

**ENGLISH 180: COLLEGE WRITING I**  
**(Section 8 and Section 31)**  
**Fall 2016**

**Class times and locations**

Classes meet Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Simpkins (SI) in computer lab 319 and classroom 315

**Section 8** meets from 9:00 - 9:50 pm (21069)

**Section 31** meets from 2:00 - 2:50 pm (24006)

**Instructor Info**

Instructor: Dr. Alisha White

Email: a-white2@wiu.edu

Phone: 309-298-1548

Office: Simpkins Hall 226C

Office Hours: Monday 10:00-12:00, Wednesday 10:00-11:00, Friday 10:00-11:00, and by appointment (email me to request an appointment)

Mailbox: Simpkins 122, M-F 8:30am-4:30pm

Course URL: <https://westernonline.wiu.edu>

**Required Texts**

Book 1

*Joining the conversation* by Mike Palmquist (ISBN-10: 1457629283)

Book 2

*Spark: How Creativity Works* by Julie Burstein (ISBN-10: 0061732397)

**Course Description**

Introduction to college writing, with an emphasis on the writing process, reflective writing, and critical thinking. A complete list of the standard objectives for English 180 can be found at <http://www.wiu.edu/cas/english/writing/F15%20ENG%20180%20Handout.pdf>

**Course Goals and Objectives:**

In English 180, you will be introduced to writing as a social activity with the goal of providing you with the knowledge you need to learn how to write. Specifically, we will focus on the following primary objectives:

- **Writing Process:** You will test and adapt writing processes to meet the demands of varying genres and rhetorical situations.
- **Rhetoric:** You will identify and analyze the elements of the rhetorical situation (exigence, audience, and context) and will apply that knowledge to composing your own texts.
- **Genre:** You will analyze how genre functions as a typified response to a recurring situation, with special emphasis on applying conventions rhetorically.
- **Discourse Community:** You will learn to define and identify different discourse communities, with a special emphasis on describing and analyzing how community shapes writing, especially in civic contexts.

- **Critical Thinking, Reading, and Research:** You will use critical thinking, reading, and research strategies to compose texts that participate in ongoing conversations, from both academic and extracurricular communities, with special emphasis on integrating your ideas with field research and appropriate secondary sources.

Note: If you were force-enrolled in this course, you will need the permission of the instructor and the Director of Writing in order to drop. If you wish to drop this course you will need to speak with me first, and I will forward your request to the Director for consideration (permission is not granted automatically). Because you need permission to drop, you should begin the drop process early.

Syllabus Revision Policy

Please note: The course syllabus provides a general plan for the course; deviations may be necessary.

**Course Policies**

Usability and Information for Students with Disabilities

In accordance with University values and disability law, students with disabilities may request academic accommodations where there are aspects of a course that result in barriers to inclusion or accurate assessment of achievement. To file an official request for disability-related accommodations, please contact the Disability Resource Center at 309-298-2512, disability@wiu.edu or in 143 Memorial Hall. Please notify the instructor as soon as possible to ensure that this course is accessible to you in a timely manner.

Course Grades

This section gives the breakdown of percentage points for each letter grade.

A (93-100%); A- (90-92%); B+ (87-89%); B (83-86%); B- (80-82%); C+ (77-79%); C (73-76%); U (72% and below)

Students must receive a 73(C) or above in order to pass 280. Students must earn a D on the research paper, a fully documented, multi-source writing assignment, in order to pass the course.

Assignment Grades

This section breaks down what each area of the grade is worth.

<b>Assignment Title</b>	<b>Assignment Value</b>
Class Participation and attendance	10%
Writing Exercises and Reflections	5%
Spark Journals	10%
Paper 1 – Literacy Essay	15%
Paper 2 – Visual Essay	15%
Group Project	15%
Paper 3 – Research Profile Essay	20%
Portfolio & Self-Evaluation	10%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

Assignment Descriptions

**Class Participation & Attendance:** your active class participation will be necessary to fulfill the goals and objectives of the course. Class activities will include working individually or in groups on writing exercises, activities, short online posts, responses to posts, and short and extended group discussions on a regular basis. Attend class prepared by reading the assigned material before class (check schedule of readings). **Note: bring your textbook and a flash drive to every class** since this will influence your class participation grade.

**Writing Exercises and Reflections:** In most cases, writing exercises will either ask you to answer questions, write a reaction, or complete an exercise from the assigned reading. Other writing exercises will help you to brainstorm, prewrite, and formulate ideas for the class's papers. You will write a reflection for each of the major writing assignments **(150-200 words each)**. Reflections and exercises will be submitted electronically via WesternOnline before the beginning of class. LATE reflections will be accepted, but you will lose five points for each class the reflection is late. INCOMPLETE work will not receive full credit.

**Spark Journals:** As you read the book *Spark: How Creativity Works*, you will write a journal (1-2 pages) for each chapter. Upload journals to WesternOnline by the assigned date for full credit. We will talk about the themes of each chapter and concepts discussed in each profile of the chapter.

