

BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
 The City University of New York  
 Department of English

ENGLISH 101: COMPOSITION 1  
 Section 1810, Fall 2017/ Mondays 6:00 p.m. - 9:40 p.m.; Murray Building M1212  
 3 Credits/4 Hours

Professor Crystal I. Cunningham  
 Office: N761 (199 Chambers)  
 Office Hours: 4:50 p.m. to 5:50 p.m., Monday or Tuesday by appointment only  
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Course Description

Welcome to the class! This course will introduce you to academic writing; by its conclusion, you will be ready for English 201 and for writing in advanced courses across the curriculum. You will master the fundamentals of college-level reading and writing. You will practice the habits necessary for success in college and in the larger world: summarizing, classifying, comparing, and analyzing. This semester’s course is broadly organized around the themes of self-reliance and the relationship between the individual and society. Through reading and analyzing texts that relate to our course theme, you will improve your abilities for critical thinking. You will become a competent and confident reader and writer and view reading and writing as acts of self-discovery.

Prerequisites

- Score of 56 or higher on CATW

Required Texts and Materials

- *Steps to Writing Well, With Additional Readings*, 13<sup>th</sup> edition. Jean Wyrick. Cengage, 2017. This book is available at the college book store.
- *The MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, 7<sup>th</sup> edition.
- You should have a folder or folders for storing course handouts and course work and a one subject notebook/loose-leaf paper for in-class writing assignments.
- You will need a college level dictionary to bring with you to the final exam and practice exam.

Course Learning Outcomes (After successfully completing this course, you can expect to be able to...)	Measurements (means of assessment for learning outcomes listed in first column)
1. Organize, develop, and revise thesis-driven essays that include substantial support and use a variety of rhetorical strategies.	1. 3 out-of-class essays, 1 in-class essay, departmental final examination.
2. Summarize, paraphrase, and quote from readings.	2. Graded essays, out-of-class and in-class writing exercises, departmental final examination.

3. Critically analyze numerous readings.	3. Out-of-class and in-class writing exercises, class discussion of readings, graded essays, departmental final examination.
4. Demonstrate a command of edited American English, using vocabulary and syntax appropriate to college-level work.	4. Graded essays, departmental final examination.
5. Demonstrate a command of the MLA conventions of citation and documentation.	5. Out-of-class graded essays.

Below are the college's general education goals that students who successfully complete this course can expect to have achieved:

General Education Learning Outcomes	Measurements (means of assessment for general education goals listed in first column)
Communication Skills- Students will be able to write, read, listen and speak critically and effectively.	Class discussion of readings, graded essays, departmental final examination.
Arts & Humanities – Students will be able to develop knowledge and understanding of the arts and literature through critiques of works of art, music, theatre or literature.	Class discussion of readings, graded essays, departmental final examination.
Values- Students will be able to make informed choices based on an understanding of personal values, human diversity, multicultural awareness and social responsibility.	Graded essays in response to course theme of ethics, education, and empowerment.

### Course Requirements

- 4 out-of-class essays (graded as drafts and upon revision) and an in-class practice essay for the final exam.
- Informal writing exercises (summary, response) to accompany reading assignments.
- In-class writing including group work.
- Active participation in class discussions: Your ideas matter!
- Departmental Final Exam that requires you to compose, draft and edit a thesis-centered essay of at least 500 words.

### Course Policies

- Attendance and Punctuality: You are expected to attend class regularly and on time. More than 4 absences could result in the lowering of your grade or failing the course.
- You are responsible for any work assigned during an absence. If you miss class, you may contact me via email or ask another student what you have missed.
- You must be professional, attentive, and courteous in class.
- Try not to leave the room during class.
- Put cell phones on vibrate and turn off electronic equipment. Remove headphones before entering class.
- No recording devices allowed.
- Academic Adjustments for Students with Disabilities. Students with disabilities who require reasonable accommodations or academic adjustments for this course must contact the Office

of Accessibility. BMCC is committed to providing equal access to all programs and curricula to all students.

