

Revised Comp 2 Guidelines 2019 (from 2019) (Updated on 12/6/2023)

Second Year – Sophomore Composition

Objectives

During the year, students should:

- practice writing full-length essays in various rhetorical modes,
- practice reviewing, editing, and correcting their own and others' work for both content and language;
- learn to present and defend a clear thesis throughout a whole essay,
- learn how to incorporate the work of other writers into their writing,
- understand the differences between informal and formal writing styles and write at least one short research paper.

Course registration

Students can choose the section that they wish to attend as long as the class has enough available spots. Maximum recommended number of students per class: 16. Students should not change sections in the second semester, as they may miss out on covering certain content.

Assignment types

- At least three full-length essays, including redrafting and editing.
- Redrafting and editing of essays (in response to feedback from teacher, classmates, or both).
- Occasional in-class writing is also recommended (e.g., an in-class writing test).
- Other, shorter assignments, including non-academic genres (e.g., letter writing, film reviews).
- Journal writing is an optional extra.

Subject matter

- Writing appropriate introductions and conclusions.
- The process of writing: establishing a stance, formulating a thesis, developing an outline, and writing a complete essay.
- Maintaining coherence within paragraphs and over a whole essay.
- Writing in a formal, as opposed to an informal or journalistic, style.
- Grammar review and practice as needed.
- Vocabulary expansion via dictionaries, corpora, and other online tools.
- Plagiarism – continued emphasis should be put on the importance of avoiding plagiarism and ways of doing so:
 - Paraphrasing and summarizing: further practice will be needed with this, as it is a difficult skill in a foreign language.
 - Citation and references – how to do it, different formats, and practice including citations and references in one or more student essays.
- Formal letters, book/movie reviews, and other nonacademic tasks may also be assigned for the sake of variety and to provide practice with other styles and genres of writing.

Modes:

- Description, narration, process, classification, illustration, definition, comparison and contrast, and argumentation should be covered over the year.
- An introduction to research writing
- Summarizing, paraphrasing, citation.

Grading

Instructors should adjust the difficulty of the curriculum according to the overall performance, and accordingly, individual diligence should be rewarded reasonably and fairly.

Materials

Teachers may choose their own materials as long as they meet the requirements above.