**WRITING 121: ENGLISH COMPOSITION
CRNS 26536 & 20326**

Fall 2019 • MW 2:30-3:50 pm & 4:30-5:50 pm • BC-205

**Instructor:** Suzi Steffen • steffes@linnbenton.edu, suzi.steffen@linnbenton.edu

503.451.0228
**Office**: BC-240; Office Hours: MW 1:30-2:20; Google Chat/one-on-ones by appointment

**Required Textbooks**:

* None. We will use online resources. Hurray! (But you ARE required to read them.)

**Other Required Materials:**

* Paper and pen/pencil for in-class writing prompts
* Mini-stapler and staples to carry with you
* LBCC email account
* Moodle account and use of our Moodle system
* Access to Google Drive/Documents (using LBCC account)
* Regular access to a computer with a writing program and internet access. *A smartphone does not qualify as a computer for WR121 purposes*,although you may be able to do much of your work on it. Note that the LBCC main library has computers you may check out. (I’m researching the Benton Center library policies on this, but we do also have a computer center at the BC).
* A good college dictionary & thesaurus (the Learning Center has many, the library has many, and the internet has many)

**Course Description**: WR121 covers the processes and fundamentals of writing expository essays, including structure, organization and development; diction and style; revision and editing; mechanics and standard usage required for college-level writing.

**Course Outcomes**:

• *Analyze the* *rhetorical needs* (the interaction of audiences, purpose/outcome, and subject/topic) of a variety of academic and practical writing assignments.

• *Apply appropriate levels of critical thinking strategies* (knowledge, comprehension, application, analysis, synthesis, evaluation) in response to the rhetorical needs of an assignment.

• *Implement appropriate rhetorical elements and organization* (introduction, thesis, development and support, rebuttal, visuals, narration, conclusion, etc.) in response to the rhetorical needs of an assignment.

• *Locate, evaluate, and integrate* *high-quality information and opinion* in response to the rhetorical needs of an assignment.

• *Craft sentences and paragraphs* that communicate their ideas clearly and effectively using words, sentence patterns, and writing conventions to make their writing clear, credible, and persuasive.

**HOW TO SUCCEED IN WR 121**

* Sign on to our Moodle class and keep track of assignments and grades there (instructions will be provided in class).
* Be prepared to use the library and library resources for Essay #2 and possibly Essay #3.
* Bookmark Moodle, download the app, and check it the morning after every class for anything you missed, not that you would miss anything, of course, because you will …
* Come to class. Participate in both class and online assignments.
* Plan out one hour a day, with the exception of one day that you choose to take off, for WR121 homework.
* Check your LBCC email.
* Communicate with Professor Suzi and each other.
* Keep up with your homework.
* **Don’t use your homework as an opportunity to complain about your homework** (you may lose all points for an assignment wherein you make that choice; you will have other opportunities for feedback).
* **Write about things that matter to you.**
* Do any extra credit.

**EXPECTATIONS**

**Attendance**: Your attendance is mandatory - we need you here every day that we’re meeting together (we may have some research days where you can work from wherever you have internet access).. If you must miss a class: Send Professor Suzi a text before the class you can’t attend, and then make sure that you communicate with a classmate (NOT the instructor) so that the classmate can help you understand what we covered. You start the term with 10 points per class, but you lose 20 points for every class you miss without communicating with Professor Suzi about your absence before the class you miss. *Exception*: If you’re ill, please *do not* come to class. Let Prof Suzi know via a text before class so you’re marked excused.

**Disruptions**: Please be sure that you have your phone set to silent and put away in a bag or pocket by the time class begins. You will be allowed to use it off and on during class - at breaks, to look things up, etc. - but in general, it should not be out on or under your desk or in your lap. Frequent disruptions, whether through mobile use or friendly banter or something less pleasant, may result in points deducted from your grade, and may result in your being asked to leave the classroom.

**Communication**: Stay in touch with Professor Suzi via text, with email as a follow-up. Think ahead: Professor Suzi may not be able to respond immediately! When you text, please explain who you are (“I’m Maddie, in your 2:30 pm WR121”). Also, be sure that you’re regularly checking your **LBCC email** and our **Moodle** class.