- BMCC Policy on Plagiarism and Academic Integrity Statement. Plagiarism is the presentation of someone else's ideas, words or artistic, scientific or technical work as one's own creation. Using the idea or work of another is permissible only when the original author is identified. Paraphrasing and summarizing, as well as direct quotations, require citations to the original source. Plagiarism may be intentional or unintentional. Lack of dishonest intent does not necessarily absolve a student of responsibility for plagiarism. Students who are unsure how and when to provide documentation are advised to consult with their instructors. The library has guides designed to help students to appropriately identify a cited work. The full policy can be found on BMCC's web site, [www.bmcc.cuny.edu](http://www.bmcc.cuny.edu).

### Grading

- |                           |     |
|---------------------------|-----|
| • Formal Essays           | 40% |
| • Informal Writing        | 15% |
| • Reaction Papers         | 15% |
| • Departmental Final Exam | 30% |

### Grading System

Grade	Description	Points
A	93-100%	4.00
A-	90-92%	3.70
B+	87-89%	3.30
B	83-86%	3.00
B-	80-82%	2.70
C+	77-79%	2.30
C	73-76%	2.00
C-	70-72%	1.70
D+	67-69%	1.30
D	63-66%	1.00
D-	60-62%	0.70
F	Failure	0.00

### Requirements

Formal Essays: You will write 4 formal thesis-driven essays. Three will go through multiple drafts and range from three to four typewritten pages, and one will be written in class under similar conditions as the final exam and may be revised after. Drafts and revisions will be mandatory, as will peer review sessions. Failure to provide drafts on due dates or to be present and active in peer review will result in lowered grades for essays. Informal essays and reading reaction papers may not be revised.

Final Exam: The departmental final, graded by the instructor and an additional reader who is another current 101 instructor, is a 90-minute essay exam administered during the last week of class. It asks students to write a fully developed essay (of approximately 500 words) in response to a question based on two interrelated readings selected each semester by the Composition Committee. This semester's readings will be "Manhattan" by John Berger and "City Limits" by Colson Whitehead.

- Late Assignments

In the event that you are not able to submit your assignment in a timely fashion, and you have a documented excuse, you must speak with me to make prior arrangements. I DO NOT ACCEPT LATE PAPERS VIA E-MAIL OR MAIL BOX IN ROOM N751. Late papers are dropped one entire letter grade (i.e., "A" will be a "B," etc.). Papers submitted after the designated date when you validate your excuse and I agree to take your late paper will not be accepted and will receive an automatic 49% which is an "F." In addition, even with a revised essay, the highest grade you can get is a "B." If the paper was originally late and you already received a "B," you cannot submit the essay for revision.

DO NOT SUBMIT ANY LATE PAPERS IN MY PHYSICAL MAILBOX IN ROOM N751; OR ELECTRONIC MAIL!

Tentative Schedule of Readings, Assignments, and Class Work (subject to change):

Mon. Aug. 28: Introduction to Class. Icebreakers. Learning Styles/ Writing Diagnostic  
**Discuss the theme: The Cultural Diversity of New York City.**

Mon. Sept. 4: **Labor Day (NO CLASS)**  
**HW: Reaction Paper #1:** Film on Immigration: Gangs of New York  
Why was there such an influx of Irish immigrants in NYC? Is Martin Scorsese's view of 1860's New York an accurate representation? How is this film relevant to today's New York?

Mon. Sept. 11: **Essay Mode: Description, Chp. 16.** Essay Components: Pre-Writing Strategies, Thesis Statement, Opening Paragraphs. "New York City Serenade" by Bruce Springsteen. **HW: Out of class essay #1:** *The Subway*, 1950 by George Tooker

Mon. Sept. 18: **LIBRARY INSTRUCTION- S 410M** (6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.).  
**Reaction Paper #1** is due on Gangs of New York

