

Academic Writing & Grammar 1002 (AWG 1002)

Course Description:

Academic Writing and Grammar 1002 (AWG 1002) is a 150-contact-hour course. It reviews paragraph writing and focuses on the essay, using four rhetorical patterns: classification or process, comparison/contrast, cause/effect, and argumentation. Grammar is taught in parallel with emphasis on verb tense, modals, and the noun phrase. AWG 1002 continuously reinforces accurate use of language mechanics and adequate style. In AWG 1002, writing is taught as a process, using a communicative and a learner-centered approach in an academic environment.

To enroll in AWG 1002, students need to either successfully complete AWG 1001 or score at least 5-6/9 on the Language Center Writing Placement Test (WPT).

Course Objective

AWG 1002 aims at preparing students for freshman composition (**English 1301**). AWG 1002 also reinforces the listening/speaking and reading skills taught in other courses at the Language Center. In accordance with the LC mission statement, AWG 1002 exposes students to culturally diverse and authentic material, enhances critical thinking, and uses up-to-date technology.

Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs)

By the end of the course, students will be able to

1. use prewriting strategies as a first step to producing a clear and well-organized essay outline.
2. write a focused and clear thesis statement.
3. write an introduction, using an effective hook.
4. develop a thesis statement in several unified and coherent body paragraphs.
5. write conclusions which summarize ideas and leave an impact on the reader.
6. write essays, using four rhetorical patterns (classification **or** process, comparison/contrast, cause/effect, and argumentation.)
7. produce a variety of sentence types, using an academic style.
8. use adequate grammar in writing.
9. demonstrate logical transitions.
10. use basic editing strategies to self-edit their writing and peer-edit their classmates' writing.

Course evaluation

Academic Writing & Grammar 1002 is a non-credit pass/fail course. It is a prerequisite for enrolling in beginning composition. The pass/fail grade is determined by the following criteria:

Mid-term exam	20%
Mid-term portfolio	25% (Paragraph 10% - 1 st essay 15%)
Final exam	20%

Final Portfolio	35 % (2 nd Essay 10% - 3 rd Essay 10% - 4 th Essay 10% - 5% classwork)
Total	100%

Portfolio

A portfolio is a collection of the student's writing assignments and is worth 60% of the semester grade. The portfolio is intended to reinforce writing as a process. Students will be asked to complete writing assignments utilizing various stages of the writing process. Each student will revise 5 assignments during the semester- 2 before the midterm and 3 before the final. These revised assignments will be graded and will make up most of the portfolio grade. Students are expected to keep all work from each stage of the writing process in their portfolios in order to demonstrate growth over time and over drafts.

Writing Assignments

Students will complete at least 4 writing assignments before the midterm. Of these 4 assignments, 2 will be selected for revision and will count for most of the midterm portfolio grade. After the midterm, students will complete at least 6 writing assignments. Of these, 3 will be selected for revision and will represent most of the final portfolio grade. Assignments must be completed on time, and failure to complete will reflect poorly on the portfolio grades.

Grading: the weighting of individual drafts (2 of 3 or 3 of 3) is left to the teachers' discretion. **Also, students will be evaluated on each essay pattern through an in class timed writing.**

Course Materials:

- *Longman Academic Writing Series* (4th Ed.) Handouts will be provided by the teacher.
- *Great Writing 4- Great Essays* (4th Ed.)
- *Focus on Grammar 4 & 5*