ENGL 377: Fundamentals of Research Writing

Summer 2016
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This course takes students through all of the steps of research writing from topic development to the editing/revision process. By the end of the course, students will have the specialized skills and knowledge necessary to produce viable research papers which meet the standards and follow the conventions recognized by all academic institutions.

Required Textbook


This text can be purchased new, or it can be purchased used on Amazon.com or Abebooks.com. Keep in mind that Amazon.com offers the option of renting this textbook. Amazon also offers a textbook buyback program.

Completion of Assignments

Be very aware of due dates and plan ahead. Late work will be accepted, but there will be point loss.

Academic Integrity

We will adhere to the college policy on academic honesty, as published in the Linfield College course catalog. Plagiarism or any other form of cheating will result in an immediate F for the course. You may not claim sentences written by others as your own, and you may not reuse written assignments produced for other classes. All quotations, ideas, or paraphrases must be properly cited. Please ask if you are unsure about your use of sources.

Discussion Board

Periodically, I will ask students to share their research progress on the discussion board. I will also ask students to respond to each other's posts with constructive suggestions and thoughtful questions.

Research Paper

By the end of the course, students will have produced a 10-page, double-spaced research paper with a works cited page.

Updates to the Syllabus

This syllabus may be amended from time to time. Please make a note of the changes as I announce them.

Disability Statement

Students with disabilities are protected by the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. If you are a student with a disability and feel you may require academic accommodations contact Cheri White, Program Director of Learning Support Services (LSS), within the first two weeks of the semester to request accommodations. LSS is located in Walker 126 (503-883-2562). We also recommend students communicate with their faculty about their accommodations and any special needs an instructor should be aware of.

Grade Distribution

Article Analysis.......................................................................................10%
Prospectus........................................................................................................10%
Librarian Conferences..................................................................................10%
Database Assignment....................................................................................10%
Annotated Bibliography................................................................................10%
Rough Draft..................................................................................................10%
Peer-Editing Exercise..................................................................................10%
Final Draft....................................................................................................30%

Schedule of Assignments:

**Week 1 (Week of June 20)**
Understanding the Purpose and Methods of Academic Research:
Read the assigned articles and complete the article analysis. Details will be provided online.

**Week 2 (June 27)**
Article Analysis Due (Post to Forum 1: Article Analysis on our Discussion Board)

- Developing a Topic: Read *The Curious Researcher*, pgs. 5-10 and 23-31
- Choose 3 possible research topics. These topics should be emailed to me at grucava@linfield.edu.

**Week 3 (July 4)**
Topic revision. I will email each of you to set up phone conferences to discuss and finalize your thesis statements.

**Week 4 (July 11)**
Prospectus Due (Post to Forum 2: Prospectus)
Read Chapter 2 of *The Curious Researcher*.
Contact the Linfield research librarian and set up a phone conference for week 5. More detailed contact information for the research librarian will be provided with the assignment.

**Week 5 (July 18)**
Post the day and time of your appointment with the research librarian to "Forum 3: Phone Conferences." During your phone conferences with the librarian, you will use the databases to find articles for your research. *You will need a computer with internet access for this conference. Be prepared to spend 30-45 minutes online during the conference.*

**Week 6 (July 25)**
Database Assignment Due (Post to Forum 4: Database Assignment)
Topic: Annotated Bibliography

**Week 7 (August 1)**
Annotated Bibliography Due (Post to Forum 5: Annotated Bibliography)
Read Chapters 3 and 4 in *The Curious Researcher*.
Rough Draft Assignment
Week 8 (August 8)
Rough Draft Due (Post to Forum 6: Rough Draft)
Read Chapter 5 and Appendix A in *The Curious Researcher*.
Peer-Editing Assignment

Week 9 (August 15)
Peer-Edits Due (Post to Forum 7: Peer-Editing Workshop)
Assignment: Revising Rough Drafts

Sunday, August 21: Final Draft Due (Post to Forum 8: Final Drafts)
You may turn in your final drafts as early as August 19, but the final deadline is August 21 at midnight. No papers will be accepted after the 21st.