

Writing 3400G

Writing Difference



Professor Jeremy Greenway

Winter 2022



Writing Difference

1. Course Information

Writing 3400G (550)

Instructor: Jeremy Greenway

Contact Information: jgreenwa@uwo.ca

Office: A104

Office Hours: by appointment

Class Location: H227

Scheduled Class Times: Mondays 6:30pm-9:30pm

Prerequisites: At least 65% in one of Writing 1020F/G, Writing 1022F/G, Writing 1025F/G, Writing 2111F/G, Writing 2131F/G, the former Writing 2121F/G, or permission of the instructor.

2. Course Description

This course will examine issues of authority, intersectionality, unconscious bias, and the rhetoric of difference. Students will develop practical and academic literacies for writing across and through public arenas of meaning that are often constructed through differences in social and political power.

3. Learning Outcomes

Students learn about the impact of linguistic consciousness on different genres of writing.

Students will learn to distinguish their writing voices from the voices of others while forging a connection between the two that produces cohesive academic discourse.

Students will make use of learned discursive strategies to communicate across and through various worldviews.

Students will identify the ways in which writing produces empowering and enlightening ways of thinking about social issues, community engagement, and contemporary cultures.

Students will design and participate in a collaborative teaching and learning project that brings to light current issues in writing about difference.

4. Textbooks and Course Materials

Don LePan, Laura Buzzard, and Maureen Okun, *How to Be Good with Words* (Broadview, 2017)

Gregory Younging, *Elements of Indigenous Style* (Brush, 2018)

Available at the [Western Bookstore](#)

All other readings are available on OWL.

5. Methods of Evaluation

Seminar	weekly (signup)	20%
Seminar Essay	due 1 week after seminar	15%
Ngram Assignment	due in weeks 4-6	10%
Research Essay	due in week 10	25%
Collaborative Teaching & Learning Project	due in week 12	30%

Note that there is no final exam in this course.

6 Tentative Class Schedule / Syllabus

Weekly writing themes are based on readings from the course's primary texts, *How to Be Good with Words* (HBGW) and, in Week 3, *Elements of Indigenous Style*

Week 1 January 10 General Principles

Introduction to the course
Writing the Class Policy Statement
Maxine Hairston, "Diversity, Ideology, and Teaching Writing" (OWL)
John Trimbur et al., "Responses to Maxine Hairston" (OWL)

Week 2 January 17 Politically Correct?

HBGW pp. 211-240
Julia Symons, "Has Political Correctness Gone Too Far?" (OWL)
Jordan Peterson, "Political Correctness and Postmodernism" (OWL—video)
Scheduling Ngram Assignments

Week 3 January 24 Writing About Indigeneity

Gregory Younging, *Elements of Indigenous Style*
Seminar 1:

Week 4 January 31 Writing About Class and Disability

HBGW pp. 27-44
Jay Dolmage, "Disabled Upon Arrival: The Rhetorical Construction of Disability and Race at Ellis Island" (OWL)
Paul Lauter, "Under Construction: Working Class Writing" (OWL)
Seminar 2:
Ngrams 1-3:

Week 5 February 7 Writing About Gender

HBGW pp. 45-75
Colleen Flaherty, "The Trans Divide" (OWL)
Julian Baggini, review of Kathleen Stock's *Material Girls* (OWL)
Seminar 3:
Ngrams 4-6:

Week 6 February 14 Writing About Humans and Other Animals

HBGW pp. 77-88
Rosina Lippi-Green, from *English with an Accent: "The Linguistic Facts of Life"* (OWL)
Nik Taylor and Richard Twine, "Introduction: Locating the 'Critical' in Critical Animal Studies" (OWL)
Seminar 4:
Ngrams 7-9:

February 19-27 Winter Reading Week

Week 7 February 28 Writing About Race

HBGW pp. 91-131
Chimamanda Adichie, "The Danger of a Single Story" (TEDGlobal)
Toni Morrison, "Nobel Prize Lecture" (NobelPrize.org)
Wendy Ryden & Ian Marshall, "Where Has All the Whiteness Gone?" (OWL)
Seminar 5:

Week 8	March 7	Writing About Religion	
<i>HBGW</i> pp. 135-148			
Christopher Hitchens, from <i>God is Not Great</i> : Chapter 1, “Putting it Mildly” (OWL)			
Peter James, from <i>God is Great!:</i> Chapter 1, “List of YouTube Debates,” and Chapter 2, “Why Not Use the Bible?” (OWL)			
<i>Seminar 6:</i>			
Week 9	March 14	Writing About Sexuality	
<i>HBGW</i> pp. 151-161			
Meg-John Barker and Julia Scheele, from <i>Queer: A Graphic History</i> (OWL)			
Adam Isaiah Green, “Gay but Not Queer: Toward a Post-Queer Study of Sexuality” (OWL)			
<i>Seminar 7:</i>			
<i>Seminar 8:</i>			
Week 10	March 21	Writing About Political Controversies	ESSAY DUE
<i>HBGW</i> pp. 163-194			
Kenneth Tucker, “The Political is Personal, Expressive, Aesthetic, and Networked: Contemporary American Languages of the Self from Trump to Black Lives Matter” (OWL)			
<i>Seminar 9:</i>			
Week 11	March 28	CTLP Workshop Class	
Week 12	April 4	Catch-Up, Review, Final Thoughts	CTLP DUE
<i>HBGW</i> pp. 195-209			

