

English 280 College Composition II

Fall 2015

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

Classes: 9:30-10:45 T, Th; Location: Si 314

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.

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.**

Please find below the types of papers to be constructed for English 280.

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 (four and one-half pages)
2. Research: You are to combine the principles of research and analysis in constructing this documented paper (six pages)
3. Comparison-Contrast: You will be asked to analyze similarities and differences between two works of fiction (four and one-half pages)

Other Requirements:

4. Ten-Minute Play. You will be asked to write an original ten-minute play for two characters (six, seven pages). This is an optional assignment.

5. In-class spontaneous writing assignments. The topics will be relative to the currently assigned work. They are designed to promote critical thinking and to improve writing skills. 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

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
- * 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. Each assignment--that is--each paper affords the potential of 100 points. Thus, the breakdown is:

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

Research Paper = 200pts.
Argumentative Paper = 100
Comparison/Contrast Paper = 100
Ten-Minute Play Paper = 7 pts.

239 and below = F

Schedule

1/20 Review Syllabus

1/22 and 1/27 Fiction Overview; LIT, pp. 16-27

1/29 The Writers of English 280; Receive Writing Rubric

2/3 A & P; Receive Research Paper Topic; pp. 65-79 are especially useful for information on writing a formal outline and for documenting sources

2/5 Every Day Use

2/10 Big Black Good Man; Receive Paper Assignment #1

2/17 Writing Literary Arguments; pp. 51-60

2/19 Paper Draft due for peer revision

2/24 Paper #1 Due; In-class Assignment

2/26 A Rose for Emily

3/3 Trifles

3/5--3/10 A Doll's House; Receive Paper Assignment #2; p. 594

3/12 Comparison /Contrast pp. 31, 34, 44

3/16-3/20 Spring Break!

3/24 Paper Draft due for in-class peer revision

3/31 Paper #2 due; Sign up for conferences

4/2-4/7 Conferences; Bring in your Research Paper notes, outline

4/9-4/14 Ten-Minute Plays; pp. 541-547

4/16—4/21 In-class research writing

4/23 Research Paper Due (Paper #3)

4/28—5/11 Review and tie-up

FINAL: Ten-Minute Play Due (Optional Paper #4) Each student will give a three minute discussion of his/her play and possibly perform a crucial scene with the assistance of classmates

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