WR121- English Composition, Section 15

Syllabus

# General Information

## Instructor Information and Availability

Instructor name: Brandy St. John

Phone number: 541-917- 4525

E-mail address: stjohnb@linnbenton.edu

Office hours: MWF 11am-12:00pm

Office number: SSH 210

## Course Information

Course name: English Composition

Section number: 15

CRN: 23774

Scheduled time/days: MWF 1pm- 1:50pm

Number of credits: 3

Classroom: RCH 213

### Prerequisites:

## Placement in WR 121 is determined by pre-enrollment testing (CPT) or by passing WR 115 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 their counselor.

## Course Materials

Required:

* Textbooks, *They Say, I Say,* Graff, 4th edition, ISBN 978-0-393-63167-8

*The Little Seagull Handbook,* Bullock, 3rd Edition, ISBN 978-0-393-60264-7

* Access to the internet (our Canvas page)
* Notebook and pen for notes and in-class exercises
* 2 Green Books for the final

**Canvas Invite Code**

To join our Canvas page, follow this link: [**https://canvas.instructure.com/enroll/WM7F97**](https://canvas.instructure.com/enroll/WM7F97)

(I will share it via email, as well.) Please sign up using your LBCC email.

## Course Requirements

Each assignment will have more specifics as they are introduced throughout the term. Below is a breakdown of percentages:

Essay 1 15%

Essay 2 15%

Essay 3 20%

Reading checks and Writing exercises 15%

Practice Final Exam 5%

Final Exam 30%

**Assignments**

**Essay #1-** Analytical Writing, 2pgs, (double spaced, 12 pt Times New Roman font), 15% of course grade

**Essay #2**- Persuasive Writing, 2-3 pgs, (double spaced, 12 pt Times New Roman font), 15% of course grade

**Essay #3-** Academic Writing, 3-4 pgs, (double spaced, 12 pt Times New Roman font), 20% of course grade

**Final Exam –** At the end of the term, students will take a final in-class written exam. **Final exams will count for 30% of the course grade**.

**Course Description**

## Covers processes and fundamentals of writing expository essays, including structure, organization and development, diction and style, revision and editing, mechanics and standard usage required for college-level writing.

## Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

* Analyze the rhetorical needs (the interaction of audiences, purpose/outcome, and subject) of a variety of academic and practical writing assignments.
* Apply appropriate levels of critical thinking strategies (knowledge, comprehension, application, analysis, synthesis, evaluation) in response to the rhetorical needs of an assignment.
* Implement appropriate rhetorical elements and organization (introduction, thesis, development and support, rebuttal, visuals, narration, conclusion, etc.) in response to the rhetorical needs of an assignment.
* Locate, evaluate, and integrate high-quality information and opinion in response to the rhetorical needs of an assignment.
* Craft sentences and paragraphs that communicate their ideas clearly and effectively using words, sentence patterns, and writing conventions to make their writing clear, credible, and persuasive.

**Class Policies**

## Behavior and Expectations

You are held accountable to the [Student Code of Conduct](https://www.linnbenton.edu/current-students/administration-information/policies/students-rights-responsibilities-and-conduct), which outlines expectations pertaining to academic honesty (including cheating and plagiarism), classroom conduct, and general conduct.

### Guidelines for communication

I prefer email for short conversations. If we need to have a longer conversation, please email me to set up an appointment during my office hours. You’re also welcome to drop in during office hours, but appointments are preferred so two students don’t show up at the same time. I check and respond to emails Monday through Friday. I will not always respond to emails after business hours or on weekends or holidays.

### Use of cell phones/ smart phones

Please do not check your phone, text, or listen to headphones in class. If you absolutely must use your phone for parenting, work, or emergency reasons please go out in the hall.

## Attendance/Tardiness Policy

I will take attendance every day. I will not take points off for poor attendance, but missing too many classes will affect your grade, because you’ll miss in-class assignments that you cannot make up. Be on time! Assignments are explained at the start of the class, so don’t miss the most important part.

**Submitting Assignments**

All assignments will be due on their due date by 11:59pm that night. All work will be submitted online through Canvas. Your online assignments must be in .pdf, .doc, or .docx format and follow conventional MLA standards.

If you do not have ready access to the internet, in a way that will prevent you from successfully completing assignments, please inform me at the start of the term so that we can discuss alternatives.

## Testing

Final exam: Monday 12/9, noon – 12:50 p.m., and Tuesday 12/10, 11:30 a.m. - 12:20 p.m. **Students must test both days.**

## Grading

Assignments are graded using four criteria: 1) Quality of logic/ developing an idea, 2) Organization and clarity, 3) Style and originality, 4) grammar and formatting, according to the following standards (note: detailed assignment prompts and grade guides will be given for each assignment):

* A = 90-100% Excellent Work
* B = 80-89% Good Work
* C = 70-79% Average Work
* D = 60-69% Poor Work
* F = 0-59% Failing Work

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Letter Grade | Percentage | Performance |
| A | 90-100% | Excellent Work |
| B | 80-89% | Good Work |
| C | 70-79% | Average Work |
| D | 60-69% | Poor Work |
| F | 0-59% | Failing Work |

### Late Assignment Policy

Be sure you are planning accordingly in order to get your work in on time. ***Late work will lose 5% of its total grade for each day it is late.*** If an assignment has not been turned in within four days of its due date, I will no longer accept it unless you discuss with me. This is to ensure that you don’t fall too far behind. If you are concerned that you will not be able to make a due date, please let me know so we can work together on solutions. Keeping in contact with your instructor is key!

