

ENG 280 College Composition II

Section 18
Spring 2017

Professor Margaret Sinex

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Class meetings: Monday, Wednesday, Friday at 11:00 – 11:50 in Simpkins 214.

Office hours: Tuesday 3 – 4, Monday, Wednesday Friday 1- 2.

Your successful completion of this course depends on the crucial information in this syllabus. If you lose your copy, print a replacement from our Western Online site.

Course Description

ENG 280 College Composition II section 18 is devoted to improving students' competence in writing formal Standard American English as they engage with the subject of the Vietnam War. Students will make a close and careful study of Philip Caputo's memoir *A Rumor of War* published in 1977. Additional short readings from other Vietnam War authors will supplement his memoir. The assigned essays aim to improve your writing's organization and logical reasoning ability. Essay # 3 will help you learn to integrate sources correctly in your own formal writing to support your assertions, provide definitions and appropriate contexts for your subjects. You are expected to keep your essays written for this class for inclusion in your final portfolio. A significant portion of class time will be devoted to critiquing, editing and improving student written work. You should expect this activity to include formal grammar as required.

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. Designated sections taught with word processors. Graded A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, U, F.

Prerequisites for ENG 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.

Required Texts to Purchase:

Texts are available at the Union Bookstore.

Used copies may also be available from Chapman's Book and Office Supply, 717 W. Adams Street - 833- 4509.

Caputo, Philip. *A Rumor of War*. New York: Henry Holt and Co., 1996. ISBN: 9780805046953.

Hacker, Diana. *A Pocket Style Manual – 2016 MLA Updated*. 7th ed. New York: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2015. ISBN: 9781319083526.

Some required supplementary reading and exercises will be provided as handouts.

Required Texts Available on Western Online:

Some supplementary readings will be posted on the Western Online page for this section of 280. Please print them and bring them to class for the required class meeting.

Course Requirements:

Evaluation

Essay # 1	20%
Essay # 2	25%
Essay # 3	30%
Reflective Essay and Completed Portfolio	20%
5 unannounced reading and grammar quizzes	5%

Scale

100 – 95 = A	86 – 83 = B	76 – 73 = C
94 – 90 = A-	82 – 80 = B -	
89 – 87 = B+	79 – 77 = C+	

In order to pass ENG 280 you must receive a 73 (C) or above.

Course Policies:

Failure to comply with the following policies will lower your grade.

Required Class Attendance Your regular, punctual attendance in class is mandatory. You have three “unexplained” absences. Use them intelligently for ordinary difficulties (a bad cold, flat tire on commute, late night visit to the ER with a friend, traffic court.) After that, each class missed will result in two points off your final grade for the course. Following these three “unexplained” absences I will accept an absence for the following three reasons only if you provide appropriate documentation. They are: University-sanctioned activities, death of a close relative, or prolonged illness. WIU can help you accommodate serious issues like these that prevent your attendance or severely affect your performance in the classroom. Contact your Advisor right away. (See Student Absence Clarification Policy at www.wiu.edu/policies/stuabsc.php)

Student athletes must identify themselves by Friday of Week 2; they must provide a schedule of “away” games and events that affect attendance as soon as it becomes available to them.

Students must provide documentation in advance for required competitions and conferences (University-sanctioned activities).

Tardiness: Do not schedule classes back-to-back if you are unable to come to this class on time. Tardiness is recorded in writing. Habitual tardiness is regarded as disruptive behavior. See below.

Participation in the class discussion is essential to forming a reading community in this course; consequently, participation is an integral part of your final grade. If you are present in body but never speak or fail to read the assignment you are not participating. **Assigned reading** must be completed in its entirety for the classing meetings as noted in the Course Schedule. Expect a portion of the class period to be devoted to discussion and analysis of the assigned text, including aspects such as mode of argument, voice, and vocabulary.

Essays are due on the assigned date at the beginning of class. Phone me or email me **before** the due date if you have a legitimate reason for being unable to meet a deadline and we **may** be able to accommodate you. **I do not accept essays by email.** Essays are graded out of 100 points. **Late Papers** will lose 3 points for every day (not class period) they are late.

