Writing 121: Academic Composition

Lane Community College

Instructor:

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| **Class Meeting Time:** | **Email:** |
| **Class Meeting Space**: | **Office**: |
| **Office Hours:** | **Phone:** |

**Prerequisite:** Appropriate Writing Placement or a passing grade (C- or better) in WR 115.

**Course Description:**WR 121 focuses on rhetorical reading, thinking, and writing as means of inquiry. Students will gain fluency with key rhetorical concepts and utilize these in a flexible and collaborative writing process, reflecting on their writing process with the goal of developing metacognitive awareness. They will employ conventions, including formal citations, appropriate for a given writing task, attending to the constraints of audience, purpose, genre, and discourse community. Students will compose in two or more genres. They will produce 3000-3500 words of revised, final draft copy or an appropriate multimodal analog for this amount of text. Students will produce at least one essay that integrates research and demonstrates an understanding of the role of an assertive thesis in an academic essay of at least 1000 words.

**Access and Accommodations:**To request assistance or accommodations, contact the Center for Accessible Resources at (541) 463-5150 or accessibleresources@lanecc.edu. Please be aware that any accessible tables and chairs in this room should remain available for authorized students who find that standard classroom seating is not usable.

**Required Materials:**

* See [Recommended Course Texts](https://sites.google.com/lanecc.edu/writing/instructor-resources/writing-instructors?authuser=0) list on [Writing@Lane](https://sites.google.com/lanecc.edu/writing/home?authuser=0) if you would like suggestions.

**Course** **Requirements**

* **Rough Drafts**: Each portion of the project will go through multiple drafts on the way to completion. Because these intermediary drafts are crucial to the writing process we will employ, attendance at workshops and completion of required drafts is mandatory. Drafts cannot be made up, and failure to attend workshop and/or failure to prepare a required draft will negatively impact your final grade in the course.
* **Informal Writings:**Reading responses, invention exercises, and other informal writings will take place both in class and as homework. I will provide you with a prompt for such writings and activities, and you will be expected to follow the guidelines laid out for each specific assignment. Unless there are extenuating circumstances, in-class writings cannot be made up. Informal writings given as homework will adhere to the normal lateness policy.
* **Group Work & Collaboration:** Thinking and communication are collaborative enterprises, and they will be treated as such in this course. You will work with peers on brainstorming activities, draft review exercises, in-class worksheets and various other assignments. Participation in such groups will inherently vary based on your individual work style and way of approaching collaborative situations, but you will be expected to contribute to group work in a way that works for you. If you have questions or concerns about individual activities, please don’t hesitate to speak to me. You will be expected to take responsibility for keeping yourself informed and up to date on what is happening in the course whether you are in attendance or not. In the event of absences or confusion, you may need to schedule an appointment with me to ensure you understand the expectations and/or requirements of a particular assignment or project.
* **Formal Writing Projects:** Information about Formal Writing Projects will be provided on assignment sheets accompanied by rubrics. **Please note, it is not possible to pass the course without completing all of the major writing assignments.** In the event of an emergency or other severe and unforeseen impediment to completion, contact me immediately.

**Grading:**

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**Course Outcomes**

1. **Rhetorical Awareness**
   1. Exhibit rhetorical awareness & develop rhetorical competence;
   2. Use key rhetorical concepts through analyzing and composing a variety of texts.
2. **Critical Thinking, Reading, and Writing:**
   1. Critically read and use college-level texts to support writing goals;
   2. Locate, evaluate, and use sources for writing goals; demonstrate an understanding of the communal and conversational nature of research;
3. **Writing Processes:**
   1. Develop and compare flexible strategies for composing processes;
   2. Collaborate in the exchange of writing as both reviewer and author, generating and evaluating feedback as part of the revision process;
   3. Use a variety of technologies in composing for different purposes and audiences.
4. **Knowledge of Conventions:**
   1. Recognize and apply the conventions of Standard Edited English;
   2. Vary text structure, paragraphing, sentence structure, and word choice appropriate to genre;
   3. Apply citation conventions.
5. **Metacognition and Transfer:**
   1. Reflect and document procedural knowledge gained in the areas of writing strategies;
   2. Discuss how to transfer and apply writing knowledge to new contexts.

**Course Policies**

* **Attendance:** Due to the collaborative nature of the course, attendance is mandatory. You will be granted four absences for emergencies or illness. Beyond that, each absence will result in a 1% deduction from your final grade. **Any student who fails to attend all sessions during the first week of class will be administratively withdrawn from the course. After the first week, dropping or withdrawing from the course is your responsibility.**Please be aware of deadlines and procedures for removing yourself from the course in the event you are not able to complete the term.
* **Punctuality:**  Please arrive on time to ensure you are attendance is accurately recorded. If you are late, please enter quietly and sit in a space that will cause minimal disruption to the class already in progress. If you arrive after roll cards have been distributed, make sure to pick yours up.
* **Participation & Preparation:** This class is designed active participation and minimal lecture, so your participation and preparation are crucial. You will be expected to arrive each day with the assigned reading and writing assignments completed. If it becomes apparent that individuals are not adequately prepared to participate in discussions, **mandatory, closed-text, pop quizzes will be instituted.**
* **Classroom Decorum:**In order to facilitate a congenial working environment, you will be expected to treat your peers, yourselves, and me with respect and dignity at all times. While debate is openly encouraged, you will be expected to engage disagreements with an open mind and a willingness to listen respectfully. In order to fully engage in such discussions, please refrain from using cell phones, classroom computers, or other devices to view non-course related materials during lecture and discussions.Failure to prepare for class or engage others respectfully will result in a mandatory conference to discuss the issues. Continued disruption or lack of preparation will result in ejection from class and possibly failing the course. All students are required to adhere to the LCC Student Code of Conduct, which can be found at <http://www.lanecc.edu/copps/student-code-conduct>.
* **Late Work Policy:**All drafts and final revisions are due on the date listed in the schedule to be turned in as indicated on Moodle and in the schedule. All work not turned in by the assigned due date will be considered late, and a penalty of 2% per business day will be assessed for up to a 25% reduction of your total score on the assignment. For example, a paper due in-class on Wednesday that is turned in during class on the following Monday will receive a 4% late penalty. In the event of personal emergencies, exceptions may be made if arrangements are made in advance of the assigned due date. **No late work will be accepted after Friday of Week 9.** If you have late work that you would like to address at that point, you should write with a request for an Incomplete grade (information from COPPS can be found on the [Lane Website](https://www.lanecc.edu/copps/documents/incomplete-grade).)
* **Plagiarism/Original Work**: All work submitted for this course must be composed by you specifically for this class. If you wish to work with materials you have used in another setting, please come see me first to ensure you are appropriately engaging this material. While you will be encouraged to complete research and review the work of other people who engage your topics or interests, you will be expected to cite any work that you incorporate into your own writing. Although most plagiarism is accidental and can be addressed through increasing your knowledge about proper citation, intentional plagiarism is a very serious offense. In the event that you intentionally pass off someone else’s work as your own, you will be subject to LCC’s plagiarism policy, which includes potentially failing the assignment and possibly the entire course and well as more severe penalties.