

ENGLISH 321 OUTCOMES

Semester Catalog Description:

Prerequisites: ENGL 250 or ENGL 211.

Builds on rhetorical and stylistic skills and techniques gained in previous writing courses; prepares students for successful writing experiences in the professional world; and helps develop the thinking, organizing, and researching skills needed for effective written expression.

Upon completion of English 321, students will demonstrate competence in the areas listed below.

Purposes for Writing

Upon completion of English 321, students should be able to analyze and define the purpose[s] of their writing:

- understand the rhetorical contexts underlying the production of both academic and professional writing
- analyze and apply rhetorical features related to the purposes both of writing texts and of reading texts: audience, message, writer's perspective, tone, and language choice.
- argue or evaluate a position with supporting reasons and evidence
- recognize and use writing as a means of critical reflection, inquiry, communication, and democratic participation.

Problem Solving/Researching/Documenting

Upon completion of English 321, students should be able to locate, integrate, and document information appropriate to their writing:

- increase competence in using advanced primary and secondary research sources
- facilitate the use of research-based computer applications: the Internet, online catalog, databases, email, etc.
- evaluate information found in sources for accuracy and balance
- incorporate research effectively into documents by using opinion, facts and interpretation to support ideas
- document sources using formats from a variety of academic disciplines
- use document-based computer applications effectively
- increase problem-solving skills through critical thinking
- demonstrate the ethical use of sources

Awareness and Knowledge of Audience

Upon completion of English 321, students should be able to analyze and define the needs of their intended audience:

- adapt to their readers' level of knowledge on the topic
- anticipate and answer readers' questions and/or objections
- use vocabulary, tone, and syntactic maturity level appropriate for their readers
- use rhetorical strategies to engage readers and establish credibility

- choose and use the appropriate genre and format that reflect the audience and situation
- anticipate the stylistic expectations involved in professional communication
- exhibit an awareness of and appreciation for the ways in which diverse cultures and contexts may affect writing choices
- understand primary expectations of readers of field-specific texts

Organizing

Upon completion of English 321, students should be able to analyze the writing task and choose appropriate methods of organization:

- demonstrate appropriate and effective organization for an extended document
- provide appropriate contexts for material from sources
- design a variety of informational graphics and insert and interpret them properly
- Integrate complex content and ideas into an organized text

Editing

Upon completion of English 321, students should be able to produce effective written communication, demonstrating appropriate use of language, sentence structure, grammar, and mechanics:

- vary sentence length and style for rhetorical purposes
- use the conventions of standard, edited American English
- maintain a consistent point of view
- use appropriate formats for a variety of both academic and professional documents

Collaborating

Upon completion of English 321, students should be able to work effectively with others to produce and/or revise written materials:

- use instructor and peer feedback in the revision process
- respond to others' written texts for effective revision
- cooperate with peers and instructors in assigning, receiving, and carrying out team roles and tasks in writing collaboration
- understand the collaborative and social aspects of academic and professional writing processes