

**WR 115/121—Accelerated Learning Program—Spring 2015**

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| **Professor:** Dr. Nicholson | **CRN:** 47100, 48823 |
| **Email:** nicholb@linnbenton.edu | **Days:** Tuesdays and Thursdays |
| **Office:** SSH-212 | **Times:** 2:30 to 3:50 |
| **Office Hours:** T R 4:00 to 5:00 | **Room:** IA-219 |

Greetings! You are here because you chose to be here! Isn’t that profound? It is indeed profound because you have chosen to take on the challenge of accelerating your writing performance by combining two terms into one—and I am here to make sure that you succeed in your quest!

The following is what I expect from you in addition to what I expect from you for the WR 121 portion of your coursework. Again, fear not! I’ll be with you guiding you closely all the way. *Your* success is my ultimate goal!

**Attendance—**

* Because this is an accelerated course, your attendance is absolutely vital.
* If you know for a fact that you cannot attend class because of a work conflict, a family emergency, or something of a monumentally deleterious nature, please email me at the email address listed on the class information chart above as soon as you are able.
* Trust me, I know how important receiving a paycheck is. However, you should have made certain that you won’t have any work conflicts *before* you enrolled in this course.
* 20% of your course grade will be based upon your class participation, which in many ways is a euphemism for attendance. Thus, attendance is absolutely vital.

**Two Summary and Response Essays—**

* Much of the course content of WR 115 focuses on writing college level summary and response essays.
* In addition to the three essays that you will be writing for the WR 121 course, you will be writing two brief summary and response essays.
* Don’t panic! Your two summary and response essays will be brief in nature.
* 30% of your course grade will be based on your two summary and response essays.

**Weekly Writings—**

* As with every skill one obtains in life, one becomes a better writer through practice.
* The weekly writings will be graded separately from the essay writings.
* The topics of the weekly writing assignments will vary wildly.
* 20% of your course grade will be based on your weekly writings.

**Grammar Workshop and Quizzes—**

* Everyone loves grammar!
* We will work on some fundamental aspects of grammar throughout the course, such as how to avoid writing run-on sentences, comma splices, and fragment sentences, in addition to learning basic college level grammatical conventions.
* 30% of your course grade will be based on your grammar quizzes.

Your attendance, your two summary and response essays, your weekly writings, and your grammar quizzes will be assessed in addition to the three essays you will be writing for WR 121. **Also, you will be taking the final exam that is required of all WR 121 students, and you will need to pass the final exam in order to receive credit for the WR 121 portion of the class.** Again, don’t fear! The whole purpose of the Accelerated Learning Program is to give you the skills to pass WR 115 and WR 121 in half the time that it normally takes. And again—I’ll do everything possible to help you succeed!

**Student Learning Outcomes**

1. *Analyze the* *rhetorical needs* (the interaction of audiences, purpose/outcome, and subject) of a variety of academic and practical writing assignments.
2. *Apply appropriate levels of critical thinking strategies* (knowledge, comprehension, application, analysis, synthesis, evaluation) in response to the rhetorical needs of an assignment.
3. *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.
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 their ideas clearly and effectively using words, sentence patterns, and writing conventions to make their writing clear, credible, and persuasive.