

# WR 121 Syllabus

Winter 2022

## General Information

### Instructor Information and Availability

Instructor: Elizabeth Wilks

Phone: N/A

Email: [wilkse@linnbenton.edu](mailto:wilkse@linnbenton.edu)

Office hours: By appointment

Office: Online via Zoom

### Course Information

CRN: 31504 or 33563

Scheduled time/days: Online, Asynchronous

Classroom(s): Online. Moodle, and Google Classroom

### Required Textbook

The textbook below is available at the LBCC bookstore. The book is required. Please refer to the [COVID-19 and LBCC Frequently Asked Questions](#) page for more information on ordering and pick up.

- *They Say, I Say: Moves that Matter in Academic Writing with readings*, 5th ed., Graff, Birkenstein, and Durst, W.W. Norton & Co., 2021. ISBN 9780393538700.

**Course Description:** Focuses on college-level expository writing and critical thinking. Improves fluency with elements such as thesis, support, organization, basic research/citation, and conventions of language. Uses processes such as critical reading, prewriting, drafting, peer feedback, revision, editing, and reflection. Asks students to employ these elements and processes while considering the audience, purpose, and genre of a given writing task. Requires 3000-3500 words (about 10 pages) of revised, final draft copy each term or an appropriate multimodal analog for this amount of text. **4 credits**. Prerequisite: placement into [WR 121](#) or [WR 115](#) with a grade of C or better.

### Student Learning Outcomes

Students who successfully complete WR 121 will be able to:

- **Outcome #1:** Anticipate and identify the needs of their audience in a variety of academic writing situations.

- **Outcome #2:** Use rhetorical elements (such as introduction, thesis, development and support, rebuttal, narration, and conclusion) to organize and clarify their writing.
- **Outcome #3:** Practice foundational research methods by finding, evaluating, incorporating, and citing appropriate sources.
- **Outcome #4:** Write in clear, effective language.

## **Class Policies**

### **Active Pursuit of the Course**

Welcome to WR121! This term you will get lots of practice writing, and learning to write well—like any skill—takes frequent practice, commitment, a positive attitude, and patience! Your writing this term should reflect critical thinking as well as thoughtful response and analysis. Stretch the boundaries of what you have thought and learned in the past, and be open to new ideas and different perspectives. To support that process, you will be reading, responding to, and analyzing a variety of essays throughout the term. I look forward to working with you as you work on writing and hone your reading and thinking skills.

As a member of our WR121 community this term, you also have a responsibility to your fellow students and to me to be civil, respectful, and actively engaged in class activities. This means that you work together, sharing your writing, offering responses and input to ultimately achieve a higher quality outcome and a more enjoyable process, than you could have achieved in isolation.

This trust is something we will have to earn and develop over time, since sharing involves risk. We often feel exposed when we share our writing. But because writing is, after all, about communicating with others, we will work together to gain confidence and ultimately improve our writing. Students who are not earning a passing grade after midterm and/or are not actively pursuing the course, may want to consider withdrawing.

### **Online Learning**

Online learning requires a high level of independence and self-motivation. This means that you give yourself the best chance to do well in the course by being proactive: logging-in to our course site frequently, reading online instructions carefully, paying close attention to the course calendar, and contacting me well ahead of time when you have questions, not a few hours before an assignment is due. Students who lack time management skills and self-motivation typically don't fare well in online courses. Because all courses are being taught remotely, it is essential that you have uninterrupted access to a reliable computer and internet connection.

All course materials will be posted on [Google Classroom](#), which can be accessed with the class code **nsvksfr** through your **school email**. I strongly recommend using Google Drive to store your files since it's synced with your LBCC email and is integrated with Google Classroom. When you turn an assignment in through Google Classroom, I am able to give you strategic and effective feedback. Google Docs also allows you to easily share your work with me and your peers. Our course site on Moodle will be used as a "landing page" where you will find a link to our Google Classroom and login instructions, a copy of the syllabus, office hours, contact information, weekly announcements, and links to all of our assignments. If you ever encounter problems with Google Classroom, please contact me rather than the student help desk.

### **Communicating with Me**

Email is the best way to communicate with me if you have questions or concerns. It is essential that you check your LBCC student email at least once daily. You can find [information about accessing your LBCC email here](#)). Checking email frequently and reading my messages carefully is your best way to stay current in the class. I have a 24-hour turnaround when replying to emails Monday through Friday, although I typically reply much sooner than that. On weekends, I observe a 48-hour turnaround. When you have questions about an assignment, do not wait until a few hours before it is due to email me. Instead, be working on the course content early, and allow yourself time for questions--and time for me to answer those questions. I also encourage you to schedule a time in advance for office hours to discuss any questions or concerns you may have.

