# Course: English 208 - Originator - Carolyn Daly - Semester - Spring 2017

# I. COURSE OVERVIEW AND INTRODUCTION

**General Review Standard:** The overall design of the course, navigational information, as well as course, instructor and student information are made transparent to the student at the beginning of the course.

Review Standards	Specifics	Comments
I.1 There is a statement introducing the student to the course.	Welcoming statement by the instructor that introduces students to the course. Examples:  • A course "tour".  • Clear directions about how to get started in the	The welcome letter includes, in detail, what will be covered throughout the course and how to get started.
	course.  The instructor's name Instructor's field of expertise Email address Teaching philosophy Past experiences with teaching online classes Hobbies A photograph	
I.2 Course layout is easy to navigate and understand.	The following are easy to locate, navigate, and understand	Instructions are given in the welcome letter, detailing how to access Canvas LMS. The syllabus includes the course calendar, grade distribution and discussion forum instructions.  The well-designed weekly module lays out the sequential assigned tasks clearly.

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11/7/16 - Welcome message and course tour now included. Need to include information and publisher video on how to use publisher site for the class. Need to email communication policy and assignment grading policy ("turn around time") for both. Content will organized, and all weeks include assignments, exercises, discussions, etc. DE will work with publisher to add publisher website to navigation in this online course to assist with student access. Teacher introduction included. Need to add teaching philosophy and recommend an Intro Video from Instructor at the start of the course.

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1.3 Expectations regarding academic honesty, including plagiarism concerns, are clearly stated in the syllabus.	At a minimum, the course syllabus must contain a statement that explains the actions that will be taken if plagiarism or any type of academic dishonesty is detected.	The syllabus includes a statement regarding cheating and measures that will follow any act of dishonesty occurs.
I.4 Students are requested to introduce themselves to the class.	The student introduction creates a supportive learning environment and sense of community.  Look for:  • A request that students introduce themselves along with instructions on where and how they should do so	Students will introduce themselves through the discussion forum.
	<ul> <li>Instructors may ask students to answer specific questions (such as why they are taking the course, what concerns they have, what they expect to learn,) or may choose to let the student decide.</li> <li>Instructors should consider providing an example of an introduction and/or start the process by introducing themselves.</li> </ul>	

# II. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

General Review Standard: Expected learning outcomes are clearly defined and explained. They assist the learner to focus on learning objectives.

Review Standards	Specifics	Comments
II.1 The posted outcomes of the course	All outcomes from the approved course outline must be	Measurable SLO statements are included in
include the outcomes in the approved course outline. Any additional outcomes	present on the syllabus of the course being reviewed.	the syllabus.
used are observable, measurable, and		
achievable.		

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# III. ASSESSMENT AND MEASUREMENT

**General Review Standard:** Assessment strategies are established ways to measure effective learning, assess learner progress by reference to stated objectives, and are designed as essential to the learning process.

Review Standards	Specifics	Comments
III.1 Multiple methods of assessment	Example that DOES meet the	Overall percentage is based on Assignments,
measure the achievement of stated course	standard:	Discussion Forums, Quizzes
outcomes and learning objectives.	<ul> <li>Students are required to write papers, interact</li> </ul>	
	with others through	
	electronic discussions,	
	take quizzes, etc.	
	Example that does NOT:	
	<ul> <li>Students are required to take tests and no other</li> </ul>	
	method of assessment is utilized	
III.2 The grading policy is easy to locate	<ul> <li>The grading policy needs to be easy to locate</li> </ul>	The grading policy is clearly stated in the
and understand.	and access.	syllabus.
	<ul> <li>Language used to describe how course</li> </ul>	,
	activities are graded and how the final grade is	
	calculated, should be easy to understand.	
III.3 Assessment and measurement	Students learn more effectively if they receive frequent,	Students can contact the instructor via
strategies provide appropriate feedback	meaningful, and rapid feedback.	phone calls, through Canvas conversations,
to the learner.	This feedback may come from the instructor directly,	voicemail or email and expect a response
	from assignments and assessments that have feedback	within 24 hours.
	built into them, or even from other students. Examples:	Within 24 nours.
	<ul> <li>Instructor participation in a discussion assignment.</li> </ul>	Students are required to participate in
	<ul> <li>Writing assignments that require submission of</li> </ul>	weekly discussion assignments.
	a draft for instructor comment and suggestions	

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<ul> <li>for improvement.</li> <li>Self-mastery tests and quizzes that include informative feedback with each answer choice.</li> <li>Interactive games and simulation that have feedback built in.</li> </ul>	
In most online courses, the types of assessments used are appropriate for the online environment. Assume that the course meets the standard unless you find evidence to the contrary.	

# IV. RESOURCES AND MATERIALS

**General Review Standard:** Instructional materials are designed to be sufficiently comprehensive to achieve expected learning outcomes and are prepared by qualified persons competent in their fields. (Materials, other than standard textbooks are produced by recognized publishers, are prepared by the instructor or distance educators skilled in preparing materials for distance learning.)

