Class Description: This is a workshop in college-level expository writing that include forms in narration, description, and argumentation with an emphasis on the writing process (creation, revision, editing).

Course Objective:
1. To be able to read, understand, and discuss different types of texts.
2. To be able to write essays that summarize parts of texts, use relevant quotes, compare and contrast several texts and relate them to one’s own thoughts, observations and experiences.
3. To prepare for the Final Exam, an in-class written comparative essay which is 20% of your final grade.

Course Requirements & Policies
Materials
1. Freshman Common Reading: Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, *Americanah* (required)
2. Course Packet (required): online (links embedded in the titles)

Attendance & Punctuality: If you miss more than four classes, you will receive no credit for participation. Two latenesses count as one absence. Arriving more than 10 minutes late counts as an absence. A pattern of lateness will affect your grade.

Participation: Participation includes completing and commenting on the assigned reading, contributing to class discussion through listening and responding to classmates or the instructor, bringing required materials to class, and engaging in peer review and group activities.

NOTE: Cellphones must be silenced and put away during class. The use of cellphones and other electronics is not permitted in the classroom, except under exceptional circumstances. Students should inform the instructor about these circumstances.

Reading: Class discussion is a critical element of this course, and participation is essential. Students are expected to have closely read and be ready to discuss all readings on the day they are assigned. There will be unannounced reading quizzes. Bring the assigned reading to every class.

Assignments:

*Essays & Other Writing*: Students will write the following: a personal narrative (750-1000 words), two summaries (250-500 words each), an argumentative essay (1000-1250 words), a compare and contrast essay (1000-1250 words). Students will revise each of these essays. These essays must be typed, double-spaced, in 12-point font, and formatted with one-inch margins. In addition, students will have an in-class essay exam. Students will be asked to complete other assignments, such as journal entries, in-class writing, and reading responses.

NOTE: Essays are due at the beginning of class. The instructor will not accept essays submitted via email.

*Final Exam*: English 1010 students must take a final exam. The exam is based on responses to two pieces of writing: one 5-7 page essay, distributed one week before the end of the term, and a second 1-2 page piece, distributed along with the question on the day of the
exam. The exam will count for 20% of the final grade for the class. The instructor will discuss the test format in class.

**LOOP workshop:** The Brooklyn College Bulletin states the following:
All students in English 1010 will complete the required Brooklyn College library orientation, which will introduce them to the services and resources of the library, including access to and ethical use of its print and electronic resources.

**Grading:** The Brooklyn College policy on grading for English 1010 is as follows:
Grades for English 1010 are: A+, A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, NC or F. Note that the minimum passing grade is C-. Students who have completed all the course work but are not yet writing at the college level will receive a grade of NC; students who have not completed the course work will receive a grade of F.

Students who do not pass English 1010 must repeat it the following semester. The course may not be taken more than three times; students who receive three grades of F, NC and/or WU may be dismissed from the college.

**NOTE:** Essays turned in late will be penalized half a letter grade for each class meeting they are late. Late work will not be accepted after one week has passed from the original due date. If students miss a class during which an essay is to be submitted, students are still responsible for submitting (e-mailing) the essay on the same day AND bringing a hard copy of it the next time they attend class.
Possible grades are as follows:

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Grading Breakdown:

**Essays: 60%**
- Personal Narrative: 10%
- Summaries: 10%
- Argumentative Essay: 15%
- Compare and Contrast: 15%
- In-Class Compare and Contrast: 10%

**Final Exam: 20%**

**Other Assignments: 10%**
This includes take-home assignments, in-class writing, and quizzes.

**Attendance & Participation: 10%**
This includes attendance, promptness, participation in class discussions and group work, etc.

**Plagiarism:** Brooklyn College's statement on plagiarism is as follows:
The faculty and administration of Brooklyn College support an environment free from cheating and plagiarism. Each student is responsible for being aware of what constitutes cheating and plagiarism and for avoiding both. The complete text of the CUNY Academic Integrity Policy and the Brooklyn College procedure for implementing that policy can be found at this site: [http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/bc/policies](http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/bc/policies).

