



WRITING 115: INTRO TO COLLEGE WRITING

Class Times: M/W 9:30am-10:50am

Class Location: Zoom

Number of Credits: 3

Class CRN: 30371

Instructor Name: Lee Keeler

Email: KeelerL@linnbenton.edu

Office Hours: I will be holding virtual office hours; email me with any issues at any time. I'd also be happy to set up a Zoom meeting that works for a time for both of us. You can also talk to me after class.

Statement on the Syllabus's Importance:

Get to know this syllabus! It is vital that you have an understanding of all of the assignment dates that are coming this quarter. This document is your lifeline to passing this course.

Course Description and Prerequisites

WR 115 will cover many basic principles of writing, including rhetorical analysis, summarization, argumentative writing and more. In this course we're going to be honing in on some of the grammatical tools that will bring you closer to success with academic writing. We'll also bring you closer to your own process of building thoughts into sentences, sentences into paragraphs, and paragraphs into papers.

Prerequisite: Placement in [WR 115](#) is determined by pre-enrollment testing (CPT) or by passing [WR 095](#) or ENL 095W (College Writing Fundamentals for ELLs) with a grade of C or better. Students may challenge their mandatory placement, with an advisor's approval, by signing a self-placement form through their counselor.

***Online Updates:** Since this class will be entirely online, your participation is vital to your ability to succeed in this course. There will be basic checklists for every weekly unit of this class - but in the end, *the work will be your responsibility.*

This can be tough when faced with the distractions of home, so I strongly recommend that you find a special time/place in which to do your work; try to place yourself wherever you can be physically and mentally productive.

Student Learning Outcomes: Students who complete WR 115 will be able to:

- 1) Write thoughtful, clear, and focused paragraphs and essays for a variety of purposes.
- 2) Illustrate critical reading by clearly summarizing, paraphrasing, and directly quoting.
- 3) Distinguish your ideas from others' ideas in your writing.
- 4) Focus a main point and develop this main point clearly and logically using examples and illustrations in a well-organized essay.
- 5) Revise writing using standard college editing and proofreading conventions (grammar, syntax, spelling, punctuation).

Course Materials:

- *88 Open Essays*, a free, open-source textbook that will be available to all
- Various texts that will also be available online for free

Class Work:

****You are required to have access to your LBCC Moodle, LBCC Gmail and a Zoom Account in order to participate in and pass this course.***

Lectures - ATTENDANCE IS REQUIRED FOR CLASS PARTICIPATION CREDIT. Check your list on the weekly unit rundown for a listing of basic lectures.

Reading - You are expected to keep track of assigned readings as we read them in this class and to take active, thorough notes in your study time. We'll be going over terminology and concepts that will require your involvement and comprehension of the material.

Weekly Exercises - These will often reflect and extend upon the concepts in the reading, with *88 Open Essays* and other texts. Exercises will include in-class writing, workshop notes and potential quizzes.

Exams - There will be one Practice Final and then one Final Exam, both of which must be completed via Moodle.

Major Papers - Remember to follow MLA guidelines, and if you're stuck on an editing issue, please reach out to myself or the Writing Center. Please take a look at the class schedule on this syllabus and make a note of the due dates for these assignments. Your ability to get these in on time and within the assigned criteria will greatly determine the outcome for your final grade.

- **Narrative Essay: 2 pages (600-800 words)**
- **Argumentative Essay: 3 pages (900-1200 words)**
- **3 Shorter Rhetorical Breakdown Essays: 2 pages total (600-800 words)**
- **Self-Reflection Essay: 2 pages (600-800 words)**

*Revisions: with each paper, you will have the option to turn in one revision draft as a chance to improve your grade, which you will turn in at a date that we both agree upon. You must let me know in advance if you're planning on doing a revision of a major paper.

