

Writing 121

Winter Term 2015

CRN: 31468 Mon/Weds/Fri 9:00 a.m. to 9:50 a.m.

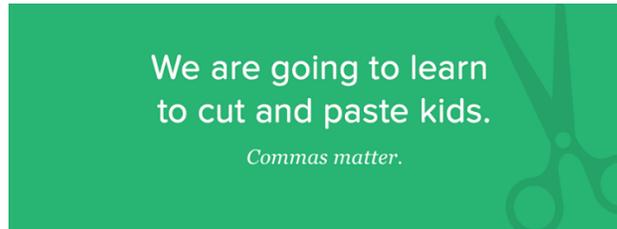
Leana Dickerson

leana.dickerson@linnbenton.edu

541.917.4551

Office Hours: M 10-11 a.m.

Office: SSH 215



Course Description:

Writing 121 is meant to provide you with ample experience with brainstorming, developing, crafting, organizing, reviewing, revising, and editing your own written work. It is not the final documents which make the grade—but the process by which you develop them.

Writing is power. What can you say with writing, and how can you say it? How many different ways can you say something, and what is the best way to portray your meaning? Being able to effectively use writing for the purpose you want is essential to good communication. Understanding how to use the conventions of writing gives you an edge, and power, that will support you in every academic and professional venture. In this course, you will have opportunities to explore and utilize writing in order to understand the writing process and to better your own academic writing skills.

Required Texts:

The Little Seagull Handbook, 2nd Edition

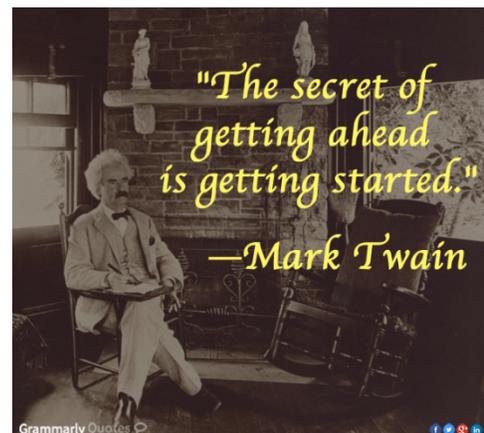
Bullock, Brody, and Weinberg

They Say / I Say, 2nd Edition

Graff, Birkenstein, and Durst

Course Goals:

- Be able to effectively communicate through writing in a variety of styles, forms, purposes, etc.
- Be able to articulate, understand, and implement methods of the writing process.
- Be able to revise, edit, and identify common issues in your own work in order to improve your writing.
- Be able to identify and utilize proper MLA format.



Course Outcomes:

The main objective of WR121 is to strengthen student proficiency in expository writing. Students will write three or more essays over the term. At least one essay must include outside research in MLA, APA, or CMS documentation. At the completion of WR121, successful students should be able to write

thoughtful expository prose, demonstrating competence in organization, mechanics, and the writing process.

Assignments:

There will be informal in-class writing, course discussion, and minimal assignments which will support the development of your thought and learning toward the completion of your individual papers. Individual papers will all have a separate assignment sheet with expectations outlined as the project approaches. As a general rule, all papers should be double spaced, 12 pt. font and will have an opportunity to be revised for the final portfolio.

Turning in Assignments:

To turn in assignments, including papers and the final portfolio— send your documents (either in .doc .x or .rtf format) via attachment in an e-mail. Please use ONLY your LBCC e-mail address and send directly ONLY to my LBCC e-mail account: leana.dickerson@linnbenton.edu. I will send you a confirmation that I received your attachments. If you do not hear from me within 4 hours of the assigned deadline, assume I have not received your paper.

Paper 1: Informative Essay

You will be writing a 3-5 page essay in an area that you know a lot about. Using details, personal examples, and your own explanation, you will inform your reader about your topic. Paper Assignment with more detail will be provided in class.

Paper 2: Compare/Contrast Opinion Essay

In this paper, which will be 3-5 pages, you will use at least one outside source such as a book, an article, a movie, or some other kind of media, to discuss your opinion in the form of a thesis, and provide at least one example of documenting and citing summarization, and at least one example of direct quotation and proper MLA citation. You will be using this paper as a way to respond and create a conversation with yourself and another writer. Paper Assignment with more detail will be provided in class.

Paper 3: Research Essay which must include a Works Cited page using correct MLA format.

You will write a 5-7 page research essay which explores a question which you pose, and the research of at least four credible sources to explain and/or support your findings. Paper Assignment with more detail will be provided in class.

Portfolio: Begin your portfolio with a 1-2 page reflection on this course. For examples, discuss what you have learned, what you have focused on, what has stood out to you, what you were surprised by, and please include reflection of how this course has developed your skills as a writer.

In your portfolio you must include this reflection and final copies of each of your three essays, including all drafts, freewriting, notes, peer reviews, or other additional materials which supported you along the development of your essays. Please do not simply turn in previous copies of your work; the point of the portfolio is to reflect on the process and improve your work in order to present it in portfolio form.

You will meet with me during week eight to conference about the progression of your portfolio; from that point you can further develop and complete your portfolio to turn in March 6th. Paper Assignment with more detail will be provided in class.

Grading:

| | |
|---|-----|
| Participation (includes attendance, in-class writing, and discussion) | 15% |
| Paper 1: Informative Essay