

The English Division

In today's information age, reading comprehension and writing skills are essential for everyone. The AHC program includes courses in literature and critical thinking, reading and writing to enhance communication skills, to deepen understanding of our cultural traditions, to provide a breadth of knowledge appropriate for many degree and vocational programs and to prepare students for transfer to four-year institutions. English majors often enter fields such as law, education, public relations, human services, journalism and corporate communications. To ensure that their transfer objectives are being met, English majors should consult with an academic counselor. English 513 is a prerequisite for Engl. 514.

(source: AHC English webpage)



Photo: A. Halderman

Campus Talk

Who inspires you most?

"My mother. Beautiful hearted, natural, and a hard worker." Destiny Wilson, GenEdu

"My cousin. He has a full, healthy life." Cody Antunez, Culinary

"My brother. He got me into cars and body work." Pablo Maldonado, AutoTech

"My grandparents. To be a good person and enjoy what I have." Sierra Clark, DentalAsst

"Parents. As they get older, I want to take care of them." Esmeralda Salgado, GenEdu

"My friend Lauren. She works hard." Luis Mendez, SystemsAnalyst

"My older sister, Mayra. She pushes me in life." Elvira Angon, ChemBio

"Demi Lovato. She's fun and outgoing." Jessica Lara, Business

A Spark

By Jose Rodriguez, AutoMech

A spark can start a forest fire. Ever since I was a young kid, I always looked forward to the 4th of July. Why? I have no clue. It seems to me that there was magic. Fireworks seem like pieces of cardboard glued together, but when they go off, it's magic.

When I was young, I enjoyed them a lot, but now I find them trivial. That same magic that once intrigued me now just seems like sparks of lights in the night sky.

Maybe I need someone to show me the magic again. Or maybe my innocence is lost forever. It's just smoke penetrating the walls of my lungs. It's weird how things change in our lives.



Receiving Bad News

By Selena Mariscal, Psych

Taking my dog, Azula, to the vet was difficult! For a few days, my dad noticed that she was vomiting. I loved her. She was my best friend!

She was always in our house, slept in my room with me, and sometimes in my bed. My dad and I patiently waited in the waiting room waiting to hear what the vet would say. Eventually the vet came out and told us that Azula had something stuck in her intestine. She gave us two choices: one, have surgery, or two, put her to sleep.

I looked at my dad hoping he would do the surgery. Unfortunately, we didn't have the money for it so we decided to put her down. I cried so much, and so did my dad. When they brought Azula out, they had her in a white box with purple flowers. We took her home and buried her in the backyard. Right on top of her, we planted a lemon tree to always remember her.

Favorite Childhood Game

By Daniela Ramirez, Speech Pathology

My favorite childhood game was Twister! Every Sunday my family's routine was going out to church and then going out for dinner right after.

At the end of the day, we always decided to get the family together and play board games. Our favorite game was Twister because it really got everyone active at the same time.

There would be times when the game would get intense and everyone would be falling all over the place. We always had such a good laugh. Overall, I always looked forward to Sundays.

Something to Look Forward to

By Derrick Gregory, Architecture

Ever since I was a little grasshopper, I always said my mama is the best cook in the nation. Every weekend, I would go over to my mom's house around 3pm. That's the time she would definitely be in the kitchen whipping up dinners.

I enjoyed walking into the house savoring the good smell of fried catfish cooking, with the sweet smell of her mac-n-cheese, greens, cornbread, and candy yams. Mac-n-cheese is my favorite! She would also whip up her famous banana pudding. Her pudding had everyone leaving work early so they could make sure they got a piece.

My mother's food is the best thing to happen to me besides my iPhone. My mother's food nourishes me.



The Power of Hello

By Francesco Chinaglia, Ag Business

Howard White writes in his article "The Power of Hello" a central point of his life and career. I don't believe a lot of people will have a promotion in their job just with a simple greeting, but I believe that it is important to say "hello" to everybody.

Since I was a 4-year-old child, my parents taught me the importance of good manners, and I think that greeting people is part of this. This advice helped me a lot through life, especially at school. I still remember the first day of elementary school. I was the only student to say to my teacher, "Hello, Mrs. Marilena." She was so happy, and since then I have always said hello to many people.

Jenga!

By Raymond Perez, ParamedicMed

Growing up as a six year old boy in a trailer park only meant that there wasn't much to do but stay home. One night my brother and I discovered some board games within a closet in the trailer.

Out of curiosity, we both decided to play all sorts of games. We played Monopoly, but it was a bit difficult to understand, so we kept searching for other games. I came across a block game that really caught my attention, and that game was "Jenga." My brother seemed to enjoy playing with blocks just as much as I did, so we attempted to play the game. First, we stacked up all the block pieces together in a sort of building like form. As soon as we finished, the next step was for us to take turns pulling block pieces out of the structure. After pulling out like twenty pieces, the building collapses.

It brought my brother and me so much excitement. So, I've loved Jenga ever since!

Plane Ride

By Cody Appleby, Business Management

My girlfriend and I went skydiving for our first anniversary and I was nervous. I was so nervous because I had never been on a plane before, so this was a completely new experience.

The whole week before, I was anxious and scared, and feeling something bad was going to happen. My entire thought changed when it was the day to skydive. The plane took off and it wasn't as bad as I thought, but when the plane door opened right before we jumped, my hands instantly got sweaty and my heart raced.

Before I had time to think, I was free-falling! It was amazing and it definitely changed my life. I can say I've never landed in a plane as well!

Keyboards and Numbers

By Reynalda Camarillo, MedicialAsst

Two courses that I am taking this semester are computer concepts and math.

In my computer concepts class, I'm learning how to work with Microsoft Excel, Word, PowerPoint, and Access. These programs will help me in the future.

Math, on the other hand, is pretty much about numbers, Xs, and integers with common factors. I dislike math because it's difficult and confusing. Although I dislike math, it can also help me save money while I shop because we use math almost every day.

These are some of the classes I'm taking this semester.

Special Note

This newsletter isn't an official English Division document. Instead it only serves as a class assignment for Halderman's English 134. In order to preserve the authenticity of the students' writing we have kept their original word order and sentence structure.