Grading:

Overall Breakdown:

Class Participation and Practicum - 40%

Final - 30%

Major Papers and their Subsequent Revisions - 30%

Letter Grades by Percentage:

- *A = 90-100% Excellent Work*
- *B = 80-89% Good Work*
- *C = 70-79% Average Work*
- *D = 60-69% Poor Work*
- *F = 0-59% Failing Work)*

***Note: Grading for papers is often completed within 2-3 weeks of submission*

****Note: Grading on Moodle will not reflect your full class grade. If you need a grade estimate at any point during the term, email me and I will get it over to you ASAP.*

Campus Resources:

Learning Center

The Writing Center is your go-to spot when you are doing research, getting major papers looked at before turning them in, or just getting a basic question answered about grammar or structure. They take appointments in person and via Zoom! This is a free service and students who use this are more successful in writing courses.

Library

LBCC has an excellent library with experienced staff that can point you in the right direction when it comes to finding inspiration, resources, or random academic enlightenment. You can check out their catalog in person and online, and many of their materials will be required for

Prof. Keeler

If you're having issues with the work, reach out to me. I am genuinely invested in your success in this course and want to see you advance as a student. If you need to email me or touch base after class, let me know. I'm good to set up some Zoom office hours as well; let's maintain communication so we can reach the best possible outcome for your work!

Tips for Success in This Class (via Prof. Tristan Striker):

- 1) Hand in your assignments, even if they aren't finished.
- 2) Take on the mindset that you are coming to class on time every day. Treat our class like a professional environment.
- 3) Come to office hours or communicate with me in some other way. Do this as often as you want to. The relationships you build with your instructors here are vital to your success.
- 4) Make friends and build a community here! Your classmates are perhaps your most valuable resource (even more valuable than me, and that's saying something).

Important Course Policies and Campus Resources:

*(Use this section as a kind of "everything else" list of things that students should know about, both course-specific and campus-wide. Below I've listed some of the things I use on my syllabi, but please adapt yours accordingly. **Note that the Center for Accessibility Resources and Non-Discrimination Policy sections are REQUIRED; please use the exact language here for both of those sections.**)*

- **No-Show Policy:** Unless prior arrangements have been made with me, registered students not attending the first two class sessions will be withdrawn.
- **Attendance Policy:** Missing class means missing valuable instruction time, which means that you give yourself the best chance to do well by attending every class on time and in its entirety. The grading breakdown above indicates how many absences are permitted for final grades of A, B, and C. There is no distinction between an excused absence and an unexcused one. If you do miss a class, you should contact me or a trusted classmate to find out what you missed. Likewise, if you miss a class when an assignment is due, you will need to contact me to make arrangements for getting me the work. If you are absent for an in-class activity that is collected for grading, it cannot be made up.

- **Punctuality Policy:** Plan to arrive to class on time and stay for the entire period. If you arrive more than 5 minutes late, you will be marked late. More than 3 lates will equal one absence.
- **Withdrawing from the Course:** Typically the Friday that concludes Week 7 is the last day for students to withdraw from a course; check the academic calendar for this term to confirm that date. If you are still enrolled after this point, you must receive a grade. Be aware that withdrawing from a course can impact your financial aid, so be sure to consult with the [Financial Aid Office](#) if you have questions before withdrawing.
- **Phones in the Classroom:** Please silence your phone and put it in your pocket or bag. Think of it as a test. Can you go 80 minutes without touching it or looking at it? If there is a legitimate need to have your phone out, please talk to me before doing so.
- **Laptops/Tablets in the Classroom:** I prefer that students do not use these devices in the classroom unless we're in the computer lab, but if you'd like to, please talk to me before doing so.
- **Policy on Late Work:** Policies for late work will be included with assignment instructions.
- **Plagiarism and Academic Integrity:** Presenting someone else's ideas in writing as if they are your own is plagiarism, and it is a serious academic offense. Any plagiarized elements in your writing will result in, at minimum, a zero for the assignment and, at maximum, automatic course failure. If you ever borrow information from an outside source to put in an essay, you must cite it properly. If you're not sure how to do this, please ask me for help before submitting your paper. Once you submit a paper, the policy mentioned above will be enforced.
- **Moodle:** Important course materials—such as assignment instructions, class agendas, and your midterm and final grades—will be posted on our course site on Moodle. An easy way to get to Moodle is to start at the [LBCC homepage](#), and then click on the yellow Moodle logo at the top right. Alternatively, you can go directly to [the sign-in screen](#). If you've never logged-in to Moodle before, you will first have to claim your account at <https://identity.linnbenton.edu/>. If you have any problems logging, please contact the Student Help Desk; they can be reached at 541-917-4630 or student.helpdesk@linnbenton.edu.
- **LBCC Student Email:** Please make sure that you check your student email regularly throughout the term. Should I need to contact you, I will be emailing your student account. You can find information about accessing your LBCC email here: <http://www.linnbenton.edu/roadrunner-mail>