# College Policies

## LBCC Email and Course Communications

You are responsible for all communications sent via Canvas 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 Canvas account through Canvas.

## Disability and Access Statement

Students who may need accommodations due to documented disabilities, who have medical information which the instructor should know, or who need special arrangements in an emergency should speak with their instructor during the first week of class. If you believe you may need accommodations but are not yet registered with the Center for Accessibility Resources (CFAR), please visit the [**CFAR Website**](https://www.linnbenton.edu/cfar) for steps on how to apply for services or call [(541) 917-4789](tel:5419174789).

## 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.

## 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](https://linnbenton-advocate.symplicity.com/public_report/index.php/pid073717?) 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.

## Public Safety/Campus Security/[Emergency Resources](http://www.linnbenton.edu/public-safety-emergency-planning):

In an emergency, call 911. Also, call LBCC Campus Security/Public Safety at [541-926-6855](tel:(541)%20926-6855) and [541-917-4440](tel:(541)%20917-4440).

From any LBCC phone, you may alternatively dial extension 411 or 4440. LBCC has a [public safety app](http://lbccpublicsafety.mobapp.at/landing/Desktop) available for free. We encourage people to download it to their cell phones. Public Safety also is the home for LBCC's Lost & Found. They provide escorts for safety when needed. Visit them to learn more.

# Campus Resources

## Writing Center and OWL (Online Writing Lab)

From invention to revision, beginning to end, the LBCC Writing Center can help you take your writing to the next level. Please feel free to drop in during regular hours to work one-on-one with a Writing Assistant. In addition to your draft, bring your assignment and any questions you have. You may also submit your writing online at lbcc.writingcenteronline.net where you will get a personalized response within 2-3 business days. www.linnbenton.edu/go/learning-center/writinghelp

# Tips for Success in This Class

1. Attend class!
2. Be prepared for class by completing assignments & readings. The class experience will be richer for you when you have the background information needed.
3. Challenge yourself to do your best work. You will get from this class what you put into this class.
4. Review the syllabus and learn the policies/procedures for this class. Understand your rights and responsibilities as a student and as a class member.
5. Ask questions, especially if you need clarification.

# 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 in class, through a Canvas Announcement, or through LBCC e-mail.

**Class Calendar**

Week 1: Rhetorical needs (audience, purpose/ outcome, subject, author, time, venue)

Week 2: Clarity and Organization, (thesis, introduction, conclusion)

Week 3: Analysis and Analytical Writing**, Essay #1 due**

Week 4: Persuasive Writing (elements of argument, claim, evidence, synthesis, rebuttal)

Week 5: Research (finding and evaluating sources)

Week 6: Integrating sources (quoting, summary, paraphrasing) **Essay #2 due**

Week 7: Academic Writing **NO CLASS 11/11**

Week 8: Annotation, works cited, MLA format

Week 9: Peer review, revising, **Essay #3 due**

Week 10: Practice Final

Final: Monday 12/9 noon – 12:50 p.m. and Tuesday 12/10, 11:30 a.m. - 12:20 p.m. **Students must test both days.**

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| Week | Readings | Activities | Due dates |
| 1 | *Seagull:* W16- Reading strategies, W1- Writing contexts *Seagull:* W8- Rhetorical Analyses | Context, Writing Center |  |
| 2 | *Seagull:* W3- Writing Processes, W4- Developing Paragraphs, *They Say:* 101-116 | Organization |  |
| 3 | "'This is America': Breaking Down Childish Gambino's Powerful New Music Video" by Sonia Rao (on Canvas) | Analysis | Essay #1 due 10/20 |
| 4 | *Seagull*: W7- Arguments, R3- Synthesizing Ideas, *They Say*: 91-99, 77-90 | Building an argument, “Don’t Blame the Eater” reverse outline |  |
| 5 | *Seagull*: R1- Doing research, R2- Evaluating sources. *They Say*: 19-51 | Research, Research librarians |  |
| 6 | *Seagull*: R4- Integrating Sources, Avoiding Plagiarism. *They Say*: 53-73 | Research | Essay #2 due 11/10 |
| 7 | *Seagull*: W2- Academic contexts. *They Say:* 117-130 | Language and audience, sample academic essay breakdown |  |
| 8 | *Seagull*: W14- Annotated Bibliographies, MLA Style | Annotations, Purdue OWL |  |
| 9 | *Seagull*: Editing the Errors  That Matter, *They Say:* 141-161 | Peer review | Essay #3 due 12/1 |
| 10 |  | Practice Final |  |
| Final |  | **MUST TEST BOTH DAYS** | 12/9 &12/10 |