“Maybe the teacher’s main business is to teach gently the inevitability of pain.” – Frederick Buechner

Instructor Information:
Mr. John Pierce  
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Tutorials: Tuesday-Friday 7:55-8:25 a.m.

Course Description:
English 1302 is the second semester of freshman level English. The course aims to help students to engage in research with a goal of articulating ideas persuasively. To this end, students should be able to analyze a rhetorical situation, write effective prose, organize essays logically, and to tailor an appropriate message for a specific audience. In addition, students will read and analyze model essays as a tool for improving thinking and writing.

Learning Objectives:
Upon complete English 1302, students should be better prepared to do the following:
1. Use the writing process--prewrite, draft, revise, and edit.  
2. Work with others in a team to explore ideas and to improve one another’s writing.  
3. Adapt to the rhetorical situation in terms of audience, purpose, style, format, and accepted conventions of standard written English.  
4. Seek out and evaluate sources to determine their credibility and their value in answering a specific research question.  
5. Employ problem-solving strategies (such as researching and issue, predicting consequences, and analyzing and synthesizing information) to improve decision making and to better know one’s own mind.  
6. Integrate valid research into an argument in support of a thesis.  
7. Demonstrate competency with standard written English, and write clear and sophisticated prose.

Texts:
Handouts provided by the teacher.

Things You Should Bring Each Day:  
1. At minimum a 1” three-ring binder  
2. Pens or pencils to write with  
3. Paper or a notebook on which to write
Grading Scale:
The grading scale is as follows:
A = 90-100%  B = 80-89%  C = 70-79%  D = 60-69%  F = 0-59%

Grading Policies:

English 1302 Weights:
Research Paper Project...............................................................25%
Portfolio Project...........................................................................10%
Short Essays and Tests...............................................................30%
Quizzes/Daily Work.......................................................................10%
Three Book Reports.....................................................................15%
Final Exam...................................................................................10%

Late Work:
The due dates for major assignments will be posted on my board (and, hopefully soon, on my website) before they are due.
1. Please inform me in advance of an absence, if at all possible.
2. You will have one day for every day that you have missed in class to complete any missing work, unless you have made other arrangements with me. Failure to do so may result in a grade of 0.
3. Work that was due on the day of an absence is due on the day when you return to class.
4. If you fail to turn in an assignment on its due date during the class period, you will receive a d-hall in order to complete the assignment. In addition, 15 points will be deducted from the grade when you turn it in the next day. An assignment that is turned in two days or more late will be given a zero.

Reassessment Policy:
Retests will be allowed only occasionally. In general, essays may be rewritten if you make below a C, but exams, book reports, and presentations cannot be made up.

Extra Credit:
Students will be allowed to read some classic works of literature to earn extra credit. There will be a separate form to explain this opportunity. In general, additional reading is the only extra credit that I offer.

Academic Honesty:
Students who cheat or plagiarize on an assignment will receive a ZERO, a d-hall, and a phone call home.

Classroom Policies:
Tardies: I will follow the school policy on tardies. You must be in your seat with your materials on your desk when the bell rings. Bring all of your materials every day. If you need to leave for a pen or a book, you will be considered tardy. All instances of tardiness will garner a d-hall.

Food/Drink: No food or drinks are allowed in class, with the sole exception of water.
Cell Phone: I will confiscate cell phones being used during class time and turn them in to the office, unless the student has received express permission from me to use the phone.

Bathroom Use: There should be enough time during passing periods to use the restroom.

Classroom Expectations:
1. Respect: I expect that you will respect the classroom community. Show respect for yourself by trying and doing your best. Show respect for your peers by not interrupting their right to learn without distraction. And show respect for your teacher for his sincere efforts to help you to learn and succeed. Of course, differences of opinions are welcome; however, interruptions and rudeness will not be tolerated.

2. Preparation: I expect students to be on time, with all materials and work ready, and be prepared to learn.

3. Participation: I expect students to take part in all activities and discussions in the classroom. Learning requires the humility and courage to “put yourself out there” so that your efforts may be fairly evaluated and improved.

4. Attentiveness: Learning from others requires that you pay respectful attention to what others have to say. We will speak one at a time and give full consideration to what everyone has to contribute.

5. Effort: Humans must take on challenges, must do hard things, in order to grow and to achieve. I won’t expect students to always do perfectly on classroom tasks, but I do expect students to have the courage and integrity to put forth full effort.