Review Standards	Specifics	Comments
IV.1 Resources and materials are easily	If some of the course resources, including textbooks,	Comments
accessible to and usable by the learners.	videos, CD-ROMS, etc., are unavailable within the	
	framework of the course website, investigate how students	Any software requirements/Materials are
	would gain access to them, and examine their ease of use.	addressed on the syllabus.
	Examples:	
	<ul> <li>If textbooks and/or CD's are used, titles, authors,</li> </ul>	
	publishers, ISBN numbers, copyright dates, and	
	information as to where copies can be obtained, are	
	listed.	
	<ul> <li>An area on the syllabus is devoted to required</li> </ul>	
	resources.	
	<ul> <li>Required software plug- ins are listed, along with</li> </ul>	
	instructions for obtaining and installing the plug-	

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	ins.	
IV.1 Resources and materials are easily accessible to and usable by the learners.	videos, CD-ROMS, etc., are unavailable within the framework of the course website, investigate how students would gain access to them, and examine their ease of use. Examples:	Students are required to post constructive answers for posted questions. Students can reach the instructor through a variety of modes and expected the response within 24 hours.

# V. LEARNER INTERACTION

**General Review Standard:** The effective design of instructor-learner interaction and meaningful learner cooperation is essential to learner motivation, intellectual commitment, and personal development.

Review Standards	Specifics	Comments
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V.1 The course design provides learning activities to foster instructor-student, content-student, and if appropriate, student-student interaction.	The learning activities in the course should foster the following types of interaction:  • Instructor-learner: Self- introduction; discussion postings and responses; feedback on assignments; evidence of one-to-one email communication, etc.  • Learner-content: essays, term papers, group projects, etc. based on readings, videos, and other course content; self-assessment exercises; group work products, etc.  • -learner (if appropriate): Self-introduction exercise; group discussion postings; group projects; peer critiques, etc.	Learning activities include self- introduction, essays, term papers. No group projects are required.
V.2 The student requirements for course interaction are clearly articulated	A clear statement of requirements is particularly important when a type of interaction (e.g. participation in a discussion) is not optional. What are the penalties for non- participation? Impact on grade, etc.?  Example: Students required to participate in discussions are told how many times each week they must post original comments, how many times they must post responses to other's comments, what the quality of the comments must be, how the comments will be evaluated, and what grade credit they can expect for various levels of performance.	

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V.3 Clear standards are set for instructor response and availability (turnaround time for email, grades posted, etc.)	<ul> <li>Students need clear information about how quickly the instructor will respond and how frequently he or she is available.</li> <li>Informing students about instructor response and availability times prevents unreasonable expectations from developing.</li> </ul>	
V.4 The course design provides a variety of opportunities for interaction between instructor and learner.	<ul> <li>Students need to feel that the instructor is close at hand, but the opportunities for interaction will vary with the discipline of the course.</li> <li>Look for examples such as: <ul> <li>An actively used and well-organized instructor-facilitated discussion board.</li> <li>Optional "electronic office hours" provided in the chat room.</li> <li>An invitation for the class to email the instructor with individual concerns</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

# VI. COURSE TECHNOLOGY

General Review Standard: To enhance student learning, course technology should enrich instruction and foster learner interactivity.

Review Standards	Specifics	Comments
VI.1 The selection and use of tools and	Look for evidence that tools and media used in	
media supports the course outcomes and is	the course support related course outcomes,	
integrated with texts and lesson	and are integrated with texts and lesson	
assignments.	assignments.	
	Students should know how the tools and media fit	

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	<ul> <li>into the assignments and how they relate to the course outcomes.</li> <li>Make sure that the technology is not used simply for the sake of using technology.</li> <li>For example: A course might require viewing video materials, but it may not be clear whether some of the video materials illustrate or support any course</li> </ul>	
VI.2 Instructions for accessing course-required resources at a distance library, websites,etc.) are clear and easy to follow.	<ul> <li>Online students need to know about and be able to obtain access to educational resources by remote access</li> <li>Information on these resources should be readily visible in an online class; clear instructions on how to access them should be provided.</li> </ul>	

# VII. ADA AND COPYRIGHT COMPLIANCE

**General Review Standard**: Access to course resources is in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and U.S. copyright laws are followed.

Review Standards	Specifics	Comments
III.1 There is evidence of effort to recognize the importance of ADA requirements (such as equivalent alternatives to auditory and visual content, Web pagelinks that are self-describing and meaningful, and information conveyed on Web pages in color is also available	<ul> <li>Alternative means of access to course information should be provided for students who are hearing or visually impaired.</li> <li>Look for equivalent textual representations of images, audio, animations, and video in the course</li> </ul>	How to obtain ADA accommodation is stated in the syllabus.

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without color.	<ul> <li>website.</li> <li>Presenting information in text format is generally acceptable, because</li> </ul>	
	screen reader software (used by those who are visually impaired) can read text.  • All file names and web hyperlinks should have meaningful names. For instance, the link to take a quiz should say "Take Quiz 1", not "click here".  • Icons used as links should also have HTML tags or an accompanying text link.  • To accommodate students who are color blind, color text should also be identifiable by other methods (such as bold, italics, etc.)	
VIII.2 No apparent violations of copyright law exist within the course content or related3 materials	Self- explanatory	

Modified from <sup>1</sup> Adapted from the Quality Matters Project sponsored by The Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE), U. S. Department of Education

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