

ENGL 280 Syllabus and Course Schedule

Class: ENGL280

Section: 009

Place: Simpkins Hall 313

Time: TR 9:30-10:45

Instructor: Dr. John Schulze

Office: 107 Simpkins Hall

Office Hours: TR: 8:30-9:30, W: Noon -1:00, OBA

email: JC-Schulze@wiu.edu

Required Texts: *The Writer's Presence* 7th Edition by Donald McQuade & Robert Atwan

A Pocket Style Manual 6th Edition by Diana Hacker and Nancy Sommers

Required Material: Access to a computer and the internet.

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.

The course:

This class will explore different forms of rhetoric as it relates to argument. Our world is saturated with marketing campaigns designed to persuade us to spend our money in particular ways, so the first writing project will examine how rhetoric is used in the marketplace. How do companies convince us to purchase their products or services utilizing classical appeals? As we know, the media is a purveyor of truth and myth; only an informed and educated audience can tell the difference. For our second writing project, we will read and write about issues associated with our modern lives. Issues such as the value of higher education, definitions of torture, and the climate debate are just some of the topics we will cover as we try to understand how rhetoric is used to convince an audience who is reading expository writing. The third writing project will involve modern forms of argumentation (Toulmin and Rogerian) and you will learn how to apply these models to your own argument. This project will require research on an approved topic, incorporation of that research that is eloquent and readable, and proper MLA citations of source material. Additionally, students must earn a D or above on this paper in order to pass this course. The semester's work will conclude with a brief self-evaluation letter that reconciles your aspirations with the actual work completed for this class. Finally, class discussions, the exchange of ideas and interpretations of the texts we read, will make up a fair portion of your grade. It is vital you read the assigned essays and are prepared to share your perspective.

My attendance policy: The only way to pass this class is to attend the scheduled class meetings. You are allowed four (4) absences. After that, each absence will drop your final grade by half a letter grade (5 out of 100 points). Tardiness is also unacceptable. Class begins at the scheduled time, and if you arrive after roll has been called, you will be counted absent. **There are no excused absences, so use your allotment wisely.**

Formatting: All written work turned in to me for a grade must follow a specific format. I will only accept double-spaced typed work that uses a 12 pt. Times New Roman font and margins must be standard width and height (1" all around). Every assignment must have a title centered above the text, your name, class and section, date, and my name (in that order) in the upper left hand corner of the first page. Assignments that are longer than one page should have page numbers in the lower right hand corner, beginning on the second page. Failure to follow these guidelines will result in a 5 point deduction.

Late Work: Assignments marked **Read** or **Due** are due on the date they are listed. Failure to complete written assignments can have unpleasant result on your final grade. Major writing assignments will only be accepted after the **Due** date if prior arrangements have been made with me. In other words, **late work will not be accepted**. Exceptions to this rule will only be made in cases of verifiable emergencies.

Decorum:

- Silence all ringers and alarms. No texting. I will ask you to leave the class and count you absent if I see you using your phone during class. If there is a compelling reason that you need to be accessible via your phone during the class period, speak to me about it before you text or before your phone rings.
- Be respectful of your peers' opinions. You do not have to agree with your classmates' statements, but be courteous in the way you express your perspective.
- Please do not eat in class, however, beverages are acceptable.
- No laptops should be open during lectures or class discussions. However, they could be very valuable for your small group drafting sessions.

How you will be graded on your work:

Each of the three major projects will be graded using a holistic rubric. Each paper will be initiated with an assignment sheet that will have the grading rubric attached. You will have the opportunity to revise one of the first two papers. Revising a paper will never lower your score, so take advantage of this chance to better your grade. Who knows, you might even learn something about your writing strategies.

Your self-evaluation letter will be graded on tone, style, form, and how well you address the assignment by reconciling course learning outcomes with your written work.

Class Participation points will be earned through engagement in class discussions and in-class activities. These are the easiest points to earn and will make a difference in your final grade.

How your final grade will be determined:

Project 1 (3-4 pp- 1000 words)	15%
Project 2 (6-7 pp- 2000 words)	20%
Project 3 (7-8 pp- 2400 words)	30%
Self Evaluation Letter (1-2 pp)	10%
Reading Quizzes	10%
Class Participation	10%
Peer Review Eval	05%
Total –	100%

Letter-grade System

100-93	A
92-90	A-
89-87	B+
86-83	B
82-80	B-
79-77	C+
76-73	C
<73	U
<60	F

Academic Integrity: The representation of someone else's work as one's own or improper acknowledgement of sources constitute plagiarism. Ignorance is no excuse; you are responsible not only for refraining from outright cheating, but also for avoiding sloppiness with sources (which can also constitute plagiarism). Standards for academic integrity are set forth here:

<http://www.wiu.edu/policies/acintegrity.php> When in doubt, please ask me; I am eager to help you with this. The penalty for plagiarism is high: anyone who has plagiarized any portion of any stage of an assignment will fail that assignment, most likely fail the course, and may be referred for academic discipline. It is your job to know your rights and responsibilities as a student. That information can be found here: <http://www.wiu.edu/provost/students.php>

Accommodation Policy: 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 Disability Resource Center (DRC) 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 (DRC) at 298-2512 for additional services.

The Writing Center can provide you with meaningful support as you write for this class as well as for every course in which you enroll. Knowledgeable peer consultants are available to talk with you as you plan, draft, and revise your writing. Please check the Writing Center website:

http://www.wiu.edu/university_writing_center for locations, hours, and information about scheduling appointments. You may also email them at this address: mwcenter@wiu.edu

Small Groups: An essential aspect of any writing class is the notion of a community. We are all striving to develop skills, and in the process we have to be bold enough to share work with our classmates. We also have to be willing to provide thoughtful and courteous feedback and accept the same type of feedback on our writing. To fulfill this aim, the class will be broken up into small groups of three to four students. Within these groups, I expect you to share ideas, comment on outlines, and to read and thoughtfully respond to drafts before they are submitted for a grade. You will meet with your small group during certain class periods, but you should also be willing to meet with your group members outside of class.

