

**WRITING 100-B SYLLABUS**  
**Spring Semester, 2009**

**THEME AND DESCRIPTION:**

**It's Getting Hotter: Responding to Global Warming**

With rising temperatures threatening a world-wide environmental catastrophe, the official U.S. position on climate change caused by human activities remains mired in politics and special interests. Through a variety of progressively more challenging writing assignments, students will critically examine national, campus and personal viewpoints on this hot topic and seek fresh ideas and actions to address it. Emphasis on individual thinking, focused writing, and individual work reviews with the instructor.

**INSTRUCTOR:**

**Welles Lobb, Head Coach of Cross Country**

**Office: Johnston, Track & Cross Country Office; Office hours: 11:30-1:00, MWF**

**Office phone: 610-625-7826; Email: coachlobb@moravian.edu**

**CLASSES:**

**Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, 10:20-11:10 AM.**

**Location: Zinzendorf Hall 100**

**REQUIRED TEXTS:**

Hacker, Diana. The Bedford Handbook, Seventh Edition. Bedford/St. Martin's (2006)

Lynas, Mark. Six Degrees. National Geographic Society (2008)

**ADDITIONAL MATERIALS:**

In addition to the two required texts, students will need the following materials for the course:

- portfolio folder (see below)
- notebook
- pencil
- global warming definitions (handout)\*
- global warming-related print media stories (handout)\*
- Writing 100-B Syllabus\*
- Writing 100 Gobbledygook handout (a supplement to the syllabus) \*
- schedule of writing assignments and due dates\*
- schedule of reading assignments (handout)\*

\*storage in portfolio folder recommended

## PORTFOLIO

Students will maintain a simple portfolio-like folder for storage of all draft and final versions of all assigned papers. The instructor may request to review folder contents at any time. **A complete portfolio folder, including final versions of all assigned papers, must be submitted to the instructor by no later than 11:30 AM on Wednesday, May 6. This is our official final exam period, although there is no final exam in this course. However, finished portfolio folders will be accepted by the instructor as early as Friday, May 1, the last official class meeting date. Students are encouraged to submit finished portfolios as early as possible in the exam period.**

### COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- Students will gain a general understanding of anthropogenic (human-caused) climate change, its terminology, and its projected impact on natural systems and the human condition on a regional and global scale during the 21<sup>st</sup> century
- Students will complete 6 progressively more challenging graded writing assignments leading to competencies in the following technical areas: use of specialty Internet database sources; use of correct MLA style in academic papers; recognition of primary and secondary sources, including creditable and non-creditable Web sources
- Students will complete 6 progressively more challenging graded writing assignments leading to competencies in the following rhetorical areas: use of voice and tone; recognition of purpose and audience; clarity and focus; thesis identification and construction.
- Students will complete a 6 progressively more challenging graded writing assignments leading to competencies in the following structural areas: correct use of grammar, sentence and paragraph form and flow, and word choice.
- Students will become more confident and skilled writers through regular instructor-reviewed first and second drafts of assigned papers, as well as through the submission of additional ungraded writing assignments.
- Students will study, speak, and write about a variety of global warming issues as presented by mainstream print media.
- Students will work in peer collaboration to research and write viable sustainability plans for themselves, their families, and selected operations at Moravian College.
- Students will “grow greener” and reduce their carbon footprint from their examination and implementation of initiatives and changes leading to better individual, family, campus, and community sustainability practices.

## **ATTENDANCE, ACADEMIC HONESTY, CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR**

See **Writing 100 Gobbledygook** handout.

## **GRADING**

In order to instill a classroom atmosphere that emphasizes learning and writing confidence without the immediate threat of grades, Writing 100-B will operate under a “B Contract” grading system. Students who meet all academic requirements, follow requested classroom protocol, and demonstrate ongoing writing improvement will earn a B for the course. Students who meet additional more stringent standards may earn a higher grade. Students who don’t meet the standards set in the B contract may be issued a lower grade. Students in danger of receiving less than a B- will be notified at mid-term and be requested to set up a conference with the instructor. See “**B Contract**” handout.

## **ASSIGNED PAPERS**

Students are responsible for the completion of 6 papers of varying length and complexity. Most assignments require the submission of instructor-reviewed first and second drafts. Students will be issued a handout listing all writing assignments and all due dates. All final versions of papers will be issued a grade. Assignments will be accompanied by handouts describing each assignment in detail.

## **REQUIRED WORK REVIEW SESSIONS**

Every student is required to meet two times for a minimum of 20 minutes during the semester to review papers with the instructor. The dates of these sessions will be announced. See **Writing 100 Gobbledygook** handout for details.

## **ADDITIONAL HELP**

Students in need of help beyond the two scheduled work review sessions can make appointments with the instructor. Some students will be required – all others strongly encouraged -- to get help from the Moravian College Writing Center. See **Writing 100 Gobbledygook** for details.

