

Syllabus

Course Information

- Semester and Year: Fall 2026
- Course Title: First-Year Composition
- Course Prefix and Number: ENG 101
- Section Number: 18262, 18347, 18440
- Credit Hours: 3
- Start Date: 8 Sep. 2026
- End Date: 18 Dec. 2026
- Class Format: Online

Instructor Information

- Instructor: Matthew Bloom
- Email: matthew.bloom@scottsdalecc.edu (preferred)
- Phone: 4804236454 (not preferred method of contact)
- Office Location: LC337
- Office Hours: Mon./Wed., 1:00-3:00pm; Tue., 2:00-3:00pm

Course Description

Emphasis on rhetoric and composition with a focus on expository writing and understanding writing as a process. Establishing effective college-level writing strategies through four or more writing projects comprising at least 3,000 words in total.

Prerequisites and/or Corequisites

Prerequisites: Appropriate writing placement test score, or (a grade of C or better in ESL097 or WAC101), or (a grade of B or better in ALT100), or (a grade of C in ALT100 and Corequisites: ENG101LL, or ENG107LL, or WAC101, or ENG100A+), or (a grade of C or better in ESL202 and Corequisites: ENG101LL, or ENG107LL, or WAC101, or ENG100A+).

Course Competencies

1. Analyze specific rhetorical contexts, including circumstance, purpose, topic, audience, and writer, as well as the writing's ethical, political, and cultural implications.
2. Use appropriate conventions in writing, including consistent voice, tone, diction, grammar, and mechanics.
3. Use feedback obtained from peer review, instructor comments and/or other resources to revise writing.

4. Assess one's own writing strengths and identify strategies for improvement through instructor conference, portfolio review, written evaluation, and/or other methods.
5. Generate, format, and edit writing using appropriate technologies.
6. Organize writing to support a central idea through unity, coherence, and logical development appropriate to a specific writing context.
7. Summarize, paraphrase and quote from sources to maintain academic integrity and to develop and support one's own ideas.

General Education & Institutional Learning Outcomes

General Education provides foundational learning experiences that contribute to academic and career success. It is reflected in [Scottsdale Community College's Institutional Learning Outcomes](#): Arts & Humanities Awareness, Career Readiness, Critical Thinking and Problem Solving, Effective Communication, Information Literacy, and Social Responsibility. Students who take ENG 101 will learn skills that support effective communication and critical thinking.

Program Learning Outcomes

Credit-bearing courses at Scottsdale Community College can count toward the completion of a degree or certificate program. Each program has Program Learning Outcomes, which are learned assets that students can claim to have acquired by completing their academic or occupational program at SCC. Program Learning Outcomes can be found on the [Degrees and Certificates page](#) of the SCC Website. For each degree, look under "What You'll Learn."

This course is a General Education course that is foundational to many degree programs and a key component of the Arizona General Education Curriculum (AGEC) certificate program. This course fulfills an first-year composition requirement for the AGEC.

Texts and Course Materials

Open Educational Resources (OER)

There is no textbook that you are required to purchase for this course. Instead, all required learning materials are available through Canvas. A number of this course's assignments will involve the use of openly-licensed digital resources (OER), to which you have free, immediate, and permanent access.

Some assignments may encourage you to contribute to the development and/or revision of publicly-shared materials (anonymously if you choose), but it is your decision whether or not to share your work publicly. For information about copyright and open licensing, feel free to consult Creative Commons (<https://creativecommons.org/>).

Course Policies

The following are policies specific to this course. Students are also responsible for the college policies included on the [Student Regulations](#) page of the Maricopa Community College District website.

