

College Writing I

ENG 180, section 004

Spring 2015 / TTH 8:00 am-9:15 am/ Simpkins 315 (class) & 319 (lab)

Mr. Matthew Harrington

Office: Simpkins 343

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Office Hours: Tuesday 9:15-10:15

(will be in office much more and available by appointment)

“As a writer you should not judge. You should understand.”-Ernest Hemingway

Course 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:

- **Discourse Community Knowledge**: You will identify how discourse communities influence thinking, reading, and writing;
- **Writing Process Knowledge**: You will identify, analyze, and build on the reading, writing, and revision processes you have employed in the past and, as part of this process, will choose writing processes based on rhetorical needs;
- **Rhetorical Knowledge**: You will interpret the rhetorical situation as a social construct, understanding how perceptions of purpose and audience are influenced by discourse community;
- **Genre Knowledge**: You will analyze how genre functions as a typified response to a recurring situation;
- **Knowledge Domains**: You will practice, in a variety of mediums, the writing knowledge gained by examining the interconnected nature of discourse community, writing process, rhetorical, and genre knowledges, with an emphasis on rhetoric and genre.

For a complete list of the standard objectives for English 180, see the Writing Program's handout provided in .pdf form here:

http://www.wiu.edu/cas/english_and_journalism/writing/Pilot%20180%20Handout.pdf .

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.

Required Texts

Hacker, Diana. *A Pocket Style Manual with 2009 MLA Update*. 5th ed. New York: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2009.

Palmquist, Mike. *Joining the Conversation: Writing in College and Beyond*. 2nd ed. New York: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2014.

WIU English Department. *Guide to English 180*. 2nd ed. Southlake, TX: Fountainhead Press, 2014.

Other Texts will be on WesternOnline, they are required on the day assigned.

Course Policies

1. Attendance/Class Participation:

1a. Although I may provide background and context for our reading at the start of each class period, the course will rely upon your active participation and your own exploration of our texts. Because we will be doing a good deal of writing in class and because our class discussions depend upon everyone's thoughtful contributions, it is essential that you maintain regular attendance and that you come prepared to discuss the reading material each day. You are permitted five absences over the semester for this course: for each absence beyond five, your final grade will be lowered one full letter grade. I do not distinguish between excused and unexcused absences, so please plan accordingly. 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. In addition to the above policy, any absence will be detrimental to your class participation grade. 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 Director.

1b. Your class participation grade is worth 50 points 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. Please put cell phones on vibrate and stash them away during class. Your class participation grade will be lowered if your participation is disruptive to the classroom climate as well as if you do not participate at all.

2. *Quizzes and Freewrites*: In order to ensure that all assignments are read, I will begin most classes with quizzes or freewrites. Quizzes and freewrites are not designed to trick you—if you read and digest the assignment you will do fine. Quizzes and freewrites will be graded from 1-5, corresponding to F-A. Quizzes and freewrites are worth 50 points of your final grade. If you are absent you may not make up a quiz or freewrite. At the end of the semester I will replace your lowest scores with a 5 for each allowed absences you did not use.

3. *Journals*: In this class you will be required to turn in a journal worth 10 points each. The journal will consist of your interests, questions, and discussion of the content for that given week. Each journal will be handed in at the end of class on Thursday. To get full points for the journal you must write a one page entry (12 pt font, double spaced, Times New Roman font). Each journal must have at least one question in regards to the class or the assignment. The schedule indicates which days the journals are due. All journals must be turned in at the BEGINNING of class.

4. *Peer Review Workshops*: You will participate in five peer review workshops during this class. You will be graded on your own draft as well as your comments on other students' drafts. Drafts and peer review worksheets will be graded from 1-10 (twenty points total), corresponding to F-A. Your peer review workshop grade makes up 100 points of your final grade. Drafts and peer review worksheets will be submitted at the end of class on peer review day. If you are absent on the day of peer review, peer review workshops can be made up for partial credit, but you must arrange this with me ahead of time.

5. *Memo*: After five assignments, you will write a one-page reflection on writing the assignment. The memo assignment will be provided on WO. Memos should be typed and submitted to Western Online. Each memo will be graded from 1-10, corresponding to F-A, and will be worth 50 points of your final grade.

6. *Conferences*: Before the Literacy Essay and Genre Analysis you will be required to attend a conference with me to discuss your paper. I will tell you ahead of time what to bring to each conference. Failure to attend any conference will be considered an absence. During the rest of the semester, you are welcome to drop by during my office hours or schedule a conference.

