

Writing Strategies I Course Outline: *The Magician's Nephew*

Writing Strategies I: *The Magician's Nephew* Course Outline

Room Number: S402
Time: Friday 11:00-12:30
Instructor: Marc Sheffner
Instructor contact: Part-time teachers' room (on Fridays only)
Instructor email: dwc@sheffnersweb.net
Textbook: "The Magician's Nephew", Lewis, C.S. HarperCollins; Reprint
版 (2002/3/5). ISBN: 978-0064471107 (Amazon Japan 上に Kindle 版
もある)
Registered students: 22

This handout contains useful information about this course. Please read carefully.

Course Introduction:

This is a Writing Strategies Course using "The Magician's Nephew" as the study content to improve students' study skills, and their English ability (speaking, reading, writing and listening). This course will be a general introduction to the study of literature in English.

To improve study skills means to develop students' analytical skills, information gathering skills, presentation skills, as well as essay writing skills (citations and bibliography, format, etc).

Objectives of Course:

- Students will develop their vocabulary, grammar, listening, speaking and pronunciation skills in English
- Students will demonstrate a basic level of knowledge in English about the author, the novel and the period the story takes place.
- Students will develop presentation and discussion skills in English
- Students will practice information gathering and analysis, particularly Internet research
- Students will demonstrate correct form for academic writing in English.

Course Requirements:

This is a challenging course. The main focus of this course is **reading, writing and research skills**, and this means you must do the **reading** from the textbook, PLUS **independent research** for your presentations and essay. Reading the textbook in English is **essential!** If you do not do the reading, then you cannot answer the homework questions.

Also, all students must do one or two small **presentations** (starting next week!) on the textbook reading plus some independent research. These presentations are done in pairs or small groups. They should be well organized and clear. You have to show that you are well prepared and that you understand the subject you are presenting about. **Preparation** is the key!

You must keep a class notebook. Use a B5 looseleaf file or folder You should write answers to discussion questions in the notebook, as well as notes taken in class. You will also do some freewriting, both in class and for homework. You will need this notebook for your final project.

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Grades:

Your grade for this course comes from;

- Quizzes & hwk 30%
 - (15% for the number of assignments they do,
 - 15% for the average grade)
- Presentations 30%
- Final projects 40%

SAFE: You will pass if you do the following:

- If you miss only one or two classes, if your presentation is excellent, if your final test is excellent, and if you write an excellent essay, you will get an **A** (or maybe even an A+, but this is very difficult).
- If you come to most classes, if you give a good presentation, if your essay is good, and if you get a good score on the final test, you will get a **B**.
- If you come to more than two-thirds of classes, if your presentation is OK, if your essay is OK, and if you pass the final test, you will get a **C**.

NOT SAFE: You will fail if you do the following:

- If you miss more than one-third of classes, you will fail.
 - If your presentation is badly prepared, you will fail.
 - If you don't do your final project, you will fail.
- Please be very careful. Every year students fail because they miss too many classes, their presentation is poor quality, their essay is poor quality, or they don't hand in an essay.
- My email address is: dwc@sheffnersweb.net Please email me if you have any questions or problems.
 - When you email me, please write your name (in English) and the course name (SinE1) as the email subject (件名), like this: 件名 : WS1 Yamaguchi M.
- Lesson plans and homework will be posted on the class blog every week (usually Friday evening, by Sunday evening at the latest): <http://sheffnersweb.net/blogs/classblogs/dwc/>

GOOD LUCK!!

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Preliminary Schedule (may change)		
Class/ Week	Topic	Presenters for Small Practice Presentations
1	Introduction & Chapter 1	
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15	Quiz and evaluations	

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