Writing 2101F

Expository Writing



Professor Jeremy Greenway

Fall 2021

Tuesdays 11:30am-1:30pm Thursdays 11:30am-12:30pm

H111





Writing 2101F – Expository Writing Fall 2021

1. Course Information

Writing 2101F (550) Instructor: Jeremy Greenway Contact Information: jgreenwa@uwo.ca Office: A104 Office Hours: Mondays & Thursdays 12:30pm-2:30pm Class Location: H111 Scheduled Class Times: Tuesdays 11:30am-1:30pm & Thursdays 11:30am-12:30pm Prerequisites/Antirequisites: None

2. Course Description

An introduction to the basic principles and techniques of good writing. The course will emphasize practical work and the development of writing skills for a variety of subjects and disciplines. Using an issues-based approach, Writing 2101F teaches students to synthesize higher order scholarly thinking with writing that appeals to diverse audiences and perspectives, thus fulfilling a mandate to bridge academic discourse with the community, while encouraging students to think creatively through challenging questions.

3. Learning Outcomes

Students will begin to understand the varying methods of producing expository writing, making use of techniques such as description, narration, explication, and analysis.

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 begin to recognize and make use of various discursive strategies to produce different effects on their reading audiences.

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

4. Textbooks and Course Materials

Gerald Graff and Cathy Birkenstein. *They Say/I Say: The Moves That Matter in Academic Writing*. 5th ed. New York: Norton, 2021. <u>Available here</u> (either eBook or print version is fine)

All other readings are posted on OWL under "Readings."

5. Methods of Evaluation

Process Analysis	Oct 7	15%
Writing Portfolio	Nov 25	30%
Research Essay	Dec 7	25%
Explication	scheduled	20%
Attendance/Participation	ongoing	10%

Note that there is no final exam in this course.

6.	Tentative Class Schedule / Syl	llabus
	TSIS: They Say/I Say	OWL: reading available on OWL in "Readings" folder

- Sept 9 Introduction/Entering the Conversation TSIS: p. 1-18
- Sept 14, 16 Starting with What Others Are Saying The Idea of a University: Why Are You Here? TSIS: p. 19-31 TSIS: Gerald Graff, "Hidden Intellectualism" (p. 291-297)
- Sept 21, 23 The Art of Summarizing
 What Does it Mean to be Activist?
 TSIS: p. 32-46
 TSIS: Michelle Alexander, "The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness" (p. 298-311)
- Sept 28, 30 The Art of Quoting Is There a Relationship Between Language and Power? TSIS: p. 47-56 TSIS: Coryell, "All Words Matter: The Manipulation behind 'All Lives Matter' (p. 312-325)
- Oct 5, 7 Three Ways to Respond Process Analysis Due How Do We Feel About Automation? TSIS: p. 57-71 TSIS: Littman, "'Rise of the Machines' Is Not a Likely Future" (p. 326-330)
- Oct 12, 14 Distinguishing What You Say from What They Say (How) Does Democracy Work? TSIS: p. 72-81 TSIS: Reid, "The Electoral College Embodies American Ideals" (p. 331-338)
- Oct 19, 21 Planting a Naysayer in Your Text Is Healthy Eating a Social or Personal Responsibility? TSIS: p.82-95 OWL: Pollan, "Escape from the Western Diet"

Oct 26, 28 Saying Why It Matters What is the Relationship Between Eating and Writing? TSIS: p. 96-106 OWL: reading to be posted

Nov 1-7 Fall Reading Week

- Nov 9, 11 Connecting the Parts How Do We Measure Success? TSIS: p. 107-122 OWL: reading to be posted
- Nov 12 Last day to drop a first-term half (0.5) course without academic penalty
- Nov 16, 18 The Art of Metacommentary What Are Examples of Metacommentary in Popular Culture? TSIS: p. 138-148 OWL: Wallace, "Consider the Lobster"
- Nov 23, 25 Revising Substantially Writing Portfolio Due What is Identity, and (how) is it Made to Be Political? TSIS: 149-171 OWL: Reiner, "Teaching Men to Be Emotionally Honest"
- Nov 30, Dec 2 Various Conversations TSIS: *Browse* (don't *read!*) p. 172-287 OWL: reading to be posted
- Dec 7 Catch-up/Review/Final Thoughts

Research Essay Due

7. Assignment Notes

The **Process Analysis (15%)** assignment asks you to use a narrative approach to explain *how something works* or *how something happened*. Topic suggestions will be provided.

