

Miyazaki International College Course Syllabus

Course Title (Credits)	Cultures of the English Speaking World (4 credits)
Course Designation for TC	
Content Teacher	
Instructor	
E-mail address	
Office/Ext	
Office hours	
Language Teacher	
Instructor	Anne McLellan Howard
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Office/Ext	723
Office hours	MW 3-5

Course Description:

This course examines contemporary issues in the English-speaking world. Students learn to evaluate such issues, compare them with their own societies, assemble evidence from other sources, and express their own views in a written format. For language development, the course builds on the skills acquired in the Academic Writing courses. Students learn to use sources of evidence to support their writing on common issues in the English-speaking world. They learn to use quotations and paraphrases, summarise texts and avoid plagiarism. The use of citations and references as a standard feature of academic writing is addressed. Vocabulary, grammar and written fluency are also reinforced.

Course Goals/Objectives:

1. Students will be able to summarize and paraphrase a short paragraph, and use quotations to support their arguments.
- 2.. Students will be able to identify plagiarism.
3. Students will be able to use in-text citations and make a reference list.
4. Students will be able to write a five-paragraph comparison and contrast essay.

5. Students will be able to write a five-paragraph essay describing a problem and its solution.
6. Students will be able to write a well-organized essay under time constraints
7. Students will be able to write English to suit the purpose, scene and situation, etc., for various different themes.

Tentative Course Schedule

Day	Topic	Content/Activities
1	Introduction: What is the English-speaking world?	Introduction to course, review paragraphs
2	English-speaking cultures: North America	Beginning research skills: online searches and finding appropriate websites. Critical thinking activity: Evaluate a website [Objective 1]
3	English-speaking cultures: North America	Active learning activity: Students find information online about their chosen country [Objective 1]
4	English-speaking cultures: Europe	Critical thinking activity: evaluating plagiarism Active learning activity: Paraphrasing practice, [Objectives 1, 2]
5	English-speaking cultures: Europe	Active learning activity: paraphrasing practice [Objective 1]
6	English-speaking cultures: Africa	Active learning activity: summarizing practice [Objective 1]
7	English-speaking cultures: Africa	Active learning activity: summarizing practice [Objective 1]
8	English-speaking cultures: Asia	Critical thinking activity :Evaluate the use of quotations [Objective 1]
9	English-speaking cultures: Asia	Active learning activity: Practice using quotations [Objective 1, 3]
10	English-speaking cultures: Asia	Active learning activity: Writing a paragraph with quotations and summary [Objective 1, 3]
11	English-speaking cultures: wrap-up	Critical thinking activity: Peer review of paragraphs [Objective 1]
12	Comparing cultures	Active learning activity: discussion to choose facet of English-speaking culture to compare/contrast [Objective 4]

13	Comparing cultures	Critical thinking activity: Planning the five paragraph essay [Objective 4]
14	Comparing cultures	Active learning activity: Summarizing research and selecting quotations [Objective 1]
15	Comparing cultures	Active learning activity: Write five-paragraph essay [Objective 4]
16	Comparing cultures	Critical thinking activity: Peer review and revision [Objective 4]
17	Issue: Endangered languages	Critical thinking activity: Identifying opinions [Objective 5]
18	Issue: Endangered languages	Active learning activity: Research and summarizing practice [Objective 1]
19	Issue: Endangered languages	Active learning activity: Write paragraph introducing the issue [Objective 5]
20	Issues of the English-speaking world	Active learning/critical thinking activity: Brainstorming and choosing own topics for research [Objective 5]
21	Issues of the English-speaking world	Critical thinking activity: Finding different opinions [Objective 5]
22	Issues of the English-speaking world	Active learning activity: Summarizing a paragraph [Objective 1]
23	Issues of the English-speaking world	Critical thinking activity: Checking the summary [Objective 1]
24	Issues of the English-speaking world	Active learning activity: Researching the topic [Objective 5]
25	Issues of the English-speaking world	Critical thinking activity: Writing a problem-solution essay [Objective 5]
26	Issues of the English-speaking world	Critical thinking activity: Peer review [Objective 5]
27	Issues of the English-speaking world	Active learning/critical thinking activity :Revising the essay [Objective 5]

28	American issues Issues of the English-speaking world	Active learning activity: timed writing [Objective 6]
29	Review	
30	Review	
	Finals	

Required Materials:

MIC writing guide
 B5 notebook for timed writing
 Electronic dictionary

Course Policies (Attendance, etc.)

ATTENDANCE

Students are expected to attend every class. If you must miss class, you need a note from Student Affairs to be excused from the class. If you miss class more than three times I may ask you to withdraw. Three times late is counted as one absence.

ASSIGNMENTS

Homework is due regardless of whether you were absent on the day it was assigned. If you will not be able to complete the homework because of illness or other reasons, please submit a note from Student Affairs.

Late assignments will be accepted at the discretion of the instructor. The instructor reserves the right to refuse to accept a late assignment. Certain assignments (e.g. those requiring peer review) may not be accepted.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

All work that is turned in for this course must be completely your own. The following things are not allowed:

- Copying words from another source without a citation and reference.
- Copying ideas or concepts from another source without a citation and reference.
- Having a paper edited by another student or teacher, in or outside of the class, without permission of the instructor.

At the instructor's discretion, the consequences for plagiarism may include receiving a zero for the plagiarized paper, or failing the course.

Class Preparation and Review

Students are expected to spend at least one hour preparing for every hour of lesson, and one hour reviewing and doing Homework

Grades and Grading

Participation 10%
Essays 50%
Final exam 15%
Other quizzes and homework: 20%

Methods of Feedback:

In principle, written work will be returned within one week of submission, with a grade based on the rubric and feedback.

Diploma Policy Objectives:

Work completed in this course helps students achieve the following Diploma Policy objective(s):

1. Advanced thinking skills (comparison, analysis, synthesis, and evaluation) based on critical thinking (critical and analytic thought)
2. The ability to understand and accept different cultures developed through acquisition of a broad knowledge and comparison of the cultures of Japan and other nations
3. The ability to identify and solve problems
4. Advanced communicative proficiency in both Japanese and English
5. Proficiency in the use of information technology

Notes:



Academic Writing Rubric 2014

	Organisation Think about: - Coherence - Structure	Lexis Think about: - Variety - Control	Grammar Think about: - Range - Accuracy	Content Think about: - Relevance - Supported and developed ideas
0-5	No coherence or organization, unconnected sentences which communicate little	Demonstrates minimal word knowledge	Phrases or sentences produced, but many inaccuracies make message/writing difficult to understand	A list of sentences with no logical connection and/or are irrelevant
6	Some attempt to organize information but with little connection between ideas apparent	A limited variety of vocabulary, or little control	Inadequate range of grammar used repetitively or inaccurately	Ideas lack relevance or connection, and are not developed or supported
7-8	Obvious attempts to organize information though sometimes the lack of coherence creates ambiguity	Uses an adequate variety of vocabulary with moderate control	An adequate range of grammar used, with inaccuracies that impede the understanding of sentences	Ideas are connected, relevant, but are not supported or developed
9	The writing displays a command of organizational structure which enables the message to be followed, but displays some repetition and rigidity	Uses a wide variety of vocabulary but there are some inaccuracies in word choice and formation	An adequate range of grammar but occasionally accuracy affects the understanding of sentences	Ideas are connected and relevant. They are supported, but the support could be developed further.
10	The writing displays a coherent organizational structure which enables the message to be followed effortlessly	Uses a wide variety of vocabulary with accuracy and control	A wide range of grammar used accurately	The ideas are relevant, well supported and developed