Small Group Evaluations

At the end of the semester, each student will fill out a brief survey about their group members. The responses from the surveys and how thorough your peer review worksheets are completed will constitute your peer review grade.

Goals and Objectives for ENG 280

1. Build on strategies learned in English 180 to exchange ideas and to develop useful writing practices through
 - a) group discussion
 - b) conference
 - c) peer review
 - d) collaborative work
2. Analyze, evaluate, and synthesize material from a variety of sources--primary and secondary; formal and informal; and experience, reading, and research--through
 - a) summary
 - b) close reading
 - c) class discussion
 - d) library/web/database research
3. Further recognize, improve, and develop your writing and reading processes by
 - a) reading critically
 - b) continuing to build your invention, drafting, revising, and editing skills
 - c) utilizing genres appropriate to the writing situation, for example, argument, analysis, report
4. In addition to the rest of the semester's assignments, produce documented, multi-sourced writing in one or two papers by
 - a) revising with teacher's response
 - b) using others' ideas without losing control of your texts
 - c) using MLA documentation or another documentation style consistently
 - d) using the conventions of Edited American English
5. Discover and then incorporate a variety of rhetorical strategies and academic conventions into your writing, taking into consideration
 - a) audience
 - b) purpose
 - c) voice
 - d) authority

Class Schedule

I reserve the right to modify any aspect of this course schedule if I deem it necessary.

Week 1

1/20

Introductions. Distribution of Syllabus and Course Schedule

1/22

Visual Texts

Elements of Persuasion

Small Groups Assigned

Week 2

1/27

The language of visual texts- terms and their meanings

Read: "The Life of Images" - Charles Simic, p. 575

1/27

Read: "The Boston Photographs"- Nora Ephron, p. 655

Assigned: Find a striking magazine ad with text and a compelling image.

Assigned: Project 1- Ad Analysis

Week 3

2/3

Eureka: Invention Strategies- How to get started on your ad analysis (PowerPoint)

Due: Bring your ad to class

Small Groups- Brainstorming session for Project 1.

2/5

Advertisements and Marketing

Read: "Weasel Words" by William Lutz (this document will be posted online)

Small Groups Outline of Project 1

Week 4

2/10

Read: "My Speech at West Point" by Marjane Satrapi pp. 207-11 (including interview)

Read: "How to Write an "Analysis" Paper" (this document will be posted online)

Due: Outline of Project 1

2/12

Lincoln's Birthday- No Class

Week 5

2/17

Read: "What Meets the Eye" by Daniel Akst pp. 293-304

Outlines returned with comments and suggestions

Drafting Session

2/19

Read: "Analyze, Don't Summarize" pp. 318-21

Peer Review- Bring two copies of a draft of your essay to class. Failure to participate in this process by not bringing a draft to class or missing this class meeting will result in a 5 pt. grade reduction for the paper.

Week 6

2/24

Due: Project 1- Ad Analysis- due in the Digital Dropbox by 9:30 a.m.

Assigned: Project 2- Modern Life

2/26

Read: "The Men We Carry In Our Minds" - Scott Russell Sanders- p. 793

Read: "The Inner Climate" - Pico Iver - p. 693

Small Groups- Brainstorming session for Project 2.

Week 7

3/3

Read: "Against School" - John Taylor Gatto - p. 655

Read: "Into the Oblivion"- Thomas Lynch- p. 741

3/5

Read: "Liar, Liar, Pants on Fire" - Errol Morris- p. 753

Small Groups Share your outlines for Project 2

Week 8

3/10

Read: "Faking It" - Michael Chabon - p. 343

Read: "The Greatest Nature Essay Ever" by Brian Doyle pp. 375-76

3/12

Peer Review- Bring two copies of a draft of your essay to class. Failure to participate in this process by not bringing a draft to class or missing this class meeting will result in a 5 pt. grade reduction for the paper.

Week 9

Spring Break- No Class on 3/17 & 3/19

Week 10

3/23 - 3/27 -Conferences

Week 11

3/31

Read: "Believe Me, It's Torture" - Christopher Hitchens- p. 686

Due: Project 2- Modern Life due in the Digital Dropbox by 3:30

Assigned: Project 3- Making the Case

4/2

Logical and Emotional Fallacies-

Read: "Is Google Making Us Stupid?" - Nicholas Carr - p. 633

Small Groups-Brainstorming session for Project 3. Share your ideas.

Week 12

4/7

Reasoning in Inductive and Deductive Arguments

Read: "Letters from Birmingham Jail"- Martin Luther King Jr. p. 716

4/9

Library Visit- Research Methods

Week 13

4/14

Forms of Argument- The Toulmin Model and The Rogerian Model

4/16

Integrating Research into your paper and MLA Style

Small Groups Share your outlines for Project 3

Week 14

4/21

Wax On, Wax Off: Learning To Polish Your Prose

Read: "A Modest Proposal" by Jonathan Swift p. 831

4/23

Peer Review- Bring two copies of a draft of your essay to class. Failure to participate in this process by not bringing a draft to class or missing this class meeting will result in a 5 pt. grade reduction for the paper.

Week 15

4/28

Assigned: Self Evaluation Letter
Course Evaluations

4/30

Optional Conferences

Week 16

5/5

Optional Conferences

5/7

Due: Project 3- due in the Digital Dropbox by 3:30 p.m.

Final Exam

5/14

Due: Self Evaluation Letter @ 8a.m.