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.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>ACTIVITIES</th>
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| College Writing Self-Assessment Essay | • Reading assignments 1 and 2  
  • Unit 1 discussions (2)  
  • Lesson 2 exercise  
  • Self-Assessment essay draft and peer review |
| Formal Research Proposal     | • Unit 2 reading assignments  
  • Freewriting and looping exercise  
  • Unit 2 discussion  
  • Preliminary research activity  
  • Annotated Bibliography  
  • Research Proposal submission |
| Rhetorical Analysis         | • 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 | • Reading assignment 8  
  • Revise, edit, and submit Midterm Portfolio and Cover Letter |
| Research Review             | • Unit 5 reading assignments and discussion  
  • Connecting Sources Activity  
  • Research Synthesis Chart  
  • Annotated Bibliography  
  • Research Review draft, peer review, and submission |
| Researched Argument         | • 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 | • 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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>93-100%</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>90-92%</td>
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<td>59 and under</td>
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