# **WRITING 100 GOBBLEDYGOOK**

**All the little stuff you need to know to succeed in Writing 100-B**

# CLASSROOM CONDUCT

Cell phones and other electronic devices off at all times, including during “field” projects during regular classroom time. (If you are in a truly emergency situation, see Mr. Lobb before class about an exemption.)

No idle chatter while Mr. Lobb, guest speakers or any member of the class has the “floor.” One person speaks at a time.

Please arrive on time for class. Chronic lateness is disruptive and may negatively affect your final grade.

As college students, you are expected to behave as adults. That means respect and courtesy towards all members of the class and no disruptive behavior of any kind.

Class begins when Mr. Lobb calls it to order and ends with Mr. Lobb’s dismissal.

## ATTENDANCE

Your presence in class is valuable. Therefore, attendance is mandatory. Unexcused absences will negatively affect your final grade.

If you are aware in advance that you’ll be missing a class for any reason, as a courtesy please inform Mr. Lobb in advance only -- in person or leave a phone or email message.

## REQUIRED MATERIALS

In addition to the two required texts (Six Degrees and Bedford Handbook), you need the following materials for Writing 100-B:

Notebook with lined paper; pencil; covered multi-section folder to serve as your portfolio

Handouts: global warming definitions and photocopies of articles.

Always bring to class the syllabus and schedules for writing assignments and reading assignments. They are subject to change. Store all handouts in your notebook or portfolio folder.

## GRADED ASSIGNMENTS:

You will be issued a paper calendar with assignment dates and due dates for all graded writing assignments. To maintain the “flow” of the course, it is critical that

assignments be turned in, on paper, on due dates at class time – not later on the same calendar date. Only by prearrangement with Mr. Lobb will assignments be accepted electronically. The calendar is subject to change. Any pattern of late submissions of assignments will negatively affect your final grade.

Store all drafts reviewed by Mr. Lobb and final versions of papers in your portfolio folder.

## **READING/RESEARCH ASSIGNMENTS:**

You are responsible for completing all textbook readings listed on the reading assignment schedule handout and any additional reading/research assignments listed there, whether these assignments are discussed in class or not. Failure to do so may have a negative affect on your final grade.

## **WORK REVIEW SESSIONS:**

At least two class dates will involve 20-minute individual or partner work review sessions with Mr. Lobb at a location TBA. Scheduled dates... Sessions will involve review of drafts and suggestions for improvement. Sign up in advance to schedule your time slot. Work review sessions are mandatory; failure to schedule your session or failure to keep your appointment will negatively affect your final grade. Regular class will not be held on work review days.

## **EXTRA HELP:**

Some Writing 100-B students will be required, and all will be strongly encouraged, to make an appointment with the Moravian College Writing Center, second floor, Zinzendorf Hall. Writing Center tutors provide ample help and guidance – but they don't write your papers. Appointments are made by a sign-up sheet at the Writing Center, or by calling 610-861-1592. Use of the Writing Center is very likely to boost your final grade, while failure to use the Writing Center may hurt your final grade.

If you feel you need additional help beyond the required work review sessions, see Mr. Lobb about making a special appointment.

## **CHEATING/PLAGARISM/DISHONESTY:**

All submitted work is your original work. Any “borrowed” material, either verbatim, paraphrased, or borrowed in concept, must be properly cited. Any instances of intentional cheating or plagiarism, including buying papers from Internet sources or hiring writers, will result in failure for the course and possible other sanctions to be determined by the dean.

**Honest dialogue with the instructor is always better than dishonest, even when Mr. Lobb hears what he doesn't want to hear. Lying, dishonest exaggeration, and other B.S. harm your credibility and compromise your relationship with Mr. Lobb and your opportunities to learn and be successful in the course.**

## **CLASSROOM ENGAGEMENT:**

**Learning requires that you take a committed, personal interest in the course. Poor attendance, sleeping, lack of participation, lack of taking an active role in group work all may point to course disengagement and may negatively affect your final grade. In contrast, strong attendance, active listening, participation in discussions, and active involvement in group work all point to course engagement and may improve your final grade.**

## **GRADED WRITING ASSIGNMENTS:**

**Six writing assignments of various length and complexity will be graded. Five of the will require the submission of two drafts; the sixth will require the submission of a single draft. Only the final version of each paper (after drafts #1 and #2) will formally graded.**

**Papers #1-4 are based primarily on personal observation and inquiry. Papers #5 and #6 are research-based. In terms of grading "weight," Papers #1-2, Papers #3-4, and Papers #5-6 are roughly equal in weight, with #5-6 weighing more than #3-4, and #3-4 weighing more than #1-2.**

**All drafts and all final versions of all graded papers must be submitted in your portfolio.**

**In addition, you will be responsible for the completion of several ungraded writing exercises, as assigned by Mr. Lobb.**

**All writing assignments and out-of-class writing exercises must be double-spaced and typewritten. To save paper, you may use both sides of the paper (exception: final versions of Papers #5-6).**