Writing and Research Assignments

- Assignment prompts outline the purpose, subject, and requirements of a writing or research assignment. These prompts will often contain a rubric, which describes the criteria by which the assignment will be evaluated. Assignment prompts will be available on Canvas and must be read carefully along with all other related content.
- It is strongly recommended that you use the instructor's office hours to go over drafts of assignments before they are due. **It is the student's responsibility to actively solicit and apply draft feedback from the instructor.**
- **Do NOT procrastinate.** Composition is a time-consuming process of plans and revisions. It is rare for a first draft to be effective.
- All written work in this course must be original and completed for this course. If you have written about a topic before and would like to build upon previous work, contact the instructor. Any resubmission of work submitted to previous courses is unacceptable.
- **Students are required to submit all major composition assignments in order to pass the course. These assignments are *asterisked in the table below.**

Late Work

- **All assignments are expected to be completed and submitted by the due dates in Canvas.** However, the instructor does not penalize work just for being late. That means if you need an extra day or two to complete an assignment, you may do so without automatically losing any points. If you need an extended period of time beyond a deadline, please contact your instructor to determine your options.
- **Note that not hitting the deadlines is directly proportional to a greater risk of poor performance in the course.** Use the due date flexibility as a last resort.

Individual and Group Work

- **A substantial portion of the course grade consists of a variety of practice activities, minor quizzes, and group discussions.** Read each assignment, quiz, or discussion carefully in order to see how points will be awarded. Unless otherwise noted, you will want to provide thoughtful, relevant, and appropriate comments in order to receive points for contribution to a discussion.
- **Participation in group activities, such as discussion forums, is required.** For the most part, these discussions will be evaluated based on the thoughtfulness of the responses, so a simple "I agree" won't necessarily cut it. Likewise, **collaborative group work must be completed thoroughly according to the assignment's grading criteria and only group members that made a meaningful contribution to the project will be awarded points.**

Attendance Policy

Any student who has been inactive in the course for two straight weeks may be withdrawn. “Inactive” means that the student hasn’t completed assignments/activities online and has not communicated with the instructor. Make sure to alert the instructor (and get confirmation) if you plan to be “inactive” for more than a week. **Inactivity is not recommended.**

Instructional Contact Hours and Minimum Course Expectations

Instructional contact hours are the weekly time students spend directly learning with their instructor or course activities. These activities include, but are not limited to, lectures, discussions, labs, group work, and viewing recordings. Instructional contact hours vary by course; refer to the [MCCCD course bank](#) for your course’s details.

Minimum course expectations include the number of hours students are expected to spend outside of class (weekly) completing coursework. Students are encouraged to use the [Time Management Calculator](#) to help estimate their weekly time commitment for classes.

Canvas Cross-Listed Sections

Multiple sections of this course are combined on Canvas. You may interact with students from another class online. If you have questions, please contact the instructor.

Course Technologies

View the [Accessibility Statements & Privacy Policies](#) of the technologies used in this course. The [SCC Help Desk](#) provides students with a primary point of contact within SCC for college-supported technology services and technical assistance.

Maricopa Systems

This course uses key Maricopa systems for course management and communication.

- Canvas Learning Management System
- Student Maricopa Gmail Account
- Maricopa Open Educational Resource Learning System (MOER)

Streaming Media/Audio/Video Tools

This course uses webcasting, lecture capture systems, YouTube, and/or other streaming media services.

Student Assignment Tools

This course requires students to participate in or submit assignments using desktop or cloud-based applications.

- Google Products
- [Microsoft Office 365](#)
- [Adobe Creative Cloud](#)

Exam Proctoring Tools

Plagiarism Checker Tool (Turnitin)

Turnitin is a plagiarism check tool that matches text to a vast database of sources, including the internet, published works, commercial databases, and student work submitted to Turnitin in institutions internationally. Students must submit designated papers to Turnitin when instructed. Information and instructions for Turnitin are provided in the course. For your reference, read the [Turnitin Terms of Service](#).

Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy

The World Economic Forum defines generative AI as “a category of artificial intelligence (AI) algorithms that generate new outputs based on the data they have been trained on. Unlike traditional AI systems that are designed to recognize patterns and make predictions, generative AI creates new content in the form of images, text, audio, and more.”

