ÇANKAYA UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF SCIENCE AND LETTERS

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

2018-2019 FALL

ELL 123 Course Syllabus – Writing Skills I

Assist. Prof. Berkem Gürenci Sağlam

**Aim of the course:** This course aims at developing writing skills. Emphasis will be put on grammatical and stylistic issues at sentence, and paragraph levels. Coherent organization, logical thought development, and effective use of language will be highlighted. In this way, students will be able to construct well-developed sentences and unified paragraphs.

**Requirements:** As the course aims to enhance students’ abilities in writing, course activities will be based on writing and developing language skills. Therefore, for each class, students are expected to:

1. Read the assigned text(s) for that week and bring them to class
2. Do any assigned writing for that week and bring it to class
3. Bring pen, pencil and paper to be able to take notes and do in-class writing assignments
4. Turn off their mobile phones during class, I do not accept the use of phones **for any reason** whatsoever

If the student fails to bring any of these items to class, their work will be considered unsatisfactory. Additionally, tardiness is considered rude and distracting, before being late to class, please consider the following: a) Do not enter the classroom if you are more than 10 minutes late b) Do not forget that repetitive tardiness (at least 3 times) could result in a deduction of your final grade.

**Evaluation:** There will be two midterms and one final examination. The students will also be required to keep a writing journal which I will mark every week. I do not accept late papers and the deadline for assignments is during class hours. If for some reason you can not make it to class, you need to email me the assignment **the night before** the deadline, so that I can see it in my inbox before I go to class. **Plagiarism of even one sentence will result in a direct F on the assignment, more than one paragraph will be a direct fail of the course.**

The grade breakdown is as follows:

Midterm 25%

Midterm II 30%

Final Exam 30%

Journal 10%

Class work and attendance 5%

**Textbook:** Weekly material will be handed out by the lecturer.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

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| Week 1 | 25.09.2018 | Introduction to the course |
| Week 2 | 02.10.2018 | Writing workshop  (revision and peer review)  Prewriting activities |
| Week 3 | 09.10.2018 | Writing a proper full sentence – it’s not what you think it is  Sweeping statements, run-ons, generalisations and how to avoid them  Correcting faulty sentences |
| Week 4 | 16.10.2018 | Writing about experience (narrative writing) and making a claim (topic sentence)  Narration writing workshop |
| Week 5 | 23.10.2018 | Topic Sentences, support, and examples  Making a claim and supporting your claim  Writing an opion piece (argumentation/persuasive writing) – support and examples |
| Week 6 | 30.10.2018 | Midterm |
| Week 7 | 06.11.2018 | Descriptive writing – workshop (description of a photo vs. Description of a character) |
| Week 8 | 13.11.2018 | Cause and Effect writing |
| Week 9 | 20.11.2018 | Writing about literature – an introduction  Understanding how to write about figurative language – poetry  Shakespeare, “Shall I Compare Thee to a Summer’s Day?”  Howard Moss, “Shall I Compare Thee to a Summer’s Day?” |
| Week 10 | 27.11.2018 | Writing about poetry – Robert Frost, “The Road Not Taken”  Writing about poetry – Robert Frost – “Design” (sample paper) |
| Week 11 | 04.12.2018 | Midterm II |
| Week 12 | 11.12.2018 | Writing about literature  Preparing assignments vs. Answering exam questions  Writing about a short story – Kate Chopin, “Story of an Hour”  Sample Essays |
| Week 13 | 18.12.2018 | Writing about a short story – Maupassant, “The Necklace”  Writing workshop |
| Week 14 | 25.12.2018 | Evaluation and advice: writing workshop – evaluating each other and evaluating yourself |