

**Kevin McColley: Evidence of Teaching Effectiveness**  
**Representative Student Comments**

English 1151: "Composition" (Fall 2013)

Average Grade: 2.5 out of 4 (C)

"Out of all the writing classes I've took (sic), this has been my favorite. Not only do I enjoy your fun and interesting stories, but the way to teach us to be better writers helps a lot. Using literature to explain why we should [write] the way we write helps because it shows an example of how it works in the paragraph. Since I began this class I got my first perfect on my environmental class. I can tell you are helping. My writing is improving."

"I love this class. Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, this is literally the class I look forward to. I have learned more in this than in seven years of high school and middle school."

"This is the best writing class I have taken up to this point. We write a lot of essays, but the time given for each is plentiful. The idea behind revising and returning to it is great because you can continue to critique and learn how to make the paper better. The stories and memories you share with us are incredible. If the course stays the same till the end I will be very satisfied and it will be one of my favorite classes in my academic writing career."

"Usually when I think of a composition class, I cringe thinking about writing papers and revising them a hundred times. This class has been different though. I have learned a lot about writing and class has really been fun. I love the idea that in order to become great writers, we should study other great writers. The papers are not that terrible to write either. You have given us enough tools and skills to make paper-writing more efficient and effective."

"Ever since I started English or Comp in high school I've hated this class. Since I have started here I feel more confident in my writing abilities. You have made composition fun and that's pretty hard to do. Some other things that stand [out] are that you care about your students and want everybody involved."

English 1151: "Composition" (Fall 2014)

Average Grade: 2.6 out of 4 (C)

"As the first English class I actually enjoyed, I want to thank you. This class was the highlight of my first semester of college, and you made it very easy to learn."

“I’m so impressed with how you taught this class. I’ve learned more in this class than I have in any other. You’re also very helpful and you make me feel like there isn’t one possible dumb question in the world.”

“I loved this class and the way it was structured. I only disliked the amount of homework assigned. But the teacher was excellent, knowledgeable, and very fun to listen to.”

“I think this was the best English class I’ve ever had. It was great because I was able to write about topics important to me.”

English 2152: “Argument and Exposition” (Spring 2014)

Average Grade: 3.2 out of 4 (B)

“Overall, I think this class went very well. Now I often find myself critically thinking about other arguments automatically. I’ve noticed that there aren’t a whole lot of organizations that use strong arguing techniques. I especially like how you explain things in a non-traditional way, such as deconstructing the room to demonstrate editing. Lastly, I enjoy when you talk about personal experiences to describe methods.”

“The notes (ppts) were well explained. Your examples made concepts easy to understand. It helps when the teacher makes you want to come to class.”

“The class was not at all what I had expected. The debates were awesome and really added a lot to my class experience. Also, some of the “harsh” critiques on my papers taught me how to better prepare and write an actual paper.”

“This class is absolutely one of the most well run classes I have had. The way you run your room is not suppressive and it allows a person to be who they are on paper. Thanks a bunch!”

“I think that this course was very good for people who are nervous to get up and talk in front of the class. You put us at ease in a friendly accepting environment. I learned a lot in this class and I greatly appreciate it. Thank you.”

English 2152: “Argument and Exposition” (Spring 2015)

Average Grade: 2.9 out of 4 (C)

“Overall, I really did enjoy this class. Compared to my composition class, I feel like I took a lot more away on how to not only write a paper, but to be more comfortable in my ability to clearly express my opinions to my professor. The fact that I came out of this class knowing how to structure and being able to analyze a

good argument means that I got exactly what I wanted from this course. Of course, the Monty Python jokes and other goofy little additives to the class made it all the better.” *This student did not take Composition with me as her instructor.*

“I thought this class was very helpful with improving my writing. Both the papers and arguments helped me really think about my format and thought process. I also really liked the way the arguments [class debates] were set up. After the first initial shock of public speaking, I had a lot of fun! Thanks for a great semester!”

“I loved having this class. It has shown me many different aspects that I didn’t realize. You’ve been an amazing professor. Thank you for everything.”

“I really enjoyed your personality, Kevin. Even though I wasn’t very interested in this class, you made it more enjoyable.”

“Explored things thoroughly and make the material easy to comprehend. Nothing was too difficult to understand. I looked forward to coming to this class; there was never really a dull moment. I had a lot of fun in this class. I learned a lot more than any of my previous English classes.”

English 4420: “Shakespeare and His Age” (Spring 2015)

“The only ‘speaker’ we had was Kevin, the TA, and he was pretty good to listen to.”

“Kevin (extremely useful) supplemented a lot of interesting information about the plays, context, visual performance.”

“Kevin (extremely useful). Loved his input and videos!”

“Kevin McCaully (sic) (extremely useful). Provided interesting and thought provoking insight to the class.”

“Kevin was great.”

“Kevin rocks.” (Extremely useful.)

“Really helpful clips and discussion. Great Acting.”

“Extremely useful.”

“Kevin had *great* info, but I didn’t learn much from his video clips.”

English 101: Introduction to College Writing (Fall 2017)

Average Grade: 2.8 out of 4 (C)

“The professor is very engaged with the group to a connection where it drives me to want to learn what it is he’s teaching.”

“I have enjoyed this class very much. It is very interesting and informative.”

“The class is helpful and the Kevin is a great teacher.”

“My experience has been great in this course, i really enjoy the small discussions that we have and the fact that everyone has a chance to get involved.”

“I have enjoyed my time in the class, he does his best to make it fun, while learning at the same time. The readings that we have done so far were great ways to open us up to the world as they were about everyday situations.”

“Since English is my least favorite subject, I thought this class would be like putting a cheese grinder to my forehead. But it isn't, I actually stay attentive in class, and have attended all of the classes.”

English 102: College Writing and Research (Spring 2018)

Average Grade: 3.1 out of 4 (B)

“Lots of class discussions and stories from my professor.”

“Very open and resourceful.”

“For the most part yes, due dates sometimes vary from the like ‘due date sheet’ we were given sometimes masking it unclear what is to be due the next class.”

“The dynamic of groups and individual work is awesome.”

“Really standard course look forward to it each week. really do enjoy having my instructor teach the way he does.”

“Ranging from lecture, short instructional/informational videos, group discussions, and small group activities. Great range and makes an English class actually interesting.”