**Paper 1 – Literacy Narrative Essay: (600-900 words/2-3 pgs)** You will write a personal narrative essay that reflects on your experiences with reading, writing, and technology throughout your life. Include at least one image which represents an aspect of your literacy experiences (can be a photograph of you reading, a jpg of a book cover, or a created image such as a comic strip or textorizer image). Include description details and writing strategies suggested by our textbook and discussed in class.

**Paper 2 – Visual Analysis: (600-900 words/2-3 pgs)** After practicing visual analysis of images in class, you will write a visual analysis essay of an image of your choice based on the techniques practiced in class and considered by our textbook and discussed in class. You should consider the ways different discourse communities create, interpret, analyze, and represent images based on readings and class discussions.

**Group Project – Genre Study: (900 words/3pgs)** In small groups, you will analyze modes of communication used by a discourse community by choosing a genre sample to observe. Then you will represent your findings in a multimodal presentation that includes the genre sample and description of your analysis. See our textbook and discussions in class for topics and ideas.

**Paper 3 – Research Profile Essay: (1500 words/5pgs)** You will research and write a profile on a person or organization related to a discourse community. You will investigate the person or organization by collecting primary data and exploring library and online scholarly resources. You will compose **an annotated bibliography** of your sources and compose the profile in a multimodal essay. Your **profile** will include an introduction to the topic, a synthesis of findings with references cited, a conclusion, and bibliography.

**Portfolio & Self-Evaluation: (900-1200 words/ 3-4 pgs)** Instead of a final exam, students will submit a final portfolio with an essay that reflects on your writing during the semester using specific examples. For the self-evaluation, you will discuss your writing goals and what you achieved this semester and choose pieces of your work that highlight improvement in your writing.

**Extra Credit:** There will be opportunities for extra credit throughout the semester. To get extra credit you will attend a literary or cultural event and write a 300-word review of the event. Completing additional Spark journals may also earn extra credit. Each review or journal will be graded as pass/fail and count as an informal writing assignment. Extra credit will not be tallied into your grade until the final grade adjustment at the end of the semester.

### General Guidelines for Paper Submissions:

I will post an instructions sheet with evaluation criteria on WesternOnline for each of the major papers. All your draft and revised papers will be uploaded electronically as a Microsoft Word document in the “assignment” section of WesternOnline before the beginning of class when the paper is due (check schedule of writing assignments). **Draft papers should meet the length requirement and should be uploaded on time to receive full credit. Late papers will be accepted late, but you will lose 5 points for each class the paper is late.** You will get feedback on your papers and revise them before receiving the paper’s grade. Make sure you **SAVE** all your work on your WIU student drive or a flash drive, as well as a backup (such as emailing the document to yourself.) Computer issues are not an excuse for submitting incomplete or late work.

All papers should be in a serif font (Times New Roman, Garamond, Georgia), 12 point font, double spaced, and include a heading with your name, course section, the assignment, and page numbers.

### Academic Integrity and Plagiarism Policy

Plagiarism occurs when students present a short or long piece of a work that was created by another individual or was taken from a source without properly acknowledging it. It also includes when a student submits her/his own work for one class that was already submitted for another class. Plagiarism is a serious offense. Academic Dishonesty is a serious academic offense that can result in referral to the Committee on Academic Misconduct and failure for the course. **If you plagiarize any section of a writing exercise or paper assignment during this course, it may result in failure of the assignment and failure of the entire course.** If you have any questions about what constitutes plagiarism, ask me or read the

WIU’s Student Academic Integrity Policy: <http://www.wiu.edu/vpas/policies/acintegrity.php>.

### Late Papers

You are encouraged to seek help as soon as possible to avoid penalties on late work. The penalty for late work is 5 points off the assignment grade per day late. **No late work will be accepted after one week.**

### Attendance and Participation

Since this course will rely on students’ active participation through writing activities, group work and discussions, attendance and punctuality are required. Regular attendance and participation in engagements is an important part of any learning experience. Coming to class prepared is an important aspect of active participation. This includes bringing textbooks, assignment directions, course schedule, and drafts of your work. You may bring laptops or tablets to take notes, compose and revise drafts in class. You may be asked to leave if you are not prepared for class or are off task, and you will lose attendance points for the day.

If you miss class due to illness, personal emergency, or any other reason, **notify me via email before or after an absence occurs.** You may have **FOUR** excused or unexcused absences without penalty, but you are still responsible for meeting writing exercises and papers’ deadlines (but students will NOT be able to make up for missing work that occurs during class). If you are going to be absent for more than one class period, you should alert me via email prior to your absence so that we can plan ahead. **Beginning with your fifth absence, you will lose 10 points from your class participation grade for each subsequent absence. Keep in mind that if you accumulate more than TEN absences, you will NOT receive a passing grade in this course.**

**Note:** Student athletes, students with military obligations, and students with disabilities must meet with me at the beginning of the semester to develop an accommodation plan.

