

Course Grading Agreement Sabatino Mangini

Your final grade for this course will be based on two things: your participation in class according to the contract outlined below, and the quality of the writing you include in your final portfolio.

If you follow the agreement for the entire semester, you will receive a B for the course.

If the writing you include in your final portfolio is exceptionally strong, your final grade may be higher. Agreement grading is intended to shift your focus productively: it assures you that, if you work hard and complete the agreement, you will receive a grade that is above the average for this course.

As such, you are guaranteed a B if you:

1. attend class regularly—not missing more than a week’s worth of classes;
2. meet due dates and writing criteria for all major assignments;
3. participate in all in-class exercises and activities;
4. complete all informal, low-stakes writing assignments (e.g., journal writing, blogging);
5. give thoughtful peer feedback during class workshops and work faithfully with your group on other collaborative tasks (e.g., sharing papers, commenting on drafts, peer editing, blog responses);
6. sustain effort and investment on each draft of all papers;
7. make substantive revisions when the assignment is to revise—extending or changing the thinking or organization—not just editing or touching up;
8. copyedit all final revisions of main assignments until they conform to the conventions of edited, revised English;
9. attend all scheduled conferences with me to discuss and revise drafts (if I indicate on a draft or that I would like you to schedule an appointment to talk with me, do so within a week);
10. adhere to the Delaware County Community College academic integrity policy—avoiding plagiarism, paper recycling, or disguising another’s work as your own, etc;
11. submit a fully revised midterm and final portfolio that both meet all requirements by the due dates;
12. maintain a course-appropriate website: professional appearance, populated pages, up-to-date blog.

If you break the agreement, your “B” grade for the course will be lowered as follows:

You are responsible for being aware of and following the agreement stipulations. If you breach the agreement, your grade will be lowered. Throughout the semester, I will help you remain aware by notifying you that you have breached the agreement and how much your grade has been lowered. These lowered grades can be still be improved by an exceptionally strong portfolio; however, please don't depend on your final portfolio being exceptional enough to make up for excessive breaches of agreement—because this occurrence is unlikely to happen.

By signing below, I indicate that I have read and understood the course policies and agreement requirements. I agree to abide by these policies and requirements.

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____

Instructor Signature: _____

Date: _____

Works Cited

[Danielewicz, Jane, & Elbow, Peter. “A Unilateral Grading Contract to Improve Learning and Teaching.” *College Composition and Communication* 61 \(December 2009\): 244-268.](#)