**Course Overview Examples**

At the beginning of each syllabus, just after your instructor contact information, you should include a brief overview of the course and its goals. Below you can find examples of exemplary overviews.

*The following is for a course with the topic “Creativity”*

In English 110, which fulfills the College Writing 1 requirement, you will write extensively to explore questions about creativity. What is creativity? What does it mean to be creative? Where do new ideas come from, or is there even such a thing as a new idea? In addition to the arts, creativity is now considered a vital component of many areas or domains, including business, technology, science and medicine. Through a selection of readings, writing assignments and class discussions, you will address and debate the nature of creativity in a variety of contexts. You will write in response to the material you read, and, so that you can discover useful strategies and express your thoughts clearly and effectively, your writing practice will include various exercises, essay drafts, revisions, and homework responses, with an emphasis on a set of skills that will both strengthen your writing and also increase your awareness of the choices you make when you write. Along with helping you produce clear and effective writing, these practices will give you the opportunity to pay close attention to what you read, develop your ideas, analyze the ideas of others, and evaluate your own creative potential. Altogether, in this course you will develop the critical thinking and writing skills that you will need in college and beyond, and gain confidence as a writer and reader who will be able to:

* Use writing techniques to respond to readings and to discover your own ideas on assigned topics
* Practice some conventional forms of essay writing that support a thesis and reflect the logical organization of paragraphs
* Develop close reading and analysis skills in response to assigned texts
* Develop an awareness of audience through peer response to essay drafts
* Distinguish between primary and secondary sources and integrate sources in an essay by paraphrase, summary and quotation and by documenting sources in MLA documentation style
* Develop editing skills that focus on correct grammar and punctuation

Additionally, as you assess ideas about creativity through a variety of readings, writing assignments and class discussions, you will

* Gain knowledge of a variety of perspectives about creativity as they have developed over time
* Strengthen your ability to make connections among ideas and readings as they relate to creativity