Finally, tardiness (defined as arriving more than five minutes late to class) will negatively affect your class participation grade, so please arrive promptly to class. Four tardies will count as one absence. If you arrive more than fifteen minutes late to class, you will be counted absent. This attendance policy has been established by the Writing Program. If you are absent or arrive late, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed and collect any handouts or other materials handed out in class.

#### Classroom Etiquette:

Your class participation grade is worth **10%** of your final grade. You are expected to be a willing and thoughtful contributor to class discussion. As you do your reading for class, you should prepare questions and comments about the reading. In class you should be prepared to answer questions, both out loud and in writing, pose new questions, and solicit conversation from your peers. A healthy classroom environment is one in which each person feels comfortable expressing his or her opinion. I will not tolerate rude, disruptive, or inconsiderate behavior, which includes texting.

Students should **turn off and put away** all their electronic devices (including laptops or ereaders unless requested in advance) before the beginning of class and should not be engaged in any other activity that is not related to the class (texting, social media, checking email, homework for other class, etc.). **Please do not leave the classroom abruptly; if you need to excuse yourself for an important reason while the class is in session, let me know in advance.** When working on the computer lab or small groups, students are expected to work on the assigned task. You are also expected to show civility and respect for other students' ideas, opinions, and beliefs expressed in writing or during class discussion. **If you do not comply with these expectations you may receive a friendly warning, but repeated misbehavior will automatically affect your class participation grade (with or without a warning).**

Please review the Disruptive Student Behavior Policy found at:

<http://www.wiu.edu/vpas/policies/disrupst.php>

#### Conferences:

I encourage you to come to office hours or make an appointment any time during the semester. For the first two papers you will have an opportunity in class to ask individual questions. We will have one individual conference where we will discuss and work on your papers. You must bring a draft of your paper to our meeting. Attending your conference will be part of the paper's grade and missing your conference will also count as an absence.

#### Technology

It is your responsibility to check Western Online regularly for notices, assignment directions, and class notes.

#### WesternOnline:

1. To access this course on WesternOnline:
2. Go to Western Online <https://westernonline.wiu.edu>
3. Log in using your ECOM ID and password
4. Your personal My WesternOnline page will appear. Available courses are listed in the middle of the page under Course List.
5. Click the link "ENG 180 – Section 08 or 031" to enter the course. This will take you to the

Homepage where you will be able to access a broad range of features. Log in and start exploring this page as soon as possible.

### Writing Center

"The University Writing Center is available to assist you with general and specific questions on writing assigned in any discipline and at any academic level. The one-on-one assistance available at the Writing Center is valuable for generating ideas, talking about global-level issues such as organization, and even working through grammatical problems. The University Writing Center is located in Malpass Library, on the Third Floor. Call for an appointment (298-2815) and be sure to bring a copy of your assignment."

### Student Rights and Responsibilities

Please review the "Student Rights and Responsibilities" policy at [Student Rights and Responsibilities](http://www.wiu.edu/provost/students) <http://www.wiu.edu/provost/students> and see me if you have any questions.

### Suggested Resources

- *A Pocket Style Manual* Diana Hacker, by Nancy Sommers Bedford/St. Martin's; Sixth Edition
- [Leslie F. Malpass Library](http://www.wiu.edu/library) <http://www.wiu.edu/library>
- [Western Illinois University Libraries General Reference Tools, including a "Style Manuals":](http://wiu.edu/libraries/reference/reftools/index.php) <http://wiu.edu/libraries/reference/reftools/index.php>
- [Purdue University Online Writing Lab \(OWL; includes "grammar blog"\):](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/) <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/>
- [The Writing Center @ the University of Wisconsin – Madison \(includes "Grammar and Punctuation Center"\):](http://writing.wisc.edu/Handbook/index.html) <http://writing.wisc.edu/Handbook/index.html>

### Title IX

University values, Title IX, and other federal and state laws prohibit sex discrimination, including sexual assault/misconduct, dating/domestic violence, and stalking. If you, or someone you know, has been the victim of any of these offenses, we encourage you to report this to the Title IX Coordinator at 309-298-1977 or anonymously online at:

[http://www.wiu.edu/equal\\_opportunity\\_and\\_access/request\\_form/index.php](http://www.wiu.edu/equal_opportunity_and_access/request_form/index.php)

If you disclose an incident to a faculty member, the faculty member must notify the Title IX Coordinator. The complete Title IX policy is available at:

<http://www.wiu.edu/vpas/policies/titleIX.php>.

### Important dates to note:

**August 26:** Open registration ends (technically at 11:59 PM, but if students need permission to enroll or drop, they should seek permission before 4:30 that day)

**September 2:** Last day of restricted schedule changes/last day to drop without a W (technically at 11:59 PM, but students need permission to enroll [and sometimes to drop], so they should seek permission before 4:30 that day)

**October 30:** Last day to drop a course (students needing permission to drop should seek permission prior to October 28 at 4:30) AND last day for a total university withdrawal

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I have read and understand the **ENG180** course syllabus. I agree to abide by the rules set in the syllabus and understand the consequences stated should I violate those rules.

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Print Name

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Date

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Sign Name