7. Instructor Policies

- a) Scheduling seminar and assignment dates is an intricate endeavour; as such, please commit to and adhere to all deadlines. Your classmates are depending on you. Unless you have accommodations that stipulate otherwise, missed presentations cannot be made up. If an unexpected conflict arises, it’s your responsibility to switch places with a classmate. Late written assignments are subject to a penalty of 5% per day. No assignments will be accepted after the seventh day.
- b) I’m here for you. When you email, please include the course code in the subject line. I do my best to respond as promptly as possible—within 24 hours during normal workdays. In general, I try to avoid email in the evenings, but if you need to tell me something that is time sensitive, in general I will see the email and you’ll hear back from me early the next morning. If you have questions that might best be answered fulsomely, I’d ask that you please call, Zoom, or visit me instead.
- c) As this is a 3000-level, Honours-designated course, I expect you to fulfill your course obligations outside of our weekly class meetings. I guarantee we won’t be able to discuss *all* the reading material each week, but that doesn’t mean you shouldn’t know it. At this stage of your education, it’s a given that you’ll complete the readings to the best of your ability and have something to say about them in class. There is no participation grade in this course because participation is just expected.

- d) This course is designed to resonate far beyond its twelve-week timeline. It also deals with some heavy material at times. The spirits of collegiality and empathy will carry us. Debate, disagreement, and even feelings of frustration will happen, but I won't tolerate any form of disrespect. We may not feel the same way about some things, but we are obligated as good scholars and citizens to seek to understand one another's positions. In our first class, we will compose a Class Policy Statement to help guide us.



Appendix to Course Outlines: Academic Policies & Regulations 2021 - 2022

Mandatory Use of Masks in Classrooms

Students will be expected to wear triple layer non-medical masks at all times in the classroom as per Huron policy and public health directives. Students are now permitted to drink water in class by lifting and replacing the mask each time a drink is taken. Students will be able to eat and drink outside of the classroom during scheduled breaks.

Students unwilling to wear a mask as stipulated by Huron policy and public health directives will be referred to the Dean's Office, and such actions will be considered a violation of the Huron Student Code of Conduct.

Pandemic Contingency

In the event of a COVID-19 resurgence during the course that necessitates the course delivery moving away from face-to-face interaction, all remaining course content will be delivered entirely online, typically using a combination of synchronous instruction (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) and asynchronous material (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). Any remaining assessments will also be conducted online at the discretion of the course instructor. In the unlikely event that changes to the grading scheme are necessary, these changes will be clearly communicated as soon as possible.

Student Code of Conduct

Membership in the community of Huron University College and Western University implies acceptance by every student of the principle of respect for the rights, responsibilities, dignity and well-being of others and a readiness to support an environment conducive to the intellectual and personal growth of all who study, work and live within it. Upon registration, students assume the responsibilities that such registration entails. While in the physical or online classroom, students are expected to behave in a manner that supports the learning environment of others. Please review the Student Code of Conduct at:

<https://huronatwestern.ca/sites/default/files/Res%20Life/Student%20Code%20of%20Conduct%20-%20Revised%20September%202019.pdf>.

Prerequisite and Antirequisite Information

Students are responsible for ensuring that they have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that they have not completed any course antirequisites. Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Attendance Regulations for Examinations

A student is entitled to be examined in courses in which registration is maintained, subject to the following limitations:

- 1) A student may be debarred from writing the final examination for failure to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year.
- 2) Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course. The Dean of the Faculty offering the course will communicate that decision to the Dean of the Faculty of registration.

Review the policy on Attendance Regulations for Examinations here:

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/exam/attendance.pdf.

Statement on Academic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following website:

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf. The

appeals process is also outlined in this policy as well as more generally at the following website:

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/appealsundergrad.pdf.

Turnitin.com

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com

(<http://www.turnitin.com>).

Statement on Use of Electronic Devices

It is not appropriate to use electronic devices (such as, but not limited to, laptops, cell phones) in the classroom for non-classroom activities. Such activity is disruptive and distracting to other students and to the instructor, and can inhibit learning. Students are expected to respect the classroom environment and to refrain from inappropriate use of technology and other electronic devices in class.

