

UNR English 101 Credit-by-Exam Instructions for Students

Application Dates & Procedures, Fall 2009

1. Pick up an Application for Credit by Special Exam from Admissions and Records located in, the Fitzgerald Student Services Building (082 on campus maps).
(NOTE: To be eligible, you must be degree-seeking and have a cumulative GPA above 2.0.)

Fall 2009 forms are available at Admissions and Records as of October 5th

2. Acquire the mandatory signatures in the following order:
 - o Your academic advisor for line [A] (**NOTE:** If you are undeclared, you may go to the advising center, but you must have the advisor's signature first);
 - o The chair of the Department of English, for line [B] (**NOTE:** to obtain this signature, please bring the form to the Core Writing Program office in Frandsen, room 131); and finally,
 - o The dean of the college for your major for line [C]; and you are finished with signatures.
 - We print the ENG 098 Coordinator's name on line [D], which reads "Name of faculty member to give exam."

The final signature space that reads "Instructor's Signature," is where Tom Black, the coordinator of English 098, signs and enters the scores after they are calculated.

NOTE: You should get these signatures as soon as possible. Many people have limited office hours, and you may not be able to get the signatures in time if you wait too long.

3. After you have collected signatures A through C, take the form to the Cashier and pay the \$25 exam fee. (NOTE: The cashier may not accept payment unless the form has the signatures as outlined above.)
4. After you have collected the signatures, paid the \$25 fee, and gotten the cashier's "Paid" stamp on the form, make a copy of the form in case it gets lost.
5. Submit two portfolios to your English 098 teacher.
 - o **NOTE: See "Portfolio Instructions" below.**

Fall 2009 Session Deadline: November 9th, 2009.

6. **Register for English 101** to hold a seat in case you do not pass the exam.

Portfolio Overview

1. The credit-by-exam consists of a portfolio of your writing. In addition to the inclusion of writing from your English 098 course, your portfolio will contain new pieces written on your own.

Fall 2009 Session: These pieces must be written between August 24th, 2009 and November 9th, 2009.

2. Your portfolio is due to your English 098 instructor no later than November 9th, 2009. Your English 098 instructor will then submit the portfolio to the English 098 coordinator.
3. Make a copy of each part of the exam and purchase 2 two-pocket folders. Place a complete set of all materials in each two-pocket folder and turn both folders in to your instructor. (**NOTE: One folder must contain the original application form**, while the other will contain a copy of the form and all other parts of your portfolio.)

Portfolio Instructions

Your credit by exam will consist of four parts.

Part One

Compose a single-spaced cover letter, approximately 1-2 pages in length, in which you answer all of the following questions in detail:

1. Evaluate and describe yourself as a student in your **English 098 class**. What are your strengths as a student? How is your attendance? Does it meet the requirements set forth by your teacher? Do you meet assignment deadlines, and are these assignments done according to directions? Do you work well in groups? Do you show up on time? Do you put forth honest effort?

2. Describe your writing goals this semester. How does your portfolio illustrate your successful attainment of these goals?
3. Which writing goals did you meet less successfully? How might you go about meeting them in the future?
4. Describe the assignment for the essay in Part Two of this portfolio. Why did you choose this as your best piece of writing?
5. Describe why the essay you wrote for Part Three is a strong piece of writing.

Place a copy of this cover letter in the left-hand pocket of each folder.

Part Two

Include a well-revised, polished essay (3-5 pages) that exhibits your best writing from English 098, Fall 2009. Include your teacher's assignment sheet and any preceding invention and brainstorming strategies or drafts. If you don't have drafts, please explain why in your cover letter.

Place a copy of this essay in the left-hand pocket of each folder, behind the cover letter.

(NOTE: As you decide which essay to submit, keep in mind the [evaluation criteria](#) that will be used to assess your portfolio.)

Part Three

Write a 3-5 page essay addressing the following prompt.

You must demonstrate your entire writing process for this essay; therefore, include all of your inventions and brainstorming strategies as well as all revised and edited drafts. (Clearly label each item and draft; for example "draft one," "draft two," "final draft," "Brainstorm," etc.)

Prompt:

Advertisements are texts combining visual and written cues targeted at specific audiences in order to achieve a specific purpose. They often sell or promote a product by presenting and/or manipulating their audience's cultural assumptions, values, and stereotypes.

Analyze and critique one advertisement (from the five listed/linked below), identifying and discussing how the ad presents and/or manipulates its audience's cultural assumptions, values, and stereotypes. Assume your audience is a group of English 098, 101, and 102 instructors and professors, and assume that these readers have seen the

advertisement. In other words, do not summarize the advertisement's details-- analyze and critique them. Support your interpretations and opinions by referring to specific details from the advertisement. Feel free (but not obligated) to draw from your own personal experience in order to further support your interpretations/opinions. Your essay should be written in an organized manner.

Throughout your analysis and critique of the advertisement, consider addressing some of the bulleted questions below. These questions are offered as starting points, and you may include any other pertinent points of analysis and/or critique you think of as you write and think about the ad. These questions are not presented in an order from which to organize your essay. Create an essay structure based on the outcomes of your analysis and critique:

- What is the advertisement's purpose/intent?
- Who is the target audience of the advertisement?
- What ways may the advertisement be effective and/or ineffective?
- How may the advertisement work on a subliminal level?
- How may the target audience respond to the advertisement?
- What values are elicited in the advertisement?
- Whose values may the ad support or go against?
- Are there any stereotypes in the advertisement?
- How are stereotypes used to achieve the ad's purpose?
- How do stereotypes appeal to the intended audience?
- How is the advertisement composed on the page and how does this affect interpretation(s) of the ad?

Choose ONLY ONE of the following ads to work with (the download may be slow on a dial-up connection):

Ads Available By October 5th

NOTE: Once you click on one of the links and the image opens in your browser, we suggest that you download it to your computer to better view the image. Please consult your browser Help system to learn how to download images.

Place a copy of this essay, and of all drafts, in the right-hand pocket of each folder.

Part Four

Complete the portfolio checklist. [Click here to access the checklist.](#)

1. Print out the checklist.
2. Initial and sign the form as you include each part, which will help you to be sure that no parts of your portfolio are missing.
3. Place this checklist on top of everything on the left-hand side of your folder. It may serve as a table of contents to orient your readers.

Overview of Portfolio Evaluation

The entire portfolio will be scored based on the evaluation criteria available on this web site. [Click here to review the evaluation criteria.](#)

In order to pass the exam and receive credit for English 101, you must pass English 098, meet the evaluation criteria for a passing portfolio (receive a score of 3 or 4), and exactly follow the portfolio directions. The final grade is either an S for satisfactorily passing, or U for unsatisfactory, neither of which affect your GPA.

Two readers will score your portfolio, and the average of their scores will determine your overall grade. If it is a borderline portfolio, the English 098 coordinator will become the third reader to break the "tie." Your scores will be available after **December 7th, 2009** in Frandsen Hall room 131 (the Core Writing Program office). These results are confidential. The Core Writing Program administrative assistant will have your results on department letterhead inside a sealed envelope with your name on it.

You must bring your student I. D. to receive your results.

NOTE: Failure to include the proper number of copies or to follow any of these instructions will result in immediate failure of the exam.