Some examples of generative AI tools include but are not limited to: ChatGPT, Google Gemini, Microsoft Copilot, Stable Diffusion, GrammarlyGo, and Adobe Firefly.

No Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) Allowed

In this class, all work submitted must be your own. The use of generative AI tools will be considered academic misconduct (see Administrative Regulation 2.3.11 1.B(b)) and will be treated as such. If you are unsure if the tool or website you are using is a generative AI tool, please contact the instructor for further clarification before using the tool or website.

Grading Standards and Practices

“Grading”

- There are approximately 1000 points possible in the course (the exact number will vary somewhat based on the individual needs of certain sections).
- The instructor will try to keep Canvas’s gradebook as accurate as possible, **but the grades visible on Canvas may not accurately reflect a student’s actual current grade. The student should schedule a meeting with the instructor for a formal discussion of her/his current grade.** Also note that Canvas gives you two different ways to see what your grade is: one that factors in unsubmitted/ungraded assignments and one that does not.

Grade Scale

Table 1 Course Grading Scale

Letter Grade	Points Range
A	90 – 100%
B	80 – 89%

C	70 – 79%
D	60 – 69%
F	0 – 59%

Assignments

Table 2 List of Assignments

Assignment Name	Points	Percent of Grade
*You Are the Author	50	5%
*Rhetoric in the Real World	150	15%
*Narrative	50	5%
*Argument	200	20%
Quizzes, Discussions, Other Canvas Activities	550	55%
TOTAL:		100%

Student/Instructor Interaction

In this course, you can expect regular and substantive interaction (RSI) that aligns with Scottsdale Community College's mission to provide challenging and supportive learning experiences and the US Department of Education's requirement for regular and substantive interaction (RSI) for online courses. My commitment to your success includes the following:

- Being available during regularly scheduled office hours as stated in the syllabus.
- Sharing weekly information about the course materials, including key information, explanations, examples, and resources via in-person, recorded, and/or text-based lectures.
- Engaging in weekly discussions about course content within discussion boards in Canvas or other discussion-based tools.
- Providing group or individual feedback regularly on assignments.
- Promptly responding to student questions about the course sent via email or the Canvas inbox.
- Regularly posting announcements about the course content and activities.
- Monitor your academic progress and communicate concerns, as needed.

Response Time

Students can expect a response time of **24-48 hours** for the instructor to respond to messages sent via the Canvas Learning Management System or @maricopa.edu email. Students can expect assignments to be graded within **two weeks** of the assignment's due date.

Tutoring

SCC's tutors are available online to help with your courses. You may work with an SCC tutor remotely using Google Meet, your phone, or email. Visit the [Tutoring & Learning Centers](#) page for detailed information on the five learning centers' hours and procedures.

If you need to work with a tutor outside regular hours, online and hybrid students now have access to a 24/7 online tutoring service called Brainfuse. To access Brainfuse and begin working with a tutor, visit the [SCC Online Tutoring Services Through Brainfuse](#) page.

MCCCD Policies

MCCCD is committed to providing a safe, fair, and accessible environment for all students. This includes laws such as the ADA and Title IX, which protect against discrimination. These statements explain your rights, available support, and where to go for help or more information. Please review the following policies:

Classroom Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the Maricopa County Community College District (MCCCD) and its associated colleges are committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities to students with documented disabilities (e.g. physical, sensory, neurological, chronic illness, mental health, learning disabilities, or other health concerns). If you require accommodations for this course, please contact [Disability Resources and Services](#) (DRS) at your college.

Contact with [DRS](#) should be made as soon as possible to ensure academic needs are met in a reasonable time. Additional information can be found in the [Non-Discrimination Statement](#) and [MCCCD Non-Discrimination Policies](#).

[Addressing Incidents of Title IX Sexual Harassment](#)

Students are responsible for the information contained in this syllabus, the Syllabus page in the Canvas course, and the College Policies & Student Services page located under SCC Student Resources in the Canvas course navigation menu. The instructor will notify students of any changes to course requirements or policies.