- Mon. Sept.25: In-class reading: “If You Ain’t Got Heart, You Ain’t Got Nada” by Piri Thomas. **Out of class essay #1 is due:** *The Subway*, 1950 by George Tooker. In-class writing assignment. Reading: *Time Out New York*, “Be a Better New Yorker.”
- Mon. Oct. 2: **Essay Mode: Division and Classification, Chp. 13**  
The Reading-Writing Connection. The Annotated Essay. Reading: “Here is New York ” by E.B. White. Essay Components: Topic Sentences, Support, Transitions, Conclusion  
In-class: Watch YouTube Video: “25 Types of People on the Subway”  
<https://spoilednyc.com/2015/04/30/everyday-im-strugglin-25-types-people-encounter-riding-subway/>  
**HW: Subway Stories-** plan your classification/division essay. Keep a log of the activity you see on any New York subway train you take for one week. Classify four types of people who ride the subway.
- Mon. Oct. 9: NO CLASS. **HW:** Reading, “Four Types of Courage” by Karen Castellucci Cox and Susan Fawcett. Complete the writing assignment and discussion questions. **HW: Out of class essay #2:** Types of People on the Subway.
- Mon. Oct. 16: **MIDTERM EXAM. Out of class essay #2 is due.** Readings from *The New York Times*, TBA.  
**HW: Reaction Paper #2:** Film on NYC Subway: The Taking of Pelham 1.2.3 What would you do if you were on the 6 train boarding at Pelham Bay and you realized the train was being hijacked? Can you think of any other instances where people experienced a train ride that was life-threatening?
- Mon. Oct. 23: In-class group activity. **HW:** Music: Write a reflection on Sinatra’s song, “New York, New York” or Jay Z’s Empire State of Mind” and create a thesis statement based off the song and develop an essay on what this song means in terms of cultural diversity in NYC. “Empire State of Mind” by Jay Z featuring Alicia Keys <https://vimeo.com/29885705> ;“New York, New York” by Frank Sinatra <https://youtu.be/EUrUfJW1JGk>
- Mon. Oct. 30: **Reaction Paper #2** is due on The Taking of Pelham 1.2.3
- Mon. Nov. 6: **Essay Mode: Argumentation, Chp.16** Reading: Martin Gansberg: “Thirty-Eight Who Saw Murder Didn’t Call the Police.”  
Documentary on Kitty Genovese: YouTube: Fox Files The Kitty Genovese Murder Reexamined, Part 1: <https://youtu.be/zbpc1bB6ZA8>  
Fox Files The Kitty Genovese Murder Reexamined, Part 2: <https://youtu.be/-la143oMx2s>  
A Crime to Remember, Season 2: “38 Witnesses”  
<https://solarmoviez.to/movie/a-crime-to-remember-season-2-8654/121605-8/watching.html>  
In-class: discussion questions.

- HW: Out of class essay #3:** A Question of Moral Apathy in New York City.
- Mon. Nov. 13: Writers' Workshop: Peer Editing. Writing a Paper Using Research. Reading from *The New York Times*, TBA. **Out of class essay #3 is due:** A Question of Moral Apathy in New York City. **HW: Reaction Paper #3:** Film on any city borough: Brooklyn Culture: Crooklyn ; The Bronx Culture: A Bronx Tale; Queens Culture: Coming to America; Staten Island Culture: Working Girl; Manhattan Culture; When Harry Met Sally..."
- Mon. Nov. 20: **Essay Mode: Narration, Chp. 17:** In-class film: It Can Happen to You. **HW: Out of class essay #4:** Morality and Ethics, film It Can Happen to You. **Reaction Paper #3** is due on any city borough. Empire State of Mind: find a location in New York City and any of the other boroughs and write a one-two page reflection
- Mon. Nov. 27: **Out of class essay #4 is due.** Prepare for Final. "Manhattan" by John Berger. Prepare for Final. "City Limits" by Colson Whitehead. **Empire State of Mind: reflection is due.**  
 In-class: Documentary on New York: YouTube: (Part 1-New York: A Documentary Film-Episode One: The Country and The City (1609-1825) <https://youtu.be/vA17M0Le1Kg>  
 (Part 2-New York: A Documentary Film-Episode One: The Country and The City (1609-1825) <https://youtu.be/87yVl-w8cY8>  
 (Part 3-New York: A Documentary Film-Episode One: The Country and The City (1609-1825) [https://youtu.be/\\_33G7lsbclM](https://youtu.be/_33G7lsbclM)  
 (Part 4- New York: A Documentary Film-Episode One: The Country and The City (1609-1825) <https://youtu.be/vrNaZWlyFcw>  
 (Part 5- New York: A Documentary Film-Episode One: The Country and The City (1609-1825) <https://youtu.be/indKxS6uNVU>  
 (Part 6- New York: A Documentary Film-Episode One: The Country and The City (1609-1825) <https://youtu.be/6XTMuK7dpaA>  
 (Part 7- New York: A Documentary Film-Episode One: The Country and The City (1609-1825) <https://youtu.be/rx8Gikjhom0>  
 Part 8- New York: A Documentary Film-Episode One: The Country and The City (1609-1825) <https://youtu.be/U8Y-PpMUUVE>  
 History of New York City: Walk on The Lower Eastside <https://youtu.be/2NyZVZbABVQ>
- Mon. Dec. 4: **DEPARTMENTAL FINAL EXAM** (date may change). Last day to submit revisions.
- Mon. Dec. 11: **LAST DAY OF CLASS**

