

Instructor: Dr. Ramycia McGhee Phone: 541-917-4733

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Office hours: **Thursday 11:30pm-12:30pm or by appointment only**

Course Information:

CRN: 45232

Class time: 9:15 AM-11:30 AM

Location: Monday & Wednesday

Strongly recommended:

- A memory device (flash drive, USB) to save all your work or access to a google drive to save your work.

### **Cornerstone Project**

This class is part of the LBCC Cornerstone Project class sequence. It will give you an opportunity to broaden your understanding of the world and yourself while strengthening your skills to read closely, write clearly, speak with confidence, and contend with differing viewpoints and perspectives. These skills will prepare you for careers and university coursework.

An important part of our work will be reading and discussing a transformative text—a text that has transformed both individuals and the world. We will read Letter from Birmingham Jail, by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and relate it to issues in our lives today. Be ready to experience uncertainty and ambiguity, and to grapple with questions that don't always have obvious or unanimous answers.

The Cornerstone Project includes select LB classes in Communication, Writing, Humanities, Art and Music. Students that take three Cornerstone Project classes will receive the Cornerstone Liberal Arts Award which is great to add to your resume.

### **Course Overview**

Welcome to WR121! This term you will get lots of practice writing and learning to write well—like any skill--takes frequent practice, commitment, a positive attitude, and patience! Your writing this term should and will reflect critical thinking as well as thoughtful response and analysis. Stretch the boundaries of what you have thought and learned in the past and be open to new ideas and different perspectives. To support that process, you will be reading, responding to, and analyzing a variety of essays throughout the term. I look forward to working with each of you for the next ten weeks as you work on your writing and hone your reading and thinking skills. Please feel free to reach out to me via email, office hours, or at appropriate times in class.

### **Course Outcomes**

(READ CAREFULLY! You will be evaluated on each of these categories for major writing assignments)

(Note: in addition to these broader course outcomes, you will be expected to demonstrate competence in a range of more specific course objectives.)

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.

### **Attendance / Participation and Time Management**

Attendance is crucial for many reasons. In this class, the expectations are to

- Plan to attend every class
- Be on time
- Be prepared and organized
- Ask questions
- Actively participate i.e. class discussions, readings, etc.
- If you miss a class, you are responsible for getting the missed information.
- Organize and plan your time wisely.
- Complete assignments on time and in their entirety
- Get to know someone in class, this may be a challenge but try anyway.

### **PLEASE COMPLETE ASSIGNED READINGS AND ASSIGNED WRITING ASSIGNMENTS PRIOR TO ATTENDING CLASS**

The LBCC community is enriched by diversity of all kinds. We all share the privilege of thinking, learning, and working together in an encouraging environment. In our classroom community, we will work toward creating and enjoying a community of mutual respect, appreciation, and goodwill.

Additional Guidelines:

- Do your work on time. Our class is organized around comprehensive revision: thus, your rough drafts and final papers need to be on time.
- **Academic integrity.** Students are expected to adhere to high standards of honesty in their academic endeavor. Plagiarism and cheating of any kind are serious violations of these standards and will result, minimally, in the grade of "F" by the instructor. Simply put: Don't plagiarize (using someone else's work as your own without proper in-text citations and documentation).

### **CHAT GPT:**

Things you can do: ask ChatGPT questions! When you read what it says, keep in mind that it's probably at least 60-70% correct, but perhaps not more than that. Given that you're considering whatever IT told you with a big grain of salt, you'll then need to do some research to find peer reviewed and reliable evidence that might corroborate (or disagree with!) what the AI tool told you. Use those articles to find other articles that consider the same question (review the citation list for other articles to read). Either before or after you ask ChatGPT a question, try a google search with the same sort of query and see what it turns up; also, try a search on the LBCC library system. Review, compare, and investigate. Repeat this cycle, keeping in mind that what you're getting from **AI is crowdsourced information, not the reliable product of research and assessment.**

Things you cannot do: Do not use ChatGPT to draft your paper. Do not use ChatGPT to give you citations. I am saying this both for purposes of coming up with reliable evidence and also from an academic integrity (i.e, cheating) standpoint. **If you didn't write it, don't put your name on it and claim that you wrote it. Don't modify a few words here and there and claim you wrote it either. Close the window before you start drafting and put the real evidence and articles you've found into your own words. Do your own analysis and critical thinking.**

- **Late Work and Make-up Assignments:** I do not except late work or give make up exams/work unless it is an emergency i.e. death in family, car accident, hospitalized. You must upload your paper to **MOODLE TURNITIN** to receive credit for assignments. I DO NOT EXCEPT EMAILED PAPERS UNLESS SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCE, EMERGENCY, OR YOU HAVE CLEARED IT WITH ME PRIOR!
- **PRACTICE FINAL EXAM Mon. May 22nd & Tues, May 23rd TIMES TBA WEEK 8**
- **FINAL EXAM Mon. June 12th Tues June 13TH TIMES TBA WEEK 11**