### **Attendance**

Even though class will be conducted online, students are expected to meet assignment deadlines. **Absence is not an excuse for ignorance.** If you are absent, it is your responsibility to check Google Classroom for the information missed. If you are truly unable to find an answer to your questions through your peers or through your own investigations, then I'll be happy to answer emails about **specific questions**.

You are responsible for knowing and implementing any changes to the schedule or expectations on assignments. **You should be checking Google Classroom and your email daily.**

Students may be dropped from the class if they do not attend class during the first week (attending here means logging in and completing the first week's assignments). The last day to Add/Drop is **January 10, 2022**. The last day to Withdraw with a "W" is **February 20, 2022**. 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.

### **Academic Integrity and Honesty**

**Any plagiarized elements in your work 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 plagiarized paper, the consequences mentioned above will be enforced.

Plagiarism is a type of academic dishonesty that involves the theft of another person's idea, words, images, music/sounds, or creative works and/or deceit in the representation of who created the work by not properly crediting sources. Plagiarism, one form of cheating or dishonesty, is not just the failure to give credit for an exact quotation. Plagiarism includes both intentional and unintentional acts, such as:

1. Obtaining a paper on the Internet and turning it in as the student's own work; this is obviously intentional
2. Copying sections of another's original document, photographs, artwork, songs/sounds, film, video images, lab project, or electronic files and putting the source material or text into one's own work without documentation, as if it were one's own original work;
3. Copying a sentence, or an important exact phrase of two words or more, or a coined word (which may or may not have copyright protection) without the use of quotation marks and credit;
4. Copying the structure of another's argument or premise, thesis, theory, design, or composition and merely translating key parts;
5. Using another's results in one's own words without giving him or her credit, failing to document any borrowing when quoting, paraphrasing, summarizing, or importing and placing a graphic, sound bite or other medium.

(Administrative Rule No. 7030-02)

### **Course Content and Grading**

#### **Course Set-up and Due Dates**

Course content will be organized into weekly sections that will be available at 9:00 AM on the Sunday before the upcoming week. Assignment due dates will be on Sundays by 11:59 PM (except for the practice final exam and final exam which are timed tests, limited to a two day window (Monday-Tuesday) which is set by the department). Always give

yourself adequate time to prepare for the unexpected. Waiting until a few minutes before the deadline to submit an assignment is NOT a good idea.

### **Assignment Overview**

Assignments will fall into one of three categories outlined below: chapter quizzes, major assignments, and the final exam.

### **Chapter Quizzes (10%)**

These quizzes will make sure that you are reading the required textbook selections. In total, they will count for 10% of the final grade. Quizzes are designed to be easy; they are open-book, untimed, and you can take them as many times as you wish. Quizzes will be available each week until the Wednesday of the next week at 11:59 PM. I encourage you to get them done as soon as you can so that you can move on to the week's remaining assignments, which will take more time and work.

### **Major assignments (60%)**

Assignments in this category will be longer, more involved tasks that require planning and work. This includes the three major essays for the course:

1. Essay 1 - Imposter Syndrome
2. Essay 2 - Pacemaker
3. Essay 3 - Ways We Lie

For each major assignment, a grading rubric with specific criteria will be included in the instructions, and I will give you written feedback along with your grades.

### **The Final Exam (30%)**

You will take an exit final exam (holistically graded) worth 30% of the final grade. The final will take place during finals week, week 11. Final exams will start **Monday at 9:00am** ending **Tuesday at 11:59pm**. You will enter the exam on either day you choose and have a 3 hour block to complete the exam. **For example, if you enter the exam on Tuesday at 9am they will have until 12pm Tuesday to finish.** You will write an essay in response to questions about an essay you've read critically one week in advance. You will be tested on your ability to do the following:

- write an effective introduction with a thesis
- include discussion and a conclusion
- use supporting examples, experiences, observations, details, and description
- use summaries and/or paraphrases from the original source material (essays) provided

- use at least one direct quotation from the original source material (essays) provided
- use appropriate lead-in phrases (phrases like “according to...”)
- use proper in-text citation in MLA style. (You do not need to rewrite the bibliographic entry)

ASSIGNMENTS	% OF FINAL GRADE
Reading Responses	10%
Major Assignments	60%
Final Exam	30%
TOTAL →	100%

### Final Grade

Your final grade will be determined by the following point breakdown and formula:

A 93-100	C+ 77-79	D- 60-65
A- 90-92	C 73-76	F+ 50-55
B+ 87-89	C- 70-72	F below 50
B 83-86	D+ 67-69	
B- 80-82	D 65-66	

### Grade Conversion

Letter Grade Points (before final)				
A = 56	B+ = 50	C+ = 44	D+ = 38	F+ = 32
A- = 53	B = 48	C = 42	D = 36	F = 30
	B- = 46	C- = 40	D- = 34	
Final Grade Points (after final)				
A = 72-80	B = 64-71	C = 56-63	D = 48-55	F = 40-47

