Writing121: English Composition

**WR 121 - 4 CREDIT HOURS**

**Linn-Benton Community College**

Instructor: Sarah Mosser

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Office Hours: Scheduled upon request, delivered via Zoom

**Syllabus – Summer 2023**

COURSE MEETING SCHEDULE

This course is an online course conducted via Moodle at Linn-Benton Community College.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

**Welcome** to our writing class.  This course is designed as a workshop and discussion class in essay writing. We’ll study critical reading strategies; the *process* and *fundamentals* of essay writing, including invention strategies; rhetorical structures/strategies; techniques for organizing, developing and revising; and the elements of style.

Good writing is hard work and incredibly satisfying. Good writing involves prewriting, writing, and rewriting. Our aim in WR121 is to develop and master our own process of writing, of critical reading, and of critical thinking.

I’m looking forward to working with you this term.  I will always try to be enthusiastic, honest, fair, and inspiring in my feedback to your writing. I will expect you to be interested, consistently present in the online course (submitting work on time), and prepared and engaged in the course. With our teamwork, by the end of the term, you can expect to be a better writer.  I hope that you will also learn to enjoy and value your own writing.

COURSE OUTCOMES

Students who complete WR 121 will be able to:

1. Anticipate and identify the needs of their audience in a variety of academic writing situations.
2. Use rhetorical elements (such as introduction, thesis, development and support, rebuttal, narration, and conclusion) to organize and clarify their writing.
3. Practice foundational research methods by finding, evaluating, incorporating, and citing appropriate sources.
4. Write in clear, effective language.

COURSE MATERIALS

The following texts are to be read as indicated in the assignments below.

* *They Say/I Say* 5th edition by Gerald Graff and Cathy Birkenstein. W.W. Nortan and Company, 2018. ISBN 978-0393631678.
* *The Little Seagull Handbook with exercises.* 4th edition. by Richard Bullock, Michal Brody, and Francine Weinberg. ISBN 978-0393602647

ASSIGNMENTS

**Note: With the exception of major essays, each assignment will be due by Sunday at midnight in the week it is assigned. Late work will be given a 20% grade reduction.**

1. **Reading**

Each week, you will be assigned reading from our textbook along with a Reading Response in which you will record your thoughts and reactions to the reading. More information can be found on our Moodle site. The reading is an integral aspect of your writing, as it includes topics such as summarizing, quoting, agreeing/disagreeing with source material etc. All of these are aspects that you are expected to integrate into your writing.

1. **Participation**

You are expected to be actively engaged on our course learning platform. Writing is not something that can be learned by passively listening or scanning your eyes over a text, but must be practiced through active engagement. We will use our course platform to present new material, process the reading, practice new skills, and hone your writing skills.

1. **Homework**

Each week, there will be assignments posted in the Moodle course that will be due by midnight on the Sunday of the week it is posted. These assignments are designed to help you learn, process, and practice the course material and improve your writing. Each assignment is designed to guide you through the necessary learning and practice that will ultimately be reflected in your major unit essays. Completing these smaller assignments well and on time is an integral aspect of your success in this course.

1. **Unit Essays**

You will submit three unit essays for this course. Each essay will differ in length, and assignments sheets will be posted in Moodle.

Unit 1 essay will be due Week 3

Unit 2 essay will be due Week 7

Unit 3 essay will be due Week 10

Unit essay will include all aspect of the writing process: a brainstorm, outline, draft, and final. Unit essays that are turned in on time may be revised for up to full credit. Late essays may not be revised and will receive a 20% deduction. Late essays may not receive written feedback.

1. **Final Exam**

The final exam for this course will be held during Week 10 from **Monday, August 28 opening at 9 am and closing Tuesday, August 29 at 11:59 pm.** Your final exam will be a short, 500-750 word essay responding to an essay and prompt that will be posted on Moodle in Week 10. You will have three hours to complete your final exam. No late final exams will be accepted.

GRADING

Reading 20%

Homework 20%

Unit Essays 30%

Final Exam 30%

COURSE POLICIES

* **No-Show Policy**: Unless prior arrangements have been made with me, registered students not engaging in the first week of the course will be withdrawn.
* **Engagement Policy**: Please schedule your other commitments to ensure time for adequate engagement in this course. If you have questions or would like to review course material together, please email me to schedule a time on Zoom.
* **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](https://www.linnbenton.edu/current-students/money-matters/financial-aid/) if you have questions before withdrawing.
* **Policy on Late Work**: Late work will receive a 20% reduction in grade and must be turned in within 1 week of the original due date. If you need an extension on an assignment, please email me at least 24 hours before the assignment is due and include a reason for your late request as well as a proposed due date.

Late submissions will not be accepted for the final exam.

* **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 can result in a zero for the assignment and/or 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. LBCC’s [administrative rule on academic integrity and honesty](https://www.linnbenton.edu/faculty-and-staff/administrative-information/policies/board-policies-and-administrative-rules/7000-series-student-services/administrative-rule-no-7030-02-academic-integrity.php) explains more fully what constitutes plagiarism and what consequences students may face. Please read it carefully.
* **Moodle**: Course assignments will be posted and completed on Moodle. An easy way to get to Moodle is to start at the [LBCC homepage](http://www.linnbenton.edu/), and then click on the yellow Moodle logo at the top right. Alternatively, you can go directly to [the sign-in screen](https://identity.linnbenton.edu/). 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](mailto: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>

CAMPUS RESOURCES

* **The LBCC Writing Center**: The LBCC Writing Center (WH-200) is a fantastic free resource for students. Get more info about the WC here: [http://www.linnbenton.edu/learning-center/writing-center](https://www.linnbenton.edu/current-students/study/learning-center/writing-assistance/)
* **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](https://www.linnbenton.edu/current-students/study/computer-resources-and-labs/student-printing.php).