Statement on Use of Personal Response Systems (“Clickers”)

Personal Response Systems (“clickers”) may be used in some classes. If clickers are to be used in a class, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the device is activated and functional. Students must see their instructor if they have any concerns about whether the clicker is malfunctioning. Students must use only their own clicker. If clicker records are used to compute a portion of the course grade:

- the use of somebody else’s clicker in class constitutes a scholastic offence
- the possession of a clicker belonging to another student will be interpreted as an attempt to commit a scholastic offence.

Academic Consideration for Missed Work

Students who are seeking academic consideration for missed work during the semester may submit a self-reported absence form online provided that the absence is **48 hours or less** and the other conditions specified in the Senate policy at

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf are met.

Students whose absences are expected to last **longer than 48 hours**, or where the other conditions detailed in the policy are not met (e.g., work is worth more than 30% of the final grade, the student has already used 2 self-reported absences, the absence is during the final exam period), may receive academic consideration

by submitting a Student Medical Certificate (for illness) or other appropriate documentation (for compassionate grounds). The Student Medical Certificate is available online at https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf.

All students pursuing academic consideration, regardless of type, must contact their instructors no less than 24 hours following the end of the period of absence to clarify how they will be expected to fulfill the academic responsibilities missed during their absence. **Students are reminded that they should consider carefully the implications of postponing tests or midterm exams or delaying submission of work, and are encouraged to make appropriate decisions based on their specific circumstances.**

Students who have conditions for which academic accommodation is appropriate, such as disabilities or ongoing or chronic health conditions, should work with Accessible Education Services to determine appropriate forms of accommodation. Further details concerning policies and procedures may be found at: <http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/>.

Policy on Academic Consideration for a Medical/ Non-Medical Absence

(a) Consideration on Medical Grounds for assignments worth *less than 10%* of final grade: Consult Instructor Directly and Contact Academic Advising

When seeking consideration on **medical grounds** for assignments worth *less than 10%* of the final course grade, and if the student has exceeded the maximum number of permissible Self-Reported absences, the student should contact the instructor directly. The student need only share broad outlines of the medical situation. The instructor **may** require the student to submit documentation to the academic advisors, in which case she or he will advise the student and inform the academic advisors to expect documentation. If documentation is requested, the student will need to complete and submit the [Student Medical Certificate](#). The instructor may not collect medical documentation. The advisors will contact the instructor when the medical documentation is received, and will outline the severity and duration of the medical challenge as expressed on the Student Medical Certificate and in any other supporting documentation. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified of the presence of medical documentation, and will be instructed to work as quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation.

(b) Consideration on Non-Medical Grounds: Consult Huron Support Services/Academic Advising, or email huronsss@uwo.ca.

Students seeking academic consideration for a **non-medical** absence (e.g. varsity sports, religious, compassionate, or bereavement) will be required to provide appropriate documentation where the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence have not been met, including where the student has exceeded the maximum number of permissible Self-Reported. All consideration requests must include a completed [Consideration Request Form](#). Late penalties may apply at the discretion of the instructor.

Please review the full policy on Academic Consideration for medical and non-medical absence at: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf. Consult [Huron Academic Advising](#) at huronsss@uwo.ca for any further questions or information.

Support Services

For advice on course selections, degree requirements, and for assistance with requests for medical accommodation, students should email an Academic Advisor in Huron's Student Support Services at huronsss@uwo.ca. An outline of the range of services offered is found on the Huron website at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/>.

Department Chairs, Program Directors and Coordinators are also able to answer questions about individual programs. Contact information can be found on the Huron website at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/contact/faculty-staff-directory/>.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your workload is not manageable, you should

consult your Academic Advisor. If you are considering reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines. Please refer to the Advising website, <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/academic-advising/> or review the list of official Sessional Dates on the Academic Calendar, available here: <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/SessionalDates.cfm>.

You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP and/or Scholarship/Bursary eligibility.

Huron Student Support Services: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/>

Office of the Registrar: <https://registrar.uwo.ca/>

Student Quick Reference Guide: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/#1>

Academic Support & Engagement: <http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/>

Huron University College Student Council: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/beyond-classroom/hucsc/>

Western USC: <http://westernusc.ca/your-services/#studentservices>

Mental Health & Wellness Support at Huron and Western

University students may encounter setbacks from time to time that can impact academic performance. Huron offers a variety of services that are here to support your success and wellbeing. Please visit <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life-campus/student-services/wellness-safety> for more information or contact staff directly:

Wellness Services: huronwellness@huron.uwo.ca

Community Safety Office: safety@huron.uwo.ca

Chaplaincy: gthorne@huron.uwo.ca

Additional supports for Health and Wellness may be found and accessed at Western through, <https://www.uwo.ca/health/>.