**Non-attendance Because of Religious Beliefs:** Brooklyn College’s statement on non-attendance because of religious belief is located on page 66 of the Brooklyn College Undergraduate Bulletin: [http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/web/off_registrar/2017-2018_Undergraduate_Bulletin.pdf](http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/web/off_registrar/2017-2018_Undergraduate_Bulletin.pdf)

**Student Bereavement Policy:** Brooklyn College’s statement on non-attendance because of religious belief is located here: [http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/web/about/initiatives/policies/bereavement.php](http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/web/about/initiatives/policies/bereavement.php)

**Important Dates**
- Monday, August 27: Weekday classes begin
- Sunday, September 2: Last day to add a course
- Wednesday, September 5: Conversion Day; Classes follow a Monday Schedule, Last day to file for elective course Pass/Fail
- Saturday, September 8: Weekend classes begin
- Sunday, September 16: Last day to drop a course without a grade.
- Tuesday, November 6: Last day to withdraw from course with a W (non-penalty) grade.

**NOTE:** English 1010 is an Academic Foundations course. Brooklyn College’s policy on withdrawing from English
1010 is as follows:

Students are not permitted at any time to delete, drop, or withdraw from an assigned Academic Foundations course without obtaining permission of the academic department involved and consulting the Center for Academic Advisement and Student Success.

The full academic calendar, including many other important dates, and the undergraduate final exam “grid” are available on the Office of the Registrar’s website.

Course Schedule
Week 1: Intro & Diagnostic Essay & Freshman Common Reading
August 28 – Introductions/syllabus discussion/short diagnostic essay/brief discussion of Americanah
August 30 – discuss diagnostic essay/Americanah
Assignment: Write a response to one of the narrator’s blogposts.

Week 2 Freshman Common Reading: Focus on close reading, annotating, summary
Sept 4 – Americanah/close reading & annotation
- summary due
Sept 6 – Americanah/how to craft a personal essay
- summary due
- Quiz # 1

Week 3-4: Focus on close reading, annotation, short summary
Sept 11 – No Class
Sept 13 – Staples, Brent, "Confederate Memorials as Instruments of Racial Terror"
1st draft narrative essay (Due Sept 13)
- summary due

Sept 18 – No Class
Sept 20 – Furgurson, Ernest B., "The End of History"
- summary due
- Quiz # 2

Weeks 5-8: Argument & Analysis: Focus on argument, thesis statements, evidence, structure
Sept 25 – Gatto, John Taylor, "Against School: How public education cripples our kids, and why"
2nd Draft Narrative essay due (Sept 25)
- summary due

- summary due

Oct 2 – Cullinan, Cormac, "If Nature Had Rights"
- summary due
- Quiz # 3
Oct 4 – Korten, Tristan "In Florida, Officials Ban Term 'Climate Change"
   -summary due
   Essay draft (Argumentative) due Oct 4

Oct 9 and Oct 11 – Saunders, George, "The Braindead Megaphone"
   -summary due

Oct 16 and Oct 18 – Sandel, Michael, "The Case Against Perfectionism"
   -summary due
   Essay draft # 2 due Oct 18

Weeks 9-12: Compare and Contrast: Focus on argument, evidence, structure

Readings:

Oct. 23 and Oct. 25 – Sherry Turkle, Alone Together: Ch. 9 Growing up tethered
   -summary due

Oct 30 and Nov 1 – Michaels, Walter Benn, "The Trouble with Diversity" (WP, 9th edition): about relative importance of race and ethnicity vs. class
   -summary due

Nov 6 – Lukianoff, Greg & Haidt, Jonathan, from The Coddling of the American Mind
   -summary due
   -Quiz # 4

Nov 8 – Eltahawy, Mona, "Twitterholics Anonymous"
   -summary due

Nov 13 – Appiah, Anthony, "The Case for Contamination"
   -summary due
   -Quiz # 5

Nov 15 – Munoz, Manuel, "Leave Your Name at the Border"
   -summary due

Week 13: Research & Catch-up

Class topics
   a. Catch up
   b. Introduction to research & MLA citation

Nov 20 – In-class compare and contrast essay (graded)
Nov 22 – Thanksgiving Break
Week 14 - 16: Exam prep

Nov 27 – rubric and strategies
Nov 29 – sample essay (long) - TBD
Dec 4 – sample essay (short) + sample response - TBD

Draft 2 of Compare and Contrast essay due Dec 4

Dec 6 – sample responses
Dec 11 – peer review/last day of class before FINAL.

Note:
Instructor may not discuss the final exam with students.
Syllabus subject to change