**WRITING 121: ENGLISH COMPOSITION**

**Instructor:** Karina Camacho

**Office Location:** ZOOM **Office Hours**: On Demand

**Office Phone:** ZOOM **Email:** camachk@linnbenton.edu

**Class Meeting Days/Times:** T/TH 10:00-11:20 **Class Location**: IA 212

**Number of Credits**: 3  **Class CRN:** 40258

**Required Materials:** MOODLE

**Course Description:** WR 121 is designed to help you develop and strengthen your academic writing skills and prepare you for other writing you will do in other academic settings. My emphasis in WR 121 is on the process of writing which includes reading and research, critical thinking, prewriting, drafting, and multiple revisions.

Because the final product is important, much of our class time will be spent on this multi-step process.

**Course Goals:**

As a result of taking WR 121, you will be able to:

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

**Prerequisite:** Placement in WR121 is determined by pre-enrollment testing or by passing WR115 with a grade of 'C' or better. Students may challenge their mandatory placement, with an advisor's approval, by signing a self-placement form through a counselor. Before entering WR121, students are assumed to have basic competence in grammar, mechanics, sentence structure and in developing related ideas in a unified, coherent paragraph and/or short essay. These skills may be reviewed in WR121, if needed.

**Grading:** *\*\*Note: A final grade of a “C-” or better is required in order to pass WR 121.*

Unless otherwise specified, papers are primarily graded according to the following criteria:

1. Quality and depth of thinking 3) Style and technique 2) Organization and coherence 4) Use of conventions

**Assignments:** Your work for this course will constitute three (3-4) major papers (including all required drafts and peer reviews), and several supporting assignments. Specific instructions and criteria will be provided as each of the essays are assigned. Unless otherwise indicated, all major papers and supporting assignments must follow MLA Style Guidelines, be typed in Times New Roman, 12-point font, double-spaced, and stapled in the upper left corner. In-class writing may occur at any time, but they will not always be collected.

**WR 121 Final Exam:** The WR 121 Final Exam follows a different structure than other class assignments. You will be given an article to read a week before the final takes place, and, over the course of two 50-minute sessions, you will respond to a prompt about the essay. This final is worth 30% of your total course grade. We will conduct a practice final in class and review how the exams are scored.

**Late Papers:** If you are ill or cannot submit your paper on time, please email or speak to me **IN ADVANCE** to make arrangements. Late papers will not be accepted if they are more than a week late. This cut-off will not be invoked if you have had a documented medical emergency or have discussed turning the paper in late before it was officially due.

**Assignment Submission**: We will use Google docs or email. Essays will be returned with notes, comments, and your score. If you receive a low grade (below a C) on an assignment, you can submit revised work until your essay receives at least a C. Please keep all of your graded work until you receive your final grade.

**Academic Dishonesty Policy:** All work submitted must be your own and must be original to this class. If you copy OR paraphrase from an outside source without citation, copy from or collaborate with a classmate on an explicitly individual assignment, ask anyone else to complete your written work for you, or recycle old work of your own to complete a new assignment, this is a violation of academic honesty. Violations of this nature and plagiarism will result in failure of the assignment and possible failure of the entire course. I will pursue every case of plagiarism to the fullest extent.

Most plagiarism and cheating occurs because a student is pushed against a deadline and turns to a quick, dishonest solution instead of being honest about his or her problem with the instructor. Please talk to me if you find yourself in such stress that cheating seems like a solution.

**Communication with Instructor:** Contact me immediately if you are having difficulties in class. I check and respond to my LBCC e-mail at least once a day, every weekday, and will reply to your message as soon as I am ableAny changes in assignments, due dates, class meeting schedule, etc., will be announced via e-mail, in addition to being announced in class (when possible). Please make sure that you either regularly check or have forwarded your linnbenton.edu e-mail address to an address you use.

**Technology & Moodle**: This class will make extensive use of computer writing programs and some Internet research resources. In addition, I will communicate with the class via e-mail and Moodle, and I may require response or submission via these media. Familiarity with and access to a reliable e-mail address and the Internet is required to succeed in this class.

Knowledge of a writing software program is required for success in this class. Microsoft Word is the supported word processing program at LBCC, and you may use it at any of the library or lab computers. If using a word processor may be a challenge, consider taking one of LBCC’s five-week Business Technology courses before or while enrolled in Writing 121.

**Student Decorum Statement:** Because college coursework and professional correspondence require focused study and open exchange of ideas, the Department expects the classroom to be a place of courteous interaction, a forum for demonstrating mutual respect between teachers and students. Professional communication requires all of us to listen carefully to each other (whether we agree or not) and to state our positions with clarity and our disagreements with tact. Standards for academic courtesy apply to group work, on-line interaction, and student-teacher interaction as well.

**Diversity statement:** 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. Our differences are a source of strength and are an important part of education.

**RESOURCES**

* **●  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
* ● **The LBCC Writing Center** : The LBCC Writing Center (WH-200) is a fantastic free resource for students. As explained above, you will be required to visit the WC to earn a grade of A or B in this class. Get more info about the WC here: http://www.linnbenton.edu/learning-center/writing-center
* ●  **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 .