#### **EMAIL POLICY:**

- **I DO NOT RESPOND TO EMAILS ON THE WEEKENDS OR AFTER 5PM ON WEEKDAYS**
- **WHEN YOU EMAIL ME PLEASE INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INFO: FIRST AND LAST NAME, CLASS (WR 115 TUES/THURS 10AM) AND SPECIFIC REASON FOR YOUR EMAIL (I WOULD LIKE TO MEET TO DISCUSS THE DRAFT OF THE SECOND ESSAY ASSIGNMENT)**
- **PLEASE ALLOW ME TO RESPOND TO YOUR EMAIL WITHIN 24 HRS**
- **PLEASE REPLY TO THE EMAIL I SENT YOU SO THAT I KNOW YOU HAVE RECEIVED MY RESPONSE**

#### **COLLEGE JARGON:**

- ❖ **Drop-in hours: USUALLY HELD ON THURSDAY FROM 10AM-11:20AM. Students can come to discuss and raise any questions comments or concerns (FEEDFORWARD) about CURRENT writing assignment**
- ❖ **Office hours: Students can come to discuss current grade on a specific assignment or current overall grade in class so far, and questions about ONE future assignment**
- ❖ **Conference hours: These hours are optional and ONLY occur a week before the FINAL EXAM thus students will receive individual tips on specific things they can do to improve their scores on the final exam (time management, thesis clarity, support from source essay and how to strongly incorporate it, etc.)**

**A successful student in this class will do the following:**

- ✓ **ATTEND ALL VIRTUAL CLASS MEETING TIMES**
- ✓ **ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE, VIA GROUP DISCUSSIONS, CLASS DISCUSSIONS, & PREPAREDNESS, ETC.**
- ✓ **ACTIVELY LISTEN**

- ✓ READ ALL MOODLE ANNOUCEMENTS
- ✓ DO ALL REQUIRED WRITING ASSIGNMENTS TO THE BEST OF THEIR ABILITY QUALITY OVER QUANTITY
- ✓ INCORPORATE CHANGES THEY HAVE RECEIVED FROM DR. MCGHEE IN TO FINAL DRAFTS OF REQUIRED WRITING ASSIGNMENTS
- ✓ REVIEW NOTES FROM THE PREVIOUS CLASS SESSION
- ✓ TAKE ADEQUATE NOTES DURING CLASS
- ✓ FIND A STUDY PARTNER IN CLASS
- ✓ UTILIZE THE WRITIG CENTER & LEARNING FROM THE BEGINNING TO THE END OF THE TERM or TAs
- ✓ ASK QUESTIONS

#### Campus Resources

◆ LIBRARY (917-4638)

#### ◆ 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. You may submit your writing online at [lbcc.writingcenteronline.net](http://lbcc.writingcenteronline.net) where you will get a personalized response within 1 – 2 business days. [www.linnbenton.edu/go/learningcenter/writinghelp](http://www.linnbenton.edu/go/learningcenter/writinghelp)

**Writing Center Assistants and Writing Peer Tutors will provide assistance (not copy editing, not correcting!) with specific paragraph and essay assignments.**

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#### GRADING

Final Exam (30%) 4=A

In class writing assignments (40%) 3=B

Homework writing assignments (20%) 2=C

Participation (10%) 1=D

0=F

#### Center for Accessibility Resources (CFAR):

- You have a documented disability and need accommodations,
- I need to know medical information about you, or
- You need special arrangements in the event of an emergency.

If you believe you may need accommodation services, please contact the Center for Accessibility Resources, 541-917-4789. If you have documented your disability, remember that you must make your request for accommodations through the Center for Accessibility Resources Online Services webpage every term in order to receive accommodations. (*Additional note:* It is no longer necessary to obtain a doctor's note to get accommodations).

TENATIVE Topical Outline / Course Calendar:

<p>Week 1</p>	<p>Introduction to Zoom online format, syllabus, guidelines, paper format</p> <p>Your voice as a writer</p> <p>Prewriting Strategies</p>
<p>Week 2</p>	<p>Annotation lecture</p> <p>Annotation activity</p>
<p>Week 3</p>	<p>Formulating a thesis and Different types of thesis statements</p> <p>Thesis statement Activity</p> <p>Introductions &amp; Conclusions</p> <p>Organization; Transitional words &amp; phrases</p>
<p>Week 4</p>	<p>Revising, Editing, and Proofreading</p> <p>In class revising and editing activity</p> <p>APA Format Lecture</p>
<p>Week 5</p>	<p>Intro to to Letter from Birmingham Jail and it's themes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Racism</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Justice</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Religion</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Extremism</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> None violence</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Humanity</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Action</li> </ul> <p>Different types of Essays</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Descriptive</li> <li>✓ Narrative</li> <li>✓ Example</li> <li>✓ Division or Analysis</li> </ul> <p>ARGUMENT PERSUASION</p>
<p>Week 6</p>	<p>Integrating Text</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Summarizing</li> <li>▪ Quoting</li> <li>▪ Paraphrasing</li> </ul>

Week 7	Revising and editing Self Review activity
Week 8	Practice Final Exam
Week 9	Results of Practice Final and ONE on ONE conferences
Week 10	Final Exam Preparation
Week 10	Final Exam