

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading assignments 1 and 2 • Unit 1 discussions (2) • Lesson 2 exercise • Self-Assessment essay draft and peer review
Formal Research Proposal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 2 reading assignments • Freewriting and looping exercise • Unit 2 discussion • Preliminary research activity • Annotated Bibliography • Research Proposal submission
Rhetorical Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 3 reading assignments and discussion • “Preparing for Rhetorical Analysis” Activity • Reading Discussion Journal 1 • Annotated Bibliography • Rhetorical Analysis essay draft and peer review • Midterm conference • Begin Midterm Portfolio
Midterm Portfolio and Self-Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading assignment 8 • Revise, edit, and submit Midterm Portfolio and Cover Letter
Research Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 5 reading assignments and discussion • Connecting Sources Activity • Research Synthesis Chart • Annotated Bibliography • Research Review draft, peer review, and submission
Researched Argument	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 6 Reading assignments and discussion • Metacommentary Template Activity • Introduction & Conclusion Activity • Descriptive Outline Activity • Reading Discussion Journal 2 • Annotated Bibliography • Researched Argument draft and peer review • End-of-semester instructor conference
Final Portfolio and Self-Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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