Disruptive Behavior Recurrent disruptive behavior is a basis for your removal from this class. Incidents are dated and documented in writing. If you need to pass 280 this semester don’t engage in it. Behavior that is discourteous to your fellow classmates or consistently interferes with his or her learning experience in our classroom will not be tolerated. Please treat one another with the consideration and respect each of you deserves. Two verbal warnings and one written warning will be issued before the removal process begins. The following actions constitute disruptive behavior:

Habitual tardiness (4 times).

Persistently leaving the classroom during the period. This distracts your classmates. Take care of your business before entering the room.

Using cell phones or other electronic devices at any time during the period. Take out the earbuds (both of them) and take off the headphones.

Sleeping.

Talking and/or making noise when quiet has been requested. Your classmates need quiet to do their work in class.

Academic dishonesty Academic dishonesty, including but not limited to “plagiarism, fabrication and falsification, [and] cheating” will not be tolerated and will be dealt with in accordance with Western Illinois University’s Student Academic Integrity Policy. To learn about infractions and procedures see: www.wiu.edu/policies/acintegrity.php.

In her *A Pocket Manual of Style* 7th ed., Diana Hacker defines plagiarism as “(1) failing to cite quotations and borrowed ideas, (2) failing to enclose borrowed

language in quotation marks, and (3) failing to put summaries and paraphrases in your own words” (115).

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>

Course Schedule

Week 1

January

Wednesday 18 Syllabus and Introduction.

Friday 20 Caputo's *A Rumor of War* Postscript pages 347 – 356.

Week 2

Monday 23 *A Rumor of War* Prologue xiii - xxi.

Wednesday 25 *A Rumor of War* to p. 34.

Friday 27 *A Rumor of War* continued.

Week 3

Monday 30 *A Rumor of War* to p. 65. **Essay # 1 instructions distributed. Last Day to drop course with 100% refund.**

February

Wednesday 1 *A Rumor of War* continued.

Friday 3 *A Rumor of War* continued.

Week 4

Monday 6 *A Rumor of War* to p. 96.

Wednesday 8 *A Rumor of War* continued.

Friday 10 *A Rumor of War* continued. **Essay # 1 due in class.**

Week 5

Monday 13 **Lincoln's Birthday Observed. No Class.**

Wednesday 15 *A Rumor of War* to p. 127.

Friday 17 *A Rumor of War* continued.

Week 6

Monday 20 *A Rumor of War* to p. 158. **Essay # 1 returned in class.**

Wednesday 22 *A Rumor of War* continued. **Essay # 2 instructions distributed.**

Friday 24 *A Rumor of War* continued.

Week 7

Monday 27 *A Rumor of War* to p. 189.

March

Wednesday 1 *A Rumor of War* continued.

Friday 3 *A Rumor of War* continued.

Week 8

Monday 6 *A Rumor of War* to p. 220.

Wednesday 8 *A Rumor of War* continued. **Essay # 2 due in class.**

Friday 10 *A Rumor of War* continued.

Week 9

Monday 13 **March Break**

Wednesday 15

Friday 17

Week 10

Monday 20 *A Rumor of War* to p. 251.

Wednesday 22 *A Rumor of War* continued.

Friday 24 *A Rumor of War* continued.

Week 11

Monday 27 *A Rumor of War* to p. 282. **Essay # 2 returned in class.**

Wednesday 29 *A Rumor of War* continued. **Essay # 3 instructions distributed.**

Friday 31 *A Rumor of War* continued.

Week 12

April

Monday 3 *A Rumor of War* to p. 313. **Revision of Essay # 2 (optional) due in class.**

Wednesday 5 *A Rumor of War* continued.

Friday 7 *A Rumor of War* continued.

Week 13

Monday 10 *A Rumor of War* Epilogue 338 - 346.

Wednesday 12 *A Rumor of War* continued.

Friday 14 *A Rumor of War* continued. **Essay # 3 due in class.**

Week 14

Monday 17

Wednesday 19 **Instructions for Reflective Essay distributed.**

Friday 21

Week 15

Monday 24 **Essay # 3 returned in class.**

Wednesday 26

Friday 28 **Reflective Essay due in class.**

Week 16

May

Monday 1 Portfolio preparation.

Wednesday 3 Portfolio preparation.

Friday 5 **Portfolio Due in class.**

Exam Week

Monday **There is no exam in this class.**

Wednesday

Friday

Remember: if you can see my face clearly, I can see yours with equal clarity. Consider your facial expression during class period.

Using profanity before the class begins, during class or following class is not acceptable.