7. *Papers*:

7a. Over the course of the semester, you will write three formal papers in response to specific prompts. Paper one, a literacy essay (600-900 words), will be worth 100 points of your final grade. Paper two, a visual literacy essay (4-5 images plus 200-300 words), will be worth 100 points of your final grade. Paper three, a genre analysis (1,500-1,800 words), will be worth 150 points of your final grade. You will also submit a group PowerPoint presentation, worth 100 points of your final grade, a Summary, worth 50 points of your final grade, and an Annotated Bibliography, worth 50 points of your final grade. With each assignment, I will hand out a format sheet to follow, which will detail the guidelines for that particular assignment. Deviation from the guidelines will cause your grade to be lowered. Unless you make arrangements with me at least forty-eight hours in advance, late assignments will be marked down one letter grade for each day late; essays more than 7 days late will receive a “0.” I will not discuss assignment grades on the day I return assignments to the class. You must make an appointment with me to discuss a grade.

7b. Papers will be submitted electronically on WesternOnline. Each format sheet will review how to submit the paper. If you are unsure about how to submit your paper, please speak with me well before the due date. Because you will submit works electronically, you should make sure to save your work in several formats (on a hard drive, on a flash drive, by emailing the paper to yourself, by uploading to Google Docs or Dropbox). Technology problems are not an excuse for submitting a paper late. You will submit your papers as Word files (.doc or .docx); papers submitted in any other file format will be returned to you and considered late until re-submitted as a Word file. Some work (such as rough drafts or peer review papers) will be turned in at the beginning of class in a hard copy; these works are due within the first 15 minutes of class. After the first 15 minutes they are considered late.

7c. Academic integrity is an important part of our community at WIU; therefore, acts of plagiarism and cheating may result in failure for the course and referral for academic discipline: <http://www.wiu.edu/policies/acintegrity.php>.

8. *Portfolio*: In lieu of a final exam, you will submit an ePortfolio of your work over the course of the semester. Portfolios will consist of two components: 1) A reflective essay on your writing, and 2) Artifacts you reference in your reflective essay (artifacts may include any of the following: rough drafts, final drafts with my comments; revisions; peer review worksheets; writing reflections; quizzes and freewrites). Note that it is imperative that you keep track of all of the work you do this semester so that you can compile a successful portfolio. Portfolios will be worth 100 points of your final grade.

9. *Office Hours*: My regular office hours are listed above. At those times I will be in my office available to meet with you to discuss any aspect of the course. Please do not hesitate to drop by my office or to contact me to make an appointment to meet if you cannot meet during my regular office hours.

10. *Email*: The best way to get in touch with me outside of class is by email. Over email you can make appointments to meet with me, and you can ask questions related to the assignments. Please bear in mind that I will need at least a day to reply to emails. You are also responsible for checking your WIU email and Western Online accounts on a regular basis, since they will be my primary methods of communication with you outside of class.

11. *Disability Resource Center*: In accordance with University policy and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), academic accommodations may be made for any student who notifies the instructor of the need for an accommodation. For the instructor to provide the proper accommodation(s) you must obtain documentation of the need for an accommodation through the Disability Resource Center and provide it to the instructor. It is imperative that you take the initiative to bring such needs to the instructor's attention, as he/she is not legally permitted to inquire about such particular needs of students. Students who may require special assistance in emergency evacuations (i.e. fire, tornado, etc.) should contact the instructor as to the most appropriate procedures to follow in such an emergency. Contact Disability Resource Center at 298-2512 for additional services or see the DRC website: http://www.wiu.edu/student_services/disability_resource_center/.

12. *Writing Center*: The Writing Center is available to all students to assist with any aspect of the writing process. I encourage you to make use of this valuable resource.

Please review your “Student Rights and Responsibilities” at <http://www.wiu.edu/provost/students> and see me if you have any questions.

Note that you must receive 730 points or above in order to pass this class.

Grading		
Class Participation:	50	
Quizzes/Freewrites:	50	A: 930-1000; A-: 900-920;
Journal:	100	B+: 880-890; B: 830-870;
Drafts and Peer Review Workshops:	100	B-: 800-820; C+: 780-790;
Paper One:	100	C: 730-770; U:600-720;
Paper Two:	100	F: <600
Paper Three:	150	
Summary	50	
Group PowerPoint:	100	
Annotated Bibliography:	50	
Memos	50	
Portfolio:	100	