

Sections 7 (9am), 14 (10am), 23 (12pm) and 29 (1pm) meet MWF in Simpkins 314

Instructor: Christy Wherley

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Office Hours: M 2pm to 3pm; WF 11am to 12pm; T/Th 9am to 9:30am & 10:45am to 11:45am; and by appointment

Required Materials:

Access to WesternOnline

Flash/Thumb drive

one 2-pocket folder

I also suggest:

a stapler, time, & a good dictionary

Course Goals and Objectives

The goal of English 280, College Composition II, is to do more than just improve students' writing skills. Students enrolled in English 280 will continue to build upon their rhetorical knowledge, genre knowledge, discourse community knowledge, and writing process knowledge. A thorough understanding of writing concepts in conjunction with continual reflection of the writing process benefits students as they encounter the multiple writing situations of being students and becoming professionals.

Which means...? For this course, we will think critically about the way our writing impacts the world and the way the world impacts our writing, by

- analyzing the different ways specific audiences think, read, and write
- formulating research questions, conducting research, and discovering new ways to communicate our research findings
- investigating and negotiating the various standards for writing

As we complete these goals and objectives, we will focus on who we are as students and citizens or students and professionals.

It is important to note: There are two prerequisites for English 280:

- 1) Completion of English 180 (or a first semester writing course accepted for transfer) with a grade of C or better. If you did not earn C or better in 180, you must repeat the course before taking 280.
- 2) Completion of a minimum of 24 hours of college credit.

Course Policies

1. Class attendance is required. Missed class work cannot be made up. Each student is allowed five (5) "personal" days. These absences are worth two (2) points per day if they are not missed. However, ten (10) points will be deducted from your grade for each class period beyond the limit of five. It is important to note that these days are yours to use, as you desire, so you should use them wisely. As well, excessive, chronic, or persistent tardiness will affect your attendance. If you are more than ten (10) minutes late to class, you will be counted as absent. You will receive one warning (one excused tardy) before tardies become absences. (See Student Absence Clarification Policy, www.wiu.edu/policies/stuabsc.php)

- Sometimes issues arise that can negatively impact your performance in this class or any of your classes. The best way to deal with these issues is to contact your advisor, or for extended absences beyond your control, contact the Office of Student Development and Orientation at 298-1884, University Union—first floor. These resources are yours to use and will assist you in a variety of ways. Never be afraid to ask us all for help.

2. Participation is essential. This class will be based on collaborative learning: We will be doing a lot of reading, writing, and talking together in the classroom. You will need to participate to learn. Participation will also make the class more enjoyable for all of us. Plan to attend and participate.

3. Papers and assignments are due at the beginning of the period on the date due unless otherwise stated. I do not accept late papers unless you have made arrangements in advance of the due date. I do not accept work via email.

4. All final papers must be turned in in a 2-pocket folder and must be accompanied by any work produced in the writing process.

5. I strongly encourage you to show drafts of your work at all stages to the Writing Center or me and to revise often. I may suggest you to attend sessions in the Writing Center. The University Writing Center has four locations. The main center is located in Malpass Library on the 3rd floor. To make an appointment there, the phone number is 309-298-2815.

6. Papers receiving a U or lower may be rewritten *only* after consulting with me about the problems. I may recommend you meet with a Writing Center tutor for the rewrite. If you then chose not to do the revision, the original grade will be recorded. A rewritten paper is due no later than one week from the date it was originally returned to you.

7. There may be quizzes based on the daily assignments. I reserve the right to give “pop” quizzes on the material assigned for and/or discussed in class if it appears that students are not prepared for class or if they are not participating.
8. 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](tel: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.
9. 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. 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>
10. Academic dishonesty is not tolerated in this classroom or by this university. All students are responsible for abstaining from cheating as well as avoiding making it possible for others to cheat. Submitting another’s work as your own constitutes plagiarism. To avoid the penalties of academic dishonesty, acknowledge all ideas/materials taken from another source. (See <http://www.wiu.edu/policies/acintegrity.php>)
 - All work you produce for this course will be original work. Any student who cannot comply with the University’s Academic Integrity Policy will be reported to the University and will fail the course, see Part III, sections A and B of the policy.
11. Inappropriate and disruptive behavior is unacceptable. If you choose to disregard these rules, you will receive only one warning, and then you will be removed from the class. Note that this includes the use of cell phones and/or iPods, etc. Talking with your friends at inappropriate times is also considered disruptive behavior. (See Disruptive student in Class Procedure, www.wiu.edu/policies/disrupst.php) All cell phones, ipods, mp3 players, etc. WILL BE turned off and put away prior to entering the classroom.
12. You have Rights and Responsibilities as a WIU Student: <http://www.wiu.edu/provost/students.php>
13. As a member of this writing class, you are eligible to participate in the Leland Essay Contest for cash prizes and publication of one your pieces. You will find rules, dates, etc at http://www.wiu.edu/cas/english_and_journalism/writing/leland.php

Course Requirements

Papers/Projects:

1. Joining a Conversation Project: Students will reflect on and analyze the habits of mind we practice as we engage in conversations, as students and citizens or as students and professionals. (3-4 pages/approx 1000-1400 words)
2. You Can’t Handle the Truth Project: Students will be asked to examine the various ways that we, as a society, respond to how truth and knowledge is constructed as we analyze the rhetorical choices made by those who communicate information or enter current conversations. (4-6 pages/approx 1400-2200 words)
3. Making Choices Project: Students will use what they have learned about rhetoric to make choices about their own writing and to practice writing in a variety of mediums. (5-7 pages/approx 1800-2500 words)
 - Research/Inquiry Proposal: Students will complete a three step research proposal. (3-5 pages/approx 1000-1800 words)
4. Final Portfolio: This end-of-the-semester portfolio asks students to reflect on the work they have done for this course as well as the writing they have completed throughout their college careers. Your best bet is to **keep everything** you do for this class, but it is also important to account for all writing you do this semester.

