**WR 121/English Composition**

**Fall 2016**

INSTRUCTOR: Alison Clement

OFFICE: BC 102b

OFFICE HOURS: M 1:30-3:30

EMAIL clemena@linnbenton.edu

CRN 26050 and 26051

CLASS TIMES MW 10:30-11:50

LOCATION BC 246

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| **REQUIRED TEXT AND MATERIALS*** *They Say/I Say* 3rd editionby Graff, Birkenstein and Durst (skinny version)
* *The Little Seagull Handbook*, 2nd edition
* Access to the internet
* A pocket folder
* A notebook
* Two examination books for the WR 121 Final

**COLLEGE RESOURCES**Library and Writing Center and Online Writing Lab (OWL) |

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Welcome to our writing class! This class is a workshop, discussion and lecture class in essay writing. It is designed to make you a better reader, writer and thinker.

I will try to be enthusiastic, honest, fair and (even) inspiring. I expect you to be interested, consistently present and prepared, engaged, and a contributor to class workshops and discussions. With effort, by the end of the term, you can expect to be a better writer. I hope you will also learn to better enjoy and value your own writing.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES**

In this class, you will learn to:

1. *Analyze the* *rhetorical needs* (audience, purpose and subject) for a variety of academic and practical writing assignments.
2. *Apply critical thinking strategies* (knowledge, comprehension, application, analysis, synthesis, evaluation) in your written assignments, with a focus on factual, analytical, and evaluative writing.
3. *Implement appropriate rhetorical elements and organization* (introduction, thesis, development and support, rebuttal, narration, comparison, conclusion, etc.) in your written assignments.
4. *Locate, evaluate, and integrate* *high-quality information and opinion* in response to the rhetorical needs of an assignment.
5. *Craft sentences and paragraphs* that communicate your ideas clearly and effectively using words, sentence patterns, and writing conventions at a college level to make your writing clear, credible, and persuasive.

**OBJECTIVES**

Upon successful completion of this class, you will be able to:

* Write with confidence.
* Discover, develop and apply your own best reading and writing processes.
* Confidently work on writing projects, both collaboratively and independently.
* Organize and write a well-structured and effectively persuasive essay.
* Analyze a subject, research a topic, make an argument and write an essay presenting your views.
* Write under pressure.
* Write to specific audiences and specific purposes, using accepted conventions.
* Clearly and effectively present your ideas.

**WR 121 OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES, PUT SIMPLY**

Put simply, you will learn to

* Read at a college level
* Write at a college level
* Research
* Use your research in your writing

**COURSE WORK**

**Essays** (300 points)

* ESSAY #1 Narrative 50 points
* ESSAY #2 Argumentative/Research 100 points
* ESSAY #3 Portrait 100 points
* ESSAY #4 In-class Essay: Final Exam Practice 50 points

**Other work** (Writing Exercises, Reading Checks, etc. depending on the needs of the

 class**)** 100 points

**Participation** 100 points

The **Final Exam** will be worth 1/3 of your grade.

**SKILLS**

* Work in teams through reading groups and peer editing
* Demonstrate each of the steps of your writing process
* Provide critical response to peers’ work
* Develop your response to readings
* Focus, develop and organize your thoughts in writing
* Evaluate your own work using commonly accepted standards for thoughtful writing
* Follow standard grammatical conventions for academic writing
* Integrate sources using MLA standards

**OFFICE HOURS**

Please come by my office hours throughout the term. If you can’t make my scheduled office hours, email me or see me after class to set up an appointment for another time. If you start to fall behind, talk to me. If you’re struggling, please don’t wait until the end of the term to talk to me about it. This never works out.

**ATTENDANCE**

**Attendance is essential.** In this class, you are expected to be a team player, to help your fellow classmates with their writing and to be part of our discussions. In addition, class reading and writing activities cannot be duplicated at home. Please attend class and arrive on time. Absences will affect your grade. Exchange contact info with class members and discuss assignments with them. **If you miss a class, you are responsible for getting missed material and assignments.**

**LATE WORK POLICY**

I will accept late papers for up to seven days after an assignment deadline, but for every class day in which your paper is late, your score will drop. If you are absent and a paper is due, please email it to me and bring a hard copy to the next class.

**INCOMPLETES**

I don’t offer incompletes.

**PLAGIARISM**

Plagiarism (using someone else’s work as your own) will result in your failing the assignment and possibly failing the class.

**REWRITES**

* Most essays that arrive on time may be rewritten once for a higher grade. Ask me.
* Revisions must be accompanied by the original essay and my comments.
* All changes you made to the essay must be highlighted.
* All rewrites are due within one week of the day I hand back papers. This deadline is the same whether you were in class to receive your paper or not.

**AMERICANS WITH DISABILITY ACT**

You should meet with me during the first week of class if you have a documented disability and need accommodations, if I need to know medical information about you, or if you need special arrangements in the event of an emergency. If you have no accessed services and think you may need them, please contact Disability Services at 541-917-4789.

**NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT**

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