Miyazaki International College

Course Syllabus

Spring 2022

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| **Course Title** | CEC201-2 Cultures of the English-Speaking World |
| **Course Designation for TC** |  |
| **Content Teacher** |  |
| **Instructor** | N/A |
| **E-mail address** | N/A |
| **Office/Ext** | N/A |
| **Office hours** | N/A |
| **Language Teacher** |  |
| **Instructor** | Craig Yamamoto |
| **E-mail address** | [cyamamoto@sky.miyazaki-mic.ac.jp](mailto:cyamamoto@sky.miyazaki-mic.ac.jp) |
| **Office/Ext** | 1-328 / 3769 |
| **Office hours** | Tuesday 14:15-17:15 |

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| **Course Description:** |
| This course examines contemporary issues in the English-speaking world. Students will 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 required in the academic writing course. 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, summarize 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 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 cause and effect 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 learn about the U.S. and compare it with Japan in both modern and historical contexts. 8. Students will be able to learn and review grammar points and vocabulary to facilitate writing fluency. |

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| \*Course Schedule (subject to change) | | | |
| **Day** | **Topic** | **Content/Activities** | |
| 1 | Introduction and review | Introduction to course and materials  Warm-up activity: American trivia  (Objective 7) | |
| 2 | Review of paragraphs and other topics from previous writing classes  (Objective 7) | |
| 3 | U1: American Geography | Timed writing 1  Reading, vocabulary, comprehension activities  (Objective 1, 7) |
| 4 | Outlining and summarizing  Start Writing Activity (WA) 1: outline and summary paragraph  (Objectives 1, 7, 8) |
| 5 | Revise, finalize and submit WA 1  (Objectives 1, 7) |
| 6 | U2: U.S. History | Timed writing 2  Reading, vocabulary, comprehension activities  (Objectives 6, 7) |
| 7 | Paraphrasing  (Objective 1, 7) |
| 8 | Identifying plagiarism  Start WA2: paraphrased paragraph  (Objectives 1, 2, 7) |
| 9 | Timed writing 3  Revise, finalize and submit WA2  Sentence patterns and adverb clauses  (Objective 6, 7, 8) |
| 10 | Sentence patterns, adjective clauses, and reduced adjective clauses  (Objective 8) |
| 11 | U3: Cultures of the U.S. | Reading, vocabulary, comprehension activities  Start WA3: paragraph with quotations  (Objectives 1, 7) |
| 12 | Timed writing 4  Revise, finalize and submit WA3  (Objectives 1, 6, 7) |
| 13 | Essay 1: 5-paragraph cause and effect essay with proper APA citation | Introduction to academic essays and APA citation  (Objective 3) |
| 14 | Introduction to cause and effect essay  Planning essay 1:  -       choosing an aspect of the United States as topic  -       brainstorming  -        etc.  (Objectives 4, 7) |
| 15 | Timed writing 5  Evaluating sources  Planning essay 1:  -       selecting sources  -       organizing materials  (Objective 3, 4, 6, 7) |
| 16 | Writing Essay 1  -       draft 1  (Objective 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7) |
| 17 | Peer review and revisions  (Objectives 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7) |
| 18 | U4: Modern Challenges for Americans | Timed writing 6  Essay 1 due  Reading, vocabulary and comprehension activities (Objectives 6, 7) |
| 19 | Describing problems, issues, and solutions: the United States  (Objective 7) |
| 20 | Mini presentation  (Objective 1, 2, 3, 6, 7) |
| 21 | Timed writing 7  Describing problems, issues and solutions: Japan  (Objectives 6, 7) |
| 22 | Mini debate/discussion  (Objectives 1, 7) |
| 23 | Essay 2: 5-paragraph problem-solution essaywith proper APA citation | Introduction to problem-solution essay  (Objectives 5, 7) |
| 24 | Timed writing 8  Planning essay 2:  -       choosing topics  -       brainstorming  -       etc.  (Objectives 5, 6, 7) |
| 25 | Planning essay 2:  -       selecting sources  -       organizing materials  (Objectives 1, 5, 6, 7) |
| 26 | Writing essay 2  -       draft 1  (Objectives 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7) |
| 27 | Timed writing 9  Peer review and revisions  (Objectives 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7) |
| 28 | Writing essay 2  -       draft 2  (Objectives 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7) |
| 29 | Essay 2 due  (Objectives 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7) |
| 30 | Final Exam Prep | Timed writing 10  Final Exam Prep  (Objectives 6, 7, 8) |
|  | Final Exam |  |

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| **Required Materials:** | |
| * Textbook as prescribed by the teacher * MIC Writing Handbook * A4 writing paper, pens, pencils * Japanese-English, English Japanese dictionary (if you have a smartphone, download the EIJIRO app; also try <http://www.alc.co.jp>) * Handouts provided by teacher/ downloaded by students as necessary | |
| **Course Policies (Attendance, etc.)** |
| Attendance  Students are expected to attend every class and be on time. If you must miss class, you need to complete the form from Student Affairs (within 7 days) to be excused from the class. Please ask the teacher for assignments if you miss class. If you have five or more **'unexcused absences'** you may be asked to withdraw from the class. An 'unexcused absence' is any absence for which you do not have permission. Medical reasons, family emergencies and so on are **NOT** counted as unexcused absences and will **NOT** influence your grade. |

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| Assessments  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. |

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| **Class Preparation and Review:** |
| * Students are expected to spend at least one hour reviewing and doing homework and one hour preparing for every hour of lesson time. * “I was absent” is not an excuse for not completing assignments. If you miss a class, be sure to talk with your classmates to find out what you have missed. Contact the teacher after trying to consult with your classmates. * If you do not understand anything at any time, it is your responsibility to ask questions. If you do not ask questions, the teacher may assume you understand everything. |
| **Grades and Grading Standards:** |
| Participation – 15%  Homework – 20%  Timed Writings – 15%  Essays 20%  Final Exam – 30% |
| **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:** |
| It is your responsibility to seek help if you need it. Please visit your teacher during office hours if you need specific help or general study advice, and feel free to contact your teacher by email. Also, you MUST check your email daily in case your teacher sends you important information. |