writing to challenging readings, as well as drafts of one another's essays. In addition to participating in these workshops, you will frequently meet with the instructor in individual conferences to discuss your writing at various stages of the drafting process. Such training helps prepare you not only for successful academic and professional lives but also for full participation in your lives as educated citizens.

The **goals** of the first-year composition sequence are:

- Analyze the audience, occasion, and purpose of a rhetorical situation in order to formulate a response to an idea or problem.
- Generate ideas through both discovery and consultation of a variety of sources.
- Develop ideas fully, offering compelling support and evidence for assertions or conclusions.
- Organize ideas coherently, integrating sources effectively and documenting them appropriately.
- Edit writing for clarity, precision, and stylistic effectiveness.
- Proofread writing to ensure grammatical and mechanical correctness.