

**Course Syllabus**  
WR 122 English Composition  
Spring Term 2019  
T/Th 4-5:20 pm

**Instructor:** Karyn Chambers  
**Office:** IA 222  
**Office hours:** Thursdays 3-3:50 pm or by appointment  
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“The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character – that is the goal of true education.” ~Martin Luther King Jr.

**Required Materials:**

- 1) Textbook: *Elements of Argument: A Text and Reader*, Rottenberg and Winchell.
- 2) **Recommended:** *The Little Seagull*, Bullock & Weinberg
- 3) Supplies: 2 Pocket folders, highlighters, 3x5 cards (optional) 1/2 inch 3 ring binder and mini-stapler.

**Welcome to WR 122!**

**Course Description:** WR 122 focuses on developing essays using critical thinking and high quality, current evidence. It emphasizes the logical means of supporting claims in argumentative essays, thesis statements, and reasoning. It includes logic, style, and research as well as logical fallacies to avoid.

\*Prerequisite: WR 121 English Composition or equivalent with a grade of "C" or better.

**As a result of completing WR 122, students should be able to**

1. Analyze the rhetorical needs (the needs of their audience in relationship to the assignment) for college-level persuasive writing assignments.
2. Apply appropriate levels of critical thinking strategies (knowledge, comprehension, application, analysis, synthesis, evaluation) in their written assignments, with an emphasis on analysis and evaluation/persuasion.
3. Implement appropriate rhetorical elements and organization (introduction, thesis, development and support, counter-argument, conclusion, etc.) in their written assignments, with an emphasis on standard argument models, particularly the Toulmin model.
4. Locate, evaluate, and integrate high-quality information and opinion appropriate for college-level analysis and argument assignments.
5. Craft sentences and paragraphs that communicate their ideas clearly and effectively using words, sentence patterns, and writing conventions at a high college level to make their writing clear, credible, and persuasive.

**Class methods:** We will spend our class time discussing pros and cons of multiple issues. We will practice using critical thinking tools to help us question our preconceived views and letting go of old unchallenged or second hand perspectives. We will devote our class time to thinking on paper, debates, small group activities, and peer review sessions. Students learn the most when participating in discussions, getting feedback on their writing, and learning from each other. Feel free to ask questions or for further explanation when needed. Remember others may have the same questions, so it is a good use of our class time. Our text will be used during every class, so **always** bring it with you.

**Attendance:** Your education depends on participating in class activities. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of class, and homework is due at that time. Your learning and the development of new skills depend on being prepared, present, and ready to participate in class activities, so plan to attend every class. Call or email me *before* class if you cannot attend. You

are responsible for any missed assignments.

We will form a “learning community” during the first few weeks. Your willingness to share and participate adds to the richness of our class. Remember to treat everyone with respect and courtesy to create an atmosphere in which we all feel safe, comfortable, and ready to learn.

**Lateness:** Class will begin with taking attendance, announcements, and a “warm up” writing assignment. Arriving late distracts your fellow classmates and myself. Please be prompt so our valuable class time is not wasted and our concentration is not disturbed. Be kind and considerate. If you do come it late, remain quiet and don’t ask your instructor to repeat information you missed.

**Required reading/ assignments:** For our class to be successful and for you to develop the skills we are learning, come prepared to turn in and discuss completed assignments. Your contributions are highly valued and appreciated by your classmates.

**Late Work Policy:** All assignments are due on the day of class to receive *full* credit. **No late work is accepted without appropriate arrangements. In class writing may NOT be made up.**

**Reading summaries and responses:** We will practice the fine art of summarizing, which requires condensing and comprehending the most important message from the writer and how he or she supports his position. In your responses, you will be using critical thinking skills to evaluate and analyze the message from the writer and supporting evidence. As you read, highlight and take notes, jot down key points. Capture your insights, questions, and memories from your own experiences to include in your response. Sometimes I will give you specific questions or prompts to respond to. **We will write 1-2 per week.**

**Testing Policies and Student Integrity:** All students are expected to take tests and complete assignments with honesty, not jeopardizing their own or other students’ integrity.

#### **Grading Criteria:**

- 1) **Small group activities:** 100 points
- 2) **Reading summaries and responses :** 100 points (10 points each)
- 3) **In class writing and weekly quizzes:** (100 points)
- 4) **4 Typed essays** (50 points each)
- 5) **Grammar and MLA Citation Activities:** 100 points
- 6) **4 PEER REVIEWS:**100 points (25 points each) You must have a draft to receive full credit.
- 7) **Portfolio:** 100 points. Your 4 revised essays and a reflection placed in small three ring binder.

**Total: 800 points**

#### **RESOURCES:**

\* The Writing Center: While enrolled in WR 122, you are encouraged to seek extra help at the Writing Center (917-4684), located on the second floor of Willamette Hall on the main campus. Visit their website:  
<http://www.linnbenton.edu/go/learningcenter/writing-help>  
for their current term hours. No appointment is necessary; however, appointments can be made at the Center to meet with a tutor during regular times throughout the term. This is a free service available to all LB students, and students are encouraged to seek help early in the term.

\*Computer Lab Resources: The Library classroom may be used as a drop-in computer lab whenever space is available.

\* Library Information: The LB library homepage can be found by following the links from: <http://www.linnbenton.edu>. The site provides library hours, an online catalogue, as well as many helpful research databases, including EBSCOHost, Electric Library, Facts on File, NetLibrary, *Oregonian*, *Wall Street Journal*, and other periodical indexes. To use these resources, you must log into your account by entering your Student ID# and the last four digits of your home phone number. Please make sure your contact information is current in LB's student records database; contact Registration and Records if it is not.

As we will be doing research to support our essays, please note that

**\*WIKIPEDIA\***

**IS NOT YET CONSIDERED A PROPER ACADEMIC SOURCE ,  
so ALWAYS refer to the ORIGINAL sources if you pursue a topic found  
on Wikipedia.**

### **Request for Special Needs or Accommodations**

Direct questions about or requests for special needs or accommodations to the LBCC Disability Coordinator, RCH-105, 6500 Pacific Blvd. SW, Albany, Oregon 97321, Phone 541-917-4789 or via Oregon Telecommunications Relay TTD at 1-800-735-2900 or 1-800-735-1232. Make sign language interpreting or real-time transcribing requests 2-4 weeks in advance. Make all other requests at least 72 hours prior to the event. LBCC will make every effort to honor requests. LBCC is an equal opportunity educator and employer.

### **LBCC Comprehensive Statement of Nondiscrimination**

LBCC prohibits unlawful discrimination based on race, color, religion, ethnicity, use of native language, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, marital status, disability, veteran status, age, or any other status protected under applicable federal, state, or local laws. For further information see Board Policy P1015 in our Board Policies and Administrative Rules. Title II, IX, & Section 504: Scott Rolen, CC-108, 541-917-4425; Lynne Cox, T-107B, 541-917-4806, LBCC, Albany, Oregon. To report: [linnbenton-advocate.symplicity.com/public\\_report](http://linnbenton-advocate.symplicity.com/public_report)

**\*Syllabus subject to revision based on needs of the class. You are responsible for all class assignments. If you have to miss class, please call a classmate and ask for assignments.**

**\*\*IMPORTANT: SAVE ALL HOMEWORK AND "ALL" WRITING UNTIL YOU RECEIVE YOUR FINAL GRADE. INSTRUCTOR IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR LOST WORK.**