

BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE
City University of New York
Department of ENGLISH

Title of Course:	Course Number:	ENG 095
ENGLISH 095: INTENSIVE WRITING	Class Hours per Week:	6
	Lab Hours:	0
	Credits:	0

A. Description

English 095 is an upper-level intensive developmental writing course for students who scored 44-47 on the CATW. Students are instructed in the basic components of effective writing, including word selection, punctuation, spelling, grammar, sentence structure and paragraph development. Students are given frequent in-class writing exercises that focus on argumentation, narrative, and description as modes of developing ideas. Individual conferences with instructors are frequent. This is a pass/fail course.

B. Prerequisites and/or Corequisites

A total score of 44-47 on the CATW or successful completion of English 088.

C. Student Learning Outcomes

Students will be able to

- Write expository and persuasive essays in which they take a position, develop a thesis, summarize main points, and support their thesis in clearly focused paragraphs;
- Proofread and edit their own as well as their peers' written work with appropriate guidance and demonstrate competent control of the conventions of standard American edited English;
- Demonstrate a critical understanding of assigned readings by identifying the main idea and supporting arguments in expository texts and using them as models for their own writing;
- Demonstrate informational literacy skills, including how to use the college library, how to cite direct quotes and paraphrases from their reading, and how to use the internet and other electronic reference tools.

D. Required Texts and/or Supplementary Materials

The Intensive Writing Coordinator and Steering Committee maintain a list of recommended texts which is continually evaluated and updated. Many instructors use workbooks or rhetorics that stress both large elements such as paragraph and essay development and smaller elements such as grammar, word choice, sentence structure, and spelling. Readings by writers of varied cultural

backgrounds are usually assigned, and some instructors focus on a single theme, concept or subject area in choosing reading assignments. Some currently assigned texts are the following:

They Say, I Say Gerald Graff and Cathy Birkenstein (W. W. Norton & Co.)
Models for Writers, Rosa and Escholz (St. Martins)

E. Evaluation and Requirements of Students

English 095 instructors diagnose the strengths and weaknesses of their students in several areas—grammar, spelling, punctuation, sentence structure, and development of paragraphs and essays. Students must take the CUNY CATW at the end of the course, and a passing score of 56 is required for a passing grade of S in the course.

College Attendance Policy

At BMCC, the maximum number of absences is limited to one more hour than the number of hours a class meets in one week. For example, you may be enrolled in a three-hour class. In that class, you would be allowed 4 hours of absence (not 4 days). In the case of excessive absences, the instructor has the option to lower the grade or assign an F or WU grade.

Academic Adjustments for Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities who require reasonable accommodations or academic adjustments for this course must contact the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities. 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. For further information on integrity and behavior, please consult the college bulletin (also available online).

F. Outline of Topics

Weeks 1&2: Essay Planning

- A. Prewriting Activities--Focused Writing, Clustering, Journal Writing, Brainstorming
- B. Thesis Statements--Writing with a Purpose
- C. Organizing Material and Planning Paragraphs
- D. Development by Illustration

Weeks 3-5: Mastering Editing and Proofreading

- A. Punctuation
- B. Spelling
- C. Verb and Noun Endings
- D. Sentence Divisions--Fragments, Run-Ons, Comma Splices

Weeks 6-8: Developing Ideas in Essays

- A. Critical Thinking
- B. Vocabulary
- C. Techniques of Analysis and Interpretation of Readings
- D. Supporting Ideas with Personal Experience

Weeks 7-9: Exploring Rhetorical Strategies

- A. Narration and Description Based on Personal Experience
- B. Narration and Description Based on Gathered Information
- C. Comparison and Contrast Based on Personal Observation and Experience

Weeks 10-13: Exploring Expository Writing

- A. Developing a Point by Means of Analysis
- B. Developing a Point by Means of Enumeration
- C. Developing an Argument by Using Personal Experience
- D. Developing an Argument by Using Material from Reading and Personal Observation

Week 14: Preparing for and Taking the Final Examination