

English 280
College Composition II
Fall 2016
Dr. Pat Young
Office: 016 Simpkins
Office Hrs: 12:20 -1:50; T, Th; W, 9:35-10:35 and by appointment
Phone: 298-1482 e-mail: p-young1@wiu.edu
Classes: 9:30-10:45 T, Th; Section 9
 11:00-12:15 T, Th; Section 21
 2:00-3:15 T, Th; Section 34

FIRST THINGS FIRST: By enrolling and remaining in this class, you are agreeing to abide by the specifications and policies of this syllabus. If you feel that you cannot adhere to the requirements, grading system, and other practices, drop the class today. Please be prepared and eager to work hard and to interact with class members. Do not expect an easy A or an A simply because you show up for class. It is YOUR responsibility to purchase YOUR required texts for YOUR education.

Prerequisites

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.

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.

Course Objectives: For a complete list of the various objectives for this course, see the English Department's handout, <http://www.wiu.edu/english/writing/280-handout.pdf>> . Also, please see <http://www.wiu.provost/studds.php> for a statement of students' rights and responsibilities and <http://www.wiu.edu/policies/acintegrity.php> for a statement on academic integrity. Briefly, by the end of the course students will have learned the basics of writing for upper-level college courses, including learning basic research strategies. Developing strong skills in analytical reading and critical thinking are also objectives in this course; therefore, reading an abundance of diverse types of literature is an important component of this course.

Required Texts: Kirsner's and Mandell's *LIT* and Hacker's *A Pocket Style Manual*. One folder in which to place your in-class essays is also required.

Course Requirements

Papers: Students are required to write three major papers for this course; it is not possible to pass this course if all three papers are not completed. Papers must be typed on a computer and printed out on a laser printer. Hand-written, tardy, and e-mail papers will not be accepted, **neither will double-sided typed papers be corrected**. The types of papers to be constructed for English 280 will be specified in class and will always be preceded by a description sheet that tells you clearly what to do. Please note the following types of essays that may be required of you:

1. Argumentation: For this essay, you will be presented with an argumentative dilemma and be asked to incorporate the elements of argumentation into examining the choice(s) you make (five pages)
2. Research: You are to combine the principles of research and analysis in constructing this documented paper (eight pages)
3. Comparison-Contrast: You will be asked to analyze similarities and differences between two works of fiction (five pages)

Other Requirements

4. One self-assessment essay in which you evaluate what you have learned in this course. This assignment will be the only extra-credit one and is worth three points.
5. In-class spontaneous writing assignments. The topics will be relative to the currently assigned work. These **daily** papers are designed to promote critical thinking and to improve writing skills, as they focus on thesis construction and development. In general, these short "papers" will not be graded but will be read and discussed in class.
6. Attend your personally scheduled conference in which we shall discuss your research project and class progress
7. Do homework reading assignments

Class Policies:

1. Class attendance is vital. Missed class work cannot be made up. Four or more undocumented absences will result in the automatic subtraction of forty (40) points from your overall grade-point average. This policy applies to everyone. If you have an outstanding reason for violating this policy, I will only refer you to this syllabus in response. Excessive, chronic, or persistent tardiness will also affect your attendance. If you are more than 15 minutes late for class, you will be counted as absent.

2. Papers are due at the **beginning** of the period on the date due. Do not come to class expecting to print your paper.
3. I strongly encourage you to show drafts of your work to the Writing Center and to revise often. I may, at my discretion, require you to attend sessions at the Writing Center.
4. Students with a disability should contact me in order to make any necessary arrangements.
5. Cell phones: Please be sure to turn off your cell phone before class begins.
6. Plagiarism: Please read carefully the section on Academic Dishonesty from the departmental information handout<<http://www.wiu.edu/english/writing/280-handout.pdf>> . Any student who plagiarizes is subject to penalties ranging from failing the assignment to failing the course, as well as being reported to CAGAS. Penalties and procedures are outlined in the Student Academic Integrity Policy <<http://www.wiu.edu/policies/acintegrity.php>>

Classroom Etiquette: Gum-popping and eating in class are exceedingly rude and distracting behaviors. They vitiate the academic atmosphere. Thank you for refraining from these acts. The following behaviors are considered disruptive, and repeated violations may result in **dismissal** from the class and possible **judicial referral**

- * Do not do homework for other courses while in this class
- * Do not read material in class that is not related to English 280
- * Please keep your head off the desk and please do not walk out during class.
- * Do not text message, play games, listen to music, etc. on handheld devices

Final Grades: Grades will be assigned according to the point system, which contains a maximum of 400 points. Papers one and two are worth 100 points, each. The research paper is worth 200 points. The numerical breakdown is:

360-400pts = A
 320-359pts = B
 280-319pts = C
 240-279pts = U/
 239 and below = F

Tentative Schedule

8/23 Review Syllabus
 8/25 and 8/30 Fiction Overview; *LIT*, pp. 16-27
 9/1 The Writers of English 280
 9/6 *Hills Like White Elephants*; **Receive Research Paper Topic**; pp. 65-79 are especially useful for information on writing a formal outline and for documenting sources
 9/8 *The Story of an Hour* Homework Assignment: pp. 110 and 126 (Read Checklist!)
 9/16 *Every Day Use*; **Receive Paper Assignment #1**
 9/20 *Cathedral*
 9/22 Paper Draft due for peer revision Use checklist on p. 126.

9/27 **Paper #1 Due**; In-class Assignment

9/29 *Big Black Good Man*

10/4--10/6 Research Days. Go to the library and get your books! Write!

Read pp. 9, 270, 128, 146, 4, 304—Useful for Paper Assignment #2

10/11 *A Worn Path*; Receive Paper Assignment #2

10/13 *The Lottery*

10/18 Paper Draft due for in-class peer revision

10/20 **Paper #2 due**; Sign up for conferences

10/25-10/27 Conferences; Bring in your Research Paper notes, outline

11/1--11/3 Ten-Minute Plays; pp. 541-547

11/8—11/10 In-class research writing, continuation of Ten-Minute Plays

11/15 –11/17 Movie Days

11/22—11/27 **Thanksgiving Break!**

12/1 **Research Paper Due (Paper #3)**

12/6—Self-assessment essay due

12/8 Review and tie-up

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IMPORTANT DATES

August 26: Open registration ends (technically at 11:59 PM,

September 2: Last day of restricted schedule changes/last day to drop without a W

September 5: Labor Day—no class

October 14: Fall Break—no class

October 30: Last day to drop a course AND last day for a total university withdrawal

November 21-25: Thanksgiving—no class