**Google Drive**: You will be using Drive - and Google Docs, and sometimes Google Sheets - for most assignments. If you aren’t familiar with Drive, there are many people at LB who can help you.. We will have a session on using Google Drive during the first week; if you need more practice, let me know, and I’ll get you in touch with people who can give you knowledge/advice/help.

**Accommodations Due to Documented Disabilities**:
You should meet with your instructor during the first week of class if:

1. You have a documented disability and need accommodations.
2. Your instructor needs to know medical information about you.
3. You need special arrangements in the event of an emergency.

If you have documented your disability, remember that you must make your request for accommodations through the Center for Accessibility Resources (CFAR) [Online Services webpage](https://cascade.accessiblelearning.com/LBCC/) every term in order to receive accommodations. If you believe you may need accommodations but are not yet registered with CFAR, please visit the [CFAR Website](https://www.linnbenton.edu/cfar) for steps on how to apply for services, or call 541-917-4789.

**Basic Needs: Let’s Meet Them!**

Any student who has difficulty affording groceries or accessing sufficient food to eat every day, or who lacks a safe and stable place to live, can get in touch with the Roadrunner Resource Center, where they have all kinds of resources (resources@linnbenton.edu, or visit us on the web [www.linnbenton.edu/RRC](http://www.linnbenton.edu/RRC) under Student Support for Current Students). Our office can help students get connected to resources to help. If you are comfortable in doing so, you can also let the professor know what’s going on so that she can provide any resources that she may possess.

**LBCC Board of Education Statement on Diversity**: We believe that the LBCC community is enriched by diversity. Everyone has the right to think, learn, and work in an environment of respect, tolerance, and goodwill. We actively support this right regardless of race, creed, color, sexual orientation, or any countless ways in which we are diverse.

**LBCC Comprehensive Statement of Nondiscrimination**: LBCC prohibits unlawful discrimination based on race, color, religion, ethnicity, use of native language, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, veteran status, age, or any other status protected under applicable federal, state, or local laws.

**Homework**: Expect to spend 2 hours outside of class for every hour that we spend in class. That means about an hour of homework a day, though it changes from week to week depending on where we are with the major essays. Again, make a plan and do what you need to do to stick to it.

**Grading**: All WR121 students take a common exit final exam, an essay you will compose in response to a given topic. Your essay will be read by a team of English instructors, not including your own instructor. This final counts 30 percent toward your final grade. Before the final, here are possible points in class, with due dates.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **WR 121 FALL 2019** | POINTSPOSSIBLE | YOUR SCORE |
| Personal Narrative Essay (10/18) | 150 |  |
| Informative Research Essay (11/16) | 150 |  |
| Persuasive Essay (12/5) | 150 |  |
|  |  |  |
| Rate the News 1 (10/6) | 50 |  |
| Rate the News 2 (10/20) | (50) |  |
| Rate the News 3 (11/3) | (50) |  |
| Rate the News 4 (11/17) | (50 for a total of 100) |  |
|  |  |  |
| Weekend List 1 (10/13) | 50 |  |
| Weekend Listen 2 (10/27) | (50) |  |
| Weekend Listen 3 (11/10) | (50) |  |
| Weekend Listen 4 (11/24) | (50 for a total of 100) |  |
|  |  |  |
| Attendance/Participation | 100 |  |
| Week 1 Homework (10/2) | 50 |  |
| TOTAL | 800 |  |

**Coursework is 70 percent of your final grade in WR121**. The final is worth 30 percent.

**EXTRA CREDIT**

With a Past/Present/Future reflection, you can earn up to 9 extra credit points on every essay, Rate the News, and Weekend Listen (that is \*a lot\* of extra points possible). ***Your reflection must be turned in at the same time as the assignment.*** Copy and paste from the **Google Doc** syllabus the scoresheet below and *add it* to the *end* of your written reflection (no, don’t write it in this chart). Your reflection should be at least 2-3 sentences for each element. Thoughtful and short is better than distracted and long (thoughtful and long is OK too; distracted and short, not so good - but you will be thoughtful, I’m sure).

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | POINTSPOSSIBLE | SUZI’S  SCORE |
| PAST | How did you prepare for this assignment? | 3 |  |
| PRESENT | How did it turn out? | 3 |  |
| FUTURE | What will you try/do differently/do the same for your next assignment? | 3 |  |
|  | TOTAL | 9 |  |