College of Staten Island Writing Program
(updated January 2016)

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ENGLISH 111 COURSE INFORMATION

As the first course in our two-semester required sequence, English 111 is an introductory course designed to help students transition into college-level writing. Specifically, ENG 111 focuses on the development of critical and analytical writing, reading, and thinking skills through class discussion of student work and selected texts. The CSI Writing Program values writing as a process and as a tool for both communication and learning; accordingly, ENG 111 courses should emphasize the planning, drafting, revising, and editing of college-level student writing.

Additionally, the CSI Writing Program values each individual instructor’s expertise and interests. Thus, although there are specific requirements for all ENG 111 courses, instructors are invited to develop a theme or specific focus for their own class and tailor writing assignments and course readings to this particular theme.

ENG 111 aims to help students…

• Read and listen critically and analytically, focusing primarily on non-fiction texts
• Write clearly and coherently in varied, academic formats
• Identify strengths and areas for improvement in one’s own writing and articulate strategies for improvement
• Support a thesis with well-reasoned argument
• Communicate persuasively across a variety of contexts, purpose, audiences, and media
• Formulate original ideas and relate them to the ideas of others by employing the conventions of ethical attribution and citation
• Incorporate knowledge of Standard Written English within the writing process
• Demonstrate comprehension and interpretation of course texts in writing
• Begin to learn research skills such as gathering, evaluating, and synthesizing sources

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ENGLISH 151 COURSE INFORMATION

English 151 is the second course in our two-semester required sequence. English 151 builds on English 111 to develop students’ abilities to read, write, and do research. The course emphasizes close, critical reading of a variety of texts and analytical writing about these texts. Significant attention is given to the development of academic research methods and skills.

ENG 151 aims to help students…

• Read and listen critically and analytically with devoted attention to identifying an argument's major assumptions and assertions and evaluating its supporting evidence
• Write clearly and coherently in varied, academic formats
• Demonstrate research skills using appropriate technology, including gathering, evaluating, and synthesizing primary and secondary sources
• Support a thesis with well-reasoned arguments
• Communicate persuasively across a variety of contexts, purposes, audiences, and media
• Formulate original ideas and relate them to the ideas of others by employing the conventions of ethical attribution and citation
• Understand and experience writing as a process
• Practice close, critical reading of academic texts
• Write analytically about and synthesize academic texts