- **The LBCC Writing Center:** The LBCC Writing Center (WH-200) is a fantastic free resource for students. As explained above, you will be required to visit the WC to earn a grade of A or B in this class. Get more info about the WC here: <https://www.linnbenton.edu/student-services/library-tutoring-testing/learning-center/writing-support/index.php>
- **The LBCC Library:** The LBCC library is located on the first floor of Willamette Hall. Get more information here: <http://library.linnbenton.edu/home>
- **Center for Accessibility Resources (CFAR):** LBCC is committed to inclusiveness and equal access to higher education. If you have approved accommodations through the Center for Accessibility Resources (CFAR) and would like to use your accommodations in this class, please talk to your instructor as soon as possible to discuss your needs. If you believe you may need accommodations, but are not yet registered with CFAR, please go to <http://linnbenton.edu/cfar> for steps on how to apply for services or call 541-917-4789.
- **Non-Discrimination Policy:** Everyone in the LBCC community has the right to think, learn, and work together in an environment of respect, tolerance, and goodwill, and we will honor that right in our classroom.
- **Public Safety/Campus Security:** In an emergency, call 911. Also, call LBCC Campus Security/Public Safety at 541-926-6855 and 541-917-4440.
- **Student Printing:** LBCC uses a pay-to-print system called GoPrint that charges .10 cents per printed page. If you do not have a GoPrint account, you can sign up for one in any college computer lab. You can find more information at <http://www.linnbenton.edu/computer-resources-and-labs>.
- **Our Classroom’s “Golden Rule”:** Let’s maximize learning by minimizing distractions from it. Focus!

Weekly course calendar (*subject to change with advanced notice):

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DATE	TOPICS & ACTIVITIES
WEEK 1	Class Introductions Syllabus Review Diagnostic Writing - Email Accept Class Google Doc <hr/> Narrative Essay Text Prewriting Strategies: Conjuring the Idea

	Narrative Essay Criteria
WEEK 2	NO CLASS: MLK JR. Day <hr/> Prewriting Strategies Continued - Lecture Fundamentals in Editing
WEEK 3	Group Work: Rhetorical Breakdown Reading/Writing 1 Fundamentals in Sources and Citations <hr/> First Draft of Narrative Essay Due Peer Review: Narrative Essay
WEEK 4	Final Draft of Narrative Essay Due Grammar Breakout: Punctuation <hr/> Prewriting: Crafting Supporting Points Assigned Reading/Writing Grammar Breakout: Coordination, Subordination
WEEK 5	Group Work: Rhetorical Breakdown Reading/Writing 2 <hr/> Self-Reflection Writing Criteria Lecture: Evidence - Making it Worth Writing
WEEK 6	Prewriting: Crafting Supporting Points Lecture: Argumentative Essay Prep Argumentative Essay Criteria
WEEK 7	Group Work: Rhetorical Breakdown Reading/Writing 3 <hr/> Declare Arg. Essay Topic on Class Google Doc Lecture: Timed Writing Exams
WEEK 8	*Practice Final Exam Declare Argumentative Essay Topic Lecture: Prewriting Strategies: Subtle Punch-Ups <hr/> Lecture/Exercise: Punch Each Other Up Work on Self-Reflection Essay: Planning
WEEK 9	Lecture: The Spin-Out <hr/> First Draft of Argumentative Essay Due Peer Review: Argumentative Essay
WEEK 10	Catch-Up with Course Portfolio

	Finish Self-Reflection Essay <hr/> Argumentative Essay Due (End of Week)
WEEK 11	Finals Week: *Take Final Exam: Posted Monday/Tuesday Only