

## McDaniel College Budapest

### Syllabus for Introduction to College Writing 1101

#### Course objectives:

The aim of this course is to give students *help in their academic work* by developing their reading and writing skills in a way that makes them *better prepared to cope with the requirements of their chosen disciplines*. This means that writing will be treated as part of a more integral work; *reading, analyzing, interpreting and discussing* texts of sufficient sophistication; *analyzing* issues; *forming and communicating* opinions and ideas. The texts will vary in subject, genre and style, to serve as a model or a starting point for the students' own writing. Special attention will be paid to *individual needs/ interests in the selection of both the reading and writing assignments*, with special regard to the *final paper*, which will be related to some aspect of the students' chosen major.

The course lays an emphasis on the *following elements of academic writing*: formulating an effective thesis statement; originality of thought; clear structure; referencing and integrating sources; building arguments; academic style and tone. Writing *assignments* will be given on a regular basis, to be submitted in an electronic form. Other assignments include pre-reading and response ideas for class as well as preparing with short *presentations*.

#### Learning outcomes:

- Students demonstrate an ability to construct well-supported arguments using various rhetorical devices/ways of organizing (synthesis, analysis, comparison/contrast, description, narration, argument, example, analogy)
- Students can identify the (re)sources and processes they need to use in order to write well
- Students gain practice in critical reading
- Students can effectively follow specific essay instructions (define, compare, evaluate ...)
- Students can broaden (and share) their knowledge about their own field of interest