Your **Writing Portfolio (30%)** is a collection of short writing responses to prompts given throughout the term. You are responsible for keeping these responses collated (either digitally on OWL or in a spiral-bound notebook if you prefer to write by hand).

The **Research Essay (25%)** asks you to investigate an issue arising from a topic (topics will be provided), and then to defend an argument arising from that issue.

Each of you will present an **Explication (20%)** to the class, which is an oral version of a "teachable" concept about which you wish to educate the class. You will sign up for an explication date during the first week of class, and the concept you choose should stem from the question we are discussing in your scheduled week.

Attendance and Participation (10%) are *de facto* expectations of this course, which relies heavily on engaged discussion and debate. I monitor both weekly. Additionally, I will ask you to be self-critical by reporting to me an assessment of your contributions to the course near the end of the term.

8. Instructor Policies

- 1. You **must** submit assignments via OWL at all times. No email submissions are permitted. If you have doubts about or trouble with OWL submissions, please get in touch with me well ahead of the submission deadline and we can figure it out together.
- 2. When you email me, I will make every effort to respond to you within 24 hours—often much faster—between Monday and Friday. I realize that we all work on different schedules, and I know that your email-attentive hours may differ from mine. Typically, I try to avoid responding to email on weekends, but if you need me to know something on a Saturday or Sunday, chances are I will see it. You can expect a response Monday morning. Other modes of communication work too: if you, for example, see something interesting on Twitter or Instagram, be sure to tag @profgreenway so I can see it too!
- 3. LATE POLICY: Once you have signed up for an Explication date, you are bound to it unless there is another space available, or unless someone has agreed to switch dates with you. No extensions are permitted on Explication deadlines. Other than for reasons of academic accommodation, which must be solicited through your academic advisor, late assignments will be penalized by 5% per day (including weekends), to a maximum of seven days, at which point the assignment will not be graded. HOWEVER, if you are approaching a deadline and think you may not meet it, email me at least 24 hours before the deadline and we can work something out. Under no circumstances will I entertain an extended deadline if you email me *within* 24 hours of the deadline, or not at all. Keep tabs on yourselves.
- 4. You are welcome to meet with me during my office hours or at another mutually agreeable time. I'm afraid I'm unable to provide feedback on completed assignments prior to their submission, but I would be pleased to address specific questions you might have about your work. Please use your UWO email address when contacting me. I can't guarantee I will respond to a non-UWO address.



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

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.

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.

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

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: <a href="https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals

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: <u>http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/</u>.

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

(a) Consideration on <u>Medical Grounds</u> 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 <u>Student Medical Certificate</u>. The instructor may <u>not</u> 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 <u>Non-Medical</u> Grounds: Consult Huron Support Services/Academic Advising, or email <u>huronsss@uwo.ca</u>.

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 <u>Consideration Request Form</u>. 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: <u>https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf</u>. Consult <u>Huron Academic Advising</u> at <u>huronsss@uwo.ca</u> 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 <u>huronsss@uwo.ca</u>. An outline of the range of services offered is found on the Huron website at: <u>https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/</u>.

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: <u>https://huronatwestern.ca/contact/faculty-staff-directory/</u>.

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, <u>https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/academic-advising/</u> 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: <u>https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/</u> Office of the Registrar: <u>https://registrar.uwo.ca/</u> Student Quick Reference Guide: <u>https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/#1</u> Academic Support & Engagement: <u>http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/</u> Huron University College Student Council: <u>https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/beyondclassroom/hucsc/</u> 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 <u>https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life-campus/student-services/wellness-safety</u> for more information or contact staff directly:

Wellness Services: <u>huronwellness@huron.uwo.ca</u> Community Safety Office: <u>safety@huron.uwo.ca</u> Chaplaincy: <u>gthorne@huron.uwo.ca</u>

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