

Writing 1025F: Critical Reading and Writing

Mon: 8:30-10:30

Wed: 8:30-9:30

Instructor: Julian Sonik

Email: jsonik2@uwo.ca

Classroom: HC-W103

Office Hours: Mon 10:30-12:30

Location: A-18

Pre-requisites: None

Course Description & Learning Objectives

This course is designed for first-year students. There are no pre-requisites for this course. The course aims to help students (a) understand the underlying assumptions of what may be referred to as *academic writing*, (b) develop critical thinking by analyzing and reflecting upon selected readings to uncover their implicit arguments and purpose, (c) practice writing effectively across a variety of disciplines, and (d) understand the relationship between critical reading, critical thinking and critical writing. Assigned articles will provide the basis for short written responses with an emphasis on cogent argument and clear purpose. Students are expected to participate in discussions of articles, sharing ideas to develop reasonable interpretations and foster the skills necessary for critical analysis. Four formal pieces of writing (Summary, Critical Review, Annotated Bibliography, and Research Paper) are required. These formal assignments aim to develop familiarity with (a) present academic forms of writing (b) their historical development, and (c) the rapidly evolving contexts in which they appear.

In-class exercises, quizzes and discussion are key components of this course, and help to illumine and define the current expectations placed upon academic writers by their diverse communities. Due to the integrated nature of the assignments and in-class work, attendance is mandatory.

Required Text

Faigley, Graves & Graves (2016)

The Brief Pearson Handbook, Fourth
Canadian Edition
Toronto: Pearson Longman.

Grading

Participation, Assignments and Quizzes: Weight

Critical Response 1	5%
Critical Response 2	5%
Critical Response 3	5%

In-class quiz #1	5%
In-class quiz #2	5%
In-class quiz #3	5%

Class Participation **10%** ****YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO PARTICIPATE! ****

Summary	10%
Critical Review	15%
Annotated Bibliography	15%
Final Research Essay	20%

Schedule

Mondays

September 10

Reading: None

Lecture: Introduction to the Course/A Brief History of Writing

Wednesdays

September 12

Reading: BPH Chapter 1

Lecture: Thinking as a Writer

<p>September 17</p> <p>Reading: BPH Chapters 2-3</p> <p>Lecture: The Foundation of Argument: Premises in Support of a Claim/Logical Fallacies</p>	<p>September 19</p> <p>Reading: BPH Chapter 4</p> <p>In-class Exercise: Find the Fallacies</p>
<p>September 24</p> <p>Reading: BPH Chapter 5</p> <p>Lecture: Planning, Shaping and Proofreading Your Writing</p> <p>In-class Exercise: Find the Fallacies Part II</p>	<p>September 26</p> <p>Reading: None</p> <p>Lecture: What is Critical Reading?</p>
<p>October 1</p> <p>Reading: BPH Chapters 6-11</p> <p>Lecture: The Summary</p> <p>In-class Exercise: Writing a Summary</p>	<p>October 3</p> <p>Reading: Assigned Article #1</p> <p>Short Discussion: Ideas for a Critical Response to Assigned Article #1</p> <p>In-class Exercise: Free Writing/Clustering/Making an Idea Map</p>
<p>October 8</p> <p>NO CLASS FALL STUDY BREAK</p>	<p>October 10</p> <p>NO CLASS FALL STUDY BREAK</p>

<p>October 15</p> <p>Reading: Assigned Article #2</p> <p>Short Discussion: Ideas for a Critical Response to Assigned Article #2</p> <p>Lecture: Language, Thought and Culture: The Sapir-Whorf Hypothesis</p> <p>Review: Material in BPH Chapters 1-11</p> <p>Assignment Due: Critical Response to Assigned Article #1</p>	<p>October 17</p> <p>Reading: BPH Chapters 12-20</p> <p>In-class Quiz: Chapters 1-11 of BPH</p> <p>Assignment Due: Summary</p>
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<p>October 22</p> <p>Reading: BPH Chapters 20-24</p> <p>Lecture: The Critical Review</p> <p>Part II: Descriptive vs Prescriptive Grammar and How Understanding Grammar Improves Writing</p>	<p>October 24</p> <p>Reading: Chapters 25-29</p> <p>Lecture: Structuring the Final Essay</p> <p>In-class Exercise: Choosing a Final Essay Topic</p>
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<p>October 29</p> <p>Reading: Chapters 30-35</p> <p>Lecture: Review of Material in BPH Chapters 12-29</p> <p>Part II: The Annotated Bibliography</p> <p>Assignment Due: Critical Response to Assigned Article #2</p>	<p>October 31</p> <p>In-class Quiz: BPH Chapters 12-29</p>
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<p>November 5</p> <p>Reading: Chapters 36-39</p> <p>Lecture: Purpose and Audience</p> <p>In-Class Exercise: Name the Writing Audience and Determine Purpose</p>	<p>November 7</p> <p>Reading: Assigned Article #3</p> <p>Discussion: Assigned Article #3</p>
<p>November 12</p> <p>Reading: Chapters 40-44</p> <p>Lecture: Vocabulary and Linguistic Register</p> <p>In-class Exercise: Vocabulary and Linguistic Register</p> <p>Assignment Due: Critical Review</p>	<p>November 14</p> <p>Reading: BPH Chapters 45-47</p> <p>Lecture: Effective Writing Style—what is it?</p> <p>Assignment Due: Critical Response to Assigned Article #3</p>
<p>November 19</p> <p>Reading: BPH Chapters 48-49</p> <p>Lecture: Review of Material in BPH Chapters 31-49</p> <p>Part II: The Writing of Different Cultures: Form and Technique</p>	<p>November 21</p> <p>In-Class Quiz: BPH Chapters 31-49</p>

<p>November 26</p> <p>Reading: none</p> <p>Lecture: The English Language and Linguistic Change</p> <p>Assignment Due: Annotated Bibliography</p>	<p>November 28</p> <p>Reading: none</p> <p>Lecture: Punctuation: Overview</p> <p>In-class Exercise: Punctuation</p>
<p>December 3</p> <p>Reading: None</p> <p>Lecture: Punctuation: Formal vs Informal Contexts</p> <p>In-class Exercise: Punctuation, Part II</p> <p>Reading: None</p> <p>Lecture: Making a Final Essay Checklist</p>	<p>December 5</p> <p>Reading: None</p> <p>Lecture: Recent Research and Practical Applications of the Writing Process</p> <p>Lecture: Course Review</p> <p>Major Assignment Due: Final Research Paper</p>

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS—IMPORTANT. PLEASE READ!

Absences and Late Work

Students are expected to come to every class. Absences in class will affect the class participation mark, and may indirectly affect assignment marks, as much of the learning for this course occurs in the classroom. Late assignments will be evaluated minus 2% per day submitted after deadlines. Such assignments will only be marked if a valid argument for the late submission is presented. Non-medical absences will result in the forfeiting or reducing of the class participation mark worth 10% of the final grade. It is clearly to the student's advantage to attend class—attendance is expected and monitored.



The Appendix to Course Outlines is posted on the OWL course site.