

ENG 280 – COLLEGE WRITING II (SPRING 2017)

Section 035, T, TH 2:00-3:15 p.m., Simpkins 313

Instructor: Dr. Richard Ness

Office: 25A Simpkins; Phone: 298-1154; email: rr-ness@wiu.edu

Office Hours: Tu 3:30-4:30 p.m.; W 1:00-3:00 p.m.; F 1:00-2:00 p.m.

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND PREREQUISITES:

280 College Writing II. (3) (General Education/ Communication Skills) A second course in college writing, to be taken during sophomore year. Emphasis on the interaction between writer and reader. Prerequisites: ENG 180 and at least 24 s.h. earned.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

A Pocket Style Manual (7th Ed.) by Hacker and Sommers

A notebook and writing utensils for in-class notes and work

A flash drive for saving and backing up written work (it is recommended that students have at least two, since losing or damaging your flash drive will not be considered justification for not turning in an assignment)

Folders for readings, responses, and course-work

A binder for submitting your final portfolio (if not submitted online)

Critical essays and writing examples may be assigned throughout the semester and made available on-line and/or through the Malpass Library's E-reserve system

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- To expand on the writing skills acquired in ENG 180 and apply them to a number of specialized writing situations by preparing and executing effective and well-constructed essays
- To develop and demonstrate good research skills, including the ability to evaluate sources, formulate research questions, prepare a literature review, and utilize sources appropriately
- To demonstrate an ability to formulate, articulate, and defend an argument using appropriate supporting evidence and materials
- To analyze the ways that writing communicates to readers and the different ways in which audiences receive and respond to written work
- To develop strong analytical skills in determining what makes effective writing through revision of your work, peer reviews, and critical analysis of selected works
- To achieve an understanding of theoretical concepts and terminology and their application to effective writing, including discourse communities, genre, rhetoric, and critical thinking

GROUND RULES:

LATE ASSIGNMENT POLICY – Because this course will be constructed as though students are working in an actual professional writing environment, deadlines will be strictly enforced. This includes deadlines for rough drafts as well as final versions of assigned papers. Assignments submitted after the specified due date **WILL NOT BE GRADED**. Comments and feedback may be provided, but the score will be recorded as a zero. Also, individual conferences will be arranged to discuss each of the major assignments, and failure to schedule a conference or to show up at the assigned time will be grounds for failing the assignment. Students anticipating a problem making a deadline, meeting for a scheduled conference, or attending a class session when an assignment is due must contact the instructor **IN ADVANCE** to make arrangements. No exceptions will be made to this policy. **NOTE:** Completed assignments **WILL NOT** be accepted if submitted via email, unless specific arrangements have been made with the instructor prior to the due date (also note that if permission is given for an email submission it must be sent in Microsoft Word format).

ATTENDANCE – Since a major component of this course is in-class work and evaluation of each other's writing, attendance for all class sessions is mandatory. Missing a class period will seriously undermine a student's ability to pass the class. Because this class only meets twice a week, students having more than three absences will be asked to drop the class. If you must miss a class period, you should notify the instructor in

advance and make arrangements to complete any assigned work. An absence does not constitute grounds for missing a due date, so students are expected to turn in work on time even if it is necessary to miss a class period. Arriving late to class also will be grounds for marking a student absent. Students who repeatedly come late to class will be asked to drop the course.

Students with prolonged or repeated absences should also contact the Student Development Office at http://www.wiu.edu/student_services/student_development_office

For more information visit the full policy at <http://www.wiu.edu/vpas/policies/stuabsc.php>

NOTE THAT THIS CLASS IS DESIGNATED A NO CELLPHONE ZONE. If you must bring cell phones, iPods, iPads, MP3 players or other electronic devices into the classroom they **NEED TO BE TURNED OFF AND PUT AWAY DURING ALL CLASS SESSIONS**, unless the instructor has indicated that such devices can be used as part of in-class work. Use of electronic devices during class periods (such as text messaging, answering email, game playing, etc.) **WILL BE GROUNDS FOR STUDENTS RECEIVING A FAILING GRADE FOR THE COURSE.**

PAPERS – Papers must be typed/computer-printed and should reflect accepted standards for university research papers. Assignments should demonstrate a degree of research on the part of the student, combined with careful consideration of the student’s own ideas. These assignments often will require that students support their conclusions with specific evidence from the assigned readings as well as from works viewed for the course, so students should get in the habit of taking notes during screenings.

Research and material drawn from outside sources must be properly credited. **PLAGIARISM IS AN INEXCUSABLE OFFENSE AND WILL BE GROUNDS FOR AUTOMATIC FAILURE IN THIS COURSE.** If you have any questions about what constitutes plagiarism, consult the university’s policy statement or the instructor prior to submitting an assignment. Whenever you quote or paraphrase someone else’s work, you must give her/him credit. This includes material from print, audio/video and computer-mediated/Internet sources. The instructor reserves the right to fail any student who does not meet the requirements of the assignments, so any deviations from the guidelines should be discussed well in advance. Also note that even if you share information or discuss the readings with other students in the class, you need to make sure that you each submit your own individual work for the assignments. Duplication of writing in work submitted by two or more students will be considered grounds for charges of plagiarism.

<http://www.wiu.edu/policies/acintegrity.php>

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: 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, 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.

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>. Web address for student rights and responsibilities: <http://www.wiu.edu/provost/students.php>

GRADING -- Assignments will be graded on a point system, with grades determined by a straight percentage. The following is the breakdown for assignments:

Personal Response Essay	-- 125 points
Critical Analysis/Argumentative Essay	-- 125 points

Final Research Paper, including Annotated Bibliography	-- 150 points
Final Portfolio, including Reflection Paper	-- 50 points
In/Outside Class exercises	-- 50 points

This course will make use of the plus-minus grading system required by the university. The following is the scale that will be used to determine final grades in the class, based on the percentage of total points earned:

100-93 = A

92-90 = A-

89-87 = B+

86-83 = B

82-80 = B-

79-77 = C+

76-73 = C

72-70 = C-

69-67 = D+

66-63 = D

62-60 = D-

59 and below = F

Specific descriptions of the major assignments and in-class exercises will be provided separately. In order to receive a passing grade for this class, students must complete all required assignments. All assignments are evaluated carefully before a grade is given and every effort is made to provide appropriate feedback for the student. Occasionally a student will have an objection to a grade. In such cases, the instructor will reevaluate the assignment and determine if there is justification for a grade change. **NOTE: If a student asks for a reconsideration of a grade, the instructor reserves the right to assign a lower, as well as a higher, grade. ALL DISCUSSION OF GRADES MUST BE DONE WITHIN TWO WEEKS OF THE GRADE BEING RECEIVED. THIS INCLUDES THE FINAL GRADE FOR THE COURSE. REEVALUATION OF GRADES WILL NOT BE DONE AFTER THAT TIME.**