Other Requirements:

1. Peer Workshop: The Workshopping process for this course requires participation by all members of the class. **Note that a final draft that has not gone through the Workshopping process does not have the essential feedback of a carefully worked draft and will be graded as such.*
2. Weekly Journals: Weekly Journals are designed for writing practice. These journals are to be more than one page on any subject you choose. Journals are due on the designated Wednesdays, and **late journals will not be accepted**.
3. Daily Work/Homework: Activities including readings, discussions, quizzes, drafts, homework assignments, etc are a required part of the daily work for this course. **Note that in-class work cannot be made up due to absences.*

NOTE: Students will be given assignment sheets as these projects become due; we will discuss each element at the appropriate time. Also note that evaluation criteria will be provided for each project as well. There may be in-class writings due as pre-writing steps for each of the major papers/projects. **In-Class work cannot be made up due to absences.** All papers must be in MLA format.

Grading

All assignments in this class will receive points that will be totaled at the end of the semester to calculate the final grade. **A grade of at least a C is required to pass the course and earn credit for Eng 280**, and 75% of the points for this class are determined by the required writing assignments. **Note: Students must receive at least a D on the Making Choices Project in order to pass the course.*

Final grades for the course will be based on a point system:

Points are earned as follows:

| | | | |
|----|-----------|------------------------------------|-----------|
| A | 530 – 493 | Joining the Conversation Project | 75 |
| A- | 492 – 477 | You Can't Handle the Truth Project | 100 |
| B+ | 476 – 461 | Making Choices Project | 150 |
| B | 460 – 440 | Research/Inquiry Proposal | 45 |
| B- | 439 – 424 | Daily Work/Homework | 55 |
| C+ | 423 – 408 | Weekly Journals (10 @ 2 pts) | 20 |
| C | 407 – 387 | Workshopping | 10 |
| U | 386 – 258 | Final Portfolio | <u>75</u> |
| F | 257 – 0 | | 530 |

Final Notes: By remaining enrolled in this class, you agree to abide by the terms outlined here and in the information sheet. If you have a problem with any of the policies or practices in this syllabus, or if you are not prepared and eager to work hard, you should drop the class. ****If you were force-enrolled in this course, you will need my permission and the permission of 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.**

Tentative Schedule

As we discover more about ourselves as individuals and writers, our focus and timeline for assignments may change. You will be made aware of these changes through your attendance and participation in the class. You should make it a point to check the syllabus weekly if you are unsure or have missed a class period. Your syllabus is your guide and contract for the course.

WK 1

Monday (8/22): Course Policies and Requirements

Wednesday (8/24): Course Concepts; **J1**

Friday (8/26): Habits of Mind

**Open registration ends on August 28th*

WK2

Monday (8/29): Readings/Discussion

Wednesday (8/31): Readings/Discussion; **J2**

Friday (9/2): Prewriting Activity

**Last day of restricted schedule changes*

WK3

Monday (9/5): **No Class -- Labor Day**

Wednesday (9/7): In-class work; **J3**

Friday (9/9): Conferences

WK4

Monday (9/12): **Joining a Conversation Project due**

Wednesday (9/14): Information Literacy; **J4**

Friday (9/16): Analysis

WK5

Monday (9/19): Critical Inquiry

Wednesday (9/21): Rhetorical Situation; **J5**

Friday (9/23): Discussion

WK6

Monday (9/26): Discussion

Wednesday (9/28): Discussion; **J6**

Friday (9/30): Brainstorm ideas/possible topics

WK7

Monday (10/3): Researching

Wednesday (10/5): Construction Instruction

Friday (10/7): Peer Workshop

WK8

Monday (10/10): Conferences

Wednesday (10/12): **Truth Project due**

Friday (10/14): **No Class -- Fall Break**

WK9

Monday (10/17): Making Choices Project assignment

Wednesday (10/19): Proposal Assignment; **J7**

Friday (10/21): Assessing the Rhetorical Situation

WK10

Monday (10/24): Making a research plan; **Part 1 due**

Wednesday (10/26): Appraising Evidence/Evaluating Sources

Friday (10/28): Library Day; **Part 2 due**

Sunday (10/30): Last day to drop a class

WK11

Monday (10/31): Research Day

Wednesday (11/2): Citation/Documentation; **J8**

Friday (11/4): Establishing Your Voice; **Part 3 due**

WK12

Monday (11/7): Constructing MCP

Wednesday (11/9): Constructing MCP

Friday (11/11): **MCP Peer Workshop draft due**

WK13

Monday (11/14): **Peer Workshop**

Wednesday (11/16): Conferences

Friday (11/18): **Making Choices Project due**

WK14

Monday (11/21) -- Friday (11/25): **No Class -- Thanksgiving Break**

WK15

Monday (11/28): Portfolio essay discussion

Wednesday (11/30): Portfolio work; **J9**

Friday (12/2): Portfolio work

WK16

Monday (12/5): Portfolio work

Wednesday (12/7): Tying up loose ends; **J10**

Friday (12/9): Conferences

Finals Week (12/12 – 12/16): **Portfolio due**