# BMCC Academic Calendar

## Fall 2017

<b>August 14-18</b>	Monday - Friday	In-Person Registration
<b>August 24</b>	Thursday	<b>Last day to apply for ePermit</b>
<b>August 24</b>	Thursday	<a href="#"><u>Last day to drop with 100% tuition refund</u></a>
<b>August 25</b>	Friday	Classes begin
<b>August 25</b>	Friday	Application for graduation opens for January 2018 Graduates
<b>August 25</b>	Friday	Fee of \$18 is charged per day for adding or swapping classes once the semester begins
<b>August 25</b>	Friday	Fee of \$25 is charged for late registration or when registration is reinstated after cancellation for non-payment once the semester begins
<b>August 31</b>	Thursday	<a href="#"><u>Last day to drop with 75% tuition refund</u></a>
<b>August 31</b>	Thursday	<b>Last day to add/change a class</b>
<b>September 1</b>	Friday	Course Withdrawal Drop (WD) period begins. A grade of "WD" is assigned to students who officially drop a class
<b>September 2-4</b>	Saturday - Monday	Labor Day Weekend - COLLEGE CLOSED - NO CLASSES
<b>September 7</b>	Thursday	<a href="#"><u>Last day to drop with 50% tuition refund</u></a>
<b>September 14</b>	Thursday	<a href="#"><u>Last day to drop with 25% tuition refund</u></a>

<b>September 14</b>	Thursday	<b>Last day to change a major to be effective for Fall 2017</b>
<b>September 14</b>	Thursday	Course Withdrawal Drop (WD) period ends. Last day to drop <b><u>without</u></b> the grade of "W"
<b>September 15</b>	Friday	Priority Deadline for CUNY Transfer Application
<b>September 15</b>	Friday	Course withdrawal period begins (A grade of "W" is assigned to students who officially drop a class)
<b>September 19</b>	Tuesday	Classes follow Thursday schedule
<b>September 20-22</b>	Wednesday - Friday	No classes scheduled
<b>September 29-30</b>	Friday - Saturday	No classes scheduled
<b>October 9</b>	Monday	COLLEGE CLOSED- NO CLASSES
<b>October 20</b>	Friday	Tentative Early Registration begins for Winter/Spring 2018
<b>November 1</b>	Wednesday	Deadline for completion of INC grade from Winter, Spring and Summer
<b>November 10</b>	Friday	Last day to apply for January 2018 Graduation
<b>November 10</b>	Friday	<b>Last day to withdraw with a grade of "W"</b>
<b>November 11</b>	Saturday	Student Faculty Evaluations available online
<b>November 21</b>	Tuesday	Classes follow Friday Schedule
<b>November 23-26</b>	Thursday - Sunday	COLLEGE CLOSED-NO CLASSES
<b>December 12</b>	Tuesday	Last day of classes



<b>December 12</b>	Tuesday	Student Faculty Evaluations submission deadline
<b>December 13</b>	Wednesday	Reading Day/Final Examinations
<b>December 14-20</b>	Thursday - Wednesday	Final Examinations
<b>December 20</b>	Wednesday	End of Fall Term
<b>December 24-25</b>	Sunday - Monday	COLLEGE CLOSED
<b>December 31</b>	Sunday	COLLEGE CLOSED