

Syllabus for UWXEN102

Critical Writing and Research

NOTE: This syllabus document contains the basic information of this course. The most current syllabus is available in the full course.

Course Description:

A composition course focusing on researched academic writing that presents information, ideas, and arguments. Emphasis will be on the writing process, critical thinking, and critical reading.

Prerequisites:

A grade of C or better in College Writing and Critical Reading (English 101) or exemption through a sufficiently high placement assessment.

Course Outcomes

Upon completing this course, you will be able to do the following:

- **Rhetorical Knowledge:** Make appropriate and effective rhetorical choices for producing academic, source-based texts with varying purposes and audiences
- **Critical Reading:** Evaluate, synthesize, and analyze arguments in research-based scholarly texts.
- **Academic Writing:** Write cohesive academic texts for a variety of rhetorical purposes that support complex arguments with research.
- **Research Skills:** Independently locate and analyze scholarly source-based texts appropriate for specific writing tasks and rhetorical purposes.
- **Processes:** Independently apply effective strategies in the writing and research processes, including invention, drafting, peer review, revision, and editing.
- **Composing in Electronic Environments:** Choose appropriate reading, writing, and research tools to meet the demands of writing tasks, including using scholarly databases.
- **Knowledge of Conventions:** Make appropriate and effective choices about academic writing conventions based on the audience and purpose of the

assignment, including using a formal documentation style to attribute and cite sources.

Course Requirements/Components

| TOPIC | ACTIVITIES |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| College Writing Self-Assessment Essay | Reading assignments 1 and 2, Discussions 1 and 2, Lesson 2 exercise, Self-Assessment essay draft and peer review |
| Formal Research Proposal | Reading assignments 3 and 4, Freewriting and looping exercise, Discussion 3, Preliminary research activity, Research Proposal submission |
| Rhetorical Analysis | Reading assignments 5 and 6, Discussion 4, “Preparing for Rhetorical Analysis” Activity, Reading Discussion Journal 1, Rhetorical Analysis essay draft and peer review, Midterm conference, Begin Midterm Portfolio |
| Midterm Portfolio and Self-Assessment | Reading assignment 8, Revise, edit, and submit Midterm Portfolio and Cover Letter |
| Annotated Bibliography | Reading assignments 9 and 10, Discussion 5, Source Annotation Exercise, Submit Annotated Bibliography |
| Research Review | Reading assignments 11 and 12, Discussion 6, Research Synthesis Chart, Research Review draft, peer review, and submission |
| Researched Argument | Reading assignments 13 and 14, Descriptive Outlines Parts 1 and 2 Exercise, Discussion 7, “Introductions and Conclusions” activity, Metacommentary Templates exercise, Reading Discussion Journal 2, Researched Argument draft and peer review, End-of-semester instructor conference |
| Final Portfolio and Self-Assessment | Reading assignment 15, Revise, edit, and submit Final Portfolio and Cover Letter |

Grading

The following grading scale is used to evaluate all course requirements and determine your final grade:

| Percent | Letter Grade |
|--------------|--------------|
| 93-100% | A |
| 90-92% | A- |
| 87-89% | B+ |
| 83-86% | B |
| 80-82% | B- |
| 77-79% | C+ |
| 73-76% | C |
| 70-72% | C- |
| 67-69% | D+ |
| 60-66% | D |
| 59 and under | F |