Grade Conversion Formula							
Letter Grade (before final)	Final Exam Score 1	Final Exam Score 2	[column 2] + [column 3]	[column 4] * 2	Letter Gr. pts (from chart above)	Final Grade Points [column 5] + [column 6]	Final Grade (chart above)
<b>Example</b>							
A	4	4	[4]+[4] = 8	[8]*2 = 16	56	[16]+[56] = 72	A

Grade	Percentage	Description
A	90% and up	Passing work that is excellent
B	80% to 89.99%	Passing work that is good
C	70% to 79.99%	Passing work that is average
D	60% to 69.99%	Non-passing work that is below average
F	59.99% and below	Non-passing work that is fundamentally lacking

### Revisions and Second Chances

Since this class emphasizes the process of writing, you are allowed to revise the final drafts of Essay 1 and Essay 2 **if they are turned in by the due date**. Use this opportunity for a second chance wisely. It is not likely that you will raise your grade by simply changing a word or two; make sure your revision shows significant improvements. **Turn in your completed revision along with your original final draft no later than one week after you get back your graded final draft.** Dates will be posted on Moodle and Google Classroom. There are no revision opportunities for Essay 3.

### Late Work

All due dates appear on the [class schedule](#) and will also be included with assignment instructions. Sunday at 11:59 PM is the deadline for all assignments; after that, assignments will be considered late. In fairness to all students, an assignment submitted after the deadline will lose 1 point for each day it is late: -1 point for Monday submissions, -2 points for Tuesday submissions, and -3 points for Wednesday submissions. After 11:59 PM on Wednesday, a zero will be recorded in the gradebook. Specific policies for late

penalties are included with assignment instructions, so please read them carefully. Major assignments submitted late will not receive written feedback.

Note: The practice exam and final exam cannot be done late as they are timed tests, limited to a two day window (Monday-Tuesday) which is set by the department.

## Campus Resources

- **[The LBCC Writing Center](#)**: The LBCC Writing Center (WH-200) is a fantastic free resource for students. Tutors are available to assist you with all aspects of your writing assignments. The Writing Center also offers online tutoring services as well.
- **[The LBCC Library](#)**: The LBCC Library is located on the first floor of Willamette Hall, but all services will be available remotely. The library has several databases for research articles that you can access both on and off-campus.
- **[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 contact your instructor as soon as possible to discuss your needs. If you think you may be eligible for accommodations but are not yet registered with CFAR, please visit the [CFAR Website](#) for steps on how to apply for services. Online course accommodations may be different than those for on-campus courses, so it is important that you make contact with CFAR as soon as possible.

## College Policies

### LBCC Email and Course Communications

You are responsible for all communications sent via Moodle and to your LBCC email account. You are required to use your LBCC provided email account for all email communications at the College. You may access your LBCC student email account through Student Email and your Moodle account through Moodle.

### Disability and Access Statement

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 contact your instructor as soon as possible to discuss your needs. If you think you may be eligible for accommodations but are not yet registered with CFAR, please visit the [CFAR Website](#) for steps on how to apply for services. Online course accommodations may be different than



those for on-campus courses, so it is important that you make contact with CFAR as soon as possible.

### **Statement of Inclusion**

To promote academic excellence and learning environments that encourage multiple perspectives and the free exchange of ideas, all courses at LBCC will provide students the opportunity to interact with values, opinions, and/or beliefs different than their own in safe, positive, and nurturing learning environments. LBCC is committed to producing culturally literate individuals capable of interacting, collaborating, and problem-solving in an ever-changing community and diverse workforce.

[Equal Opportunity and Statement of Non-Discrimination](#).

### **Basic Needs Statement:**

Any student who has difficulty affording food or finding a safe and stable place to live, or who needs assistance with resources for transportation, childcare, etc., is urged to contact the [Roadrunner Resource Center](#) for support and referral to community resources. Also, please talk with your instructor if you are comfortable doing so. This can help them direct you to the appropriate office and resource.

### **Title IX Reporting Policy**

If you or another student are the victim of any form of sexual misconduct (including dating/domestic violence, stalking, sexual harassment), or any form of gender discrimination, LBCC can assist you. You can [report](#) a violation of our [sexual misconduct policy](#) directly to our Title IX Coordinator. You may also report the issue to a faculty member, who is required to notify the Coordinator, or you may make an appointment to speak confidentially to our Advising and Career Center by calling 541-917-4780.

### **Non-Discrimination Policy**

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. Everyone in the LBCC community has the right to think, learn, and work together in an environment of respect, tolerance, and goodwill.

### **Changes to the Syllabus**

I reserve the right to change the contents of this syllabus due to unforeseen circumstances. You will be given notice of relevant changes through a Moodle/Google Classroom Announcement or through LBCC e-mail.

## **Class Schedule**

All readings and assignments are subject to change; double-check the Weekly Announcements for updated information. Readings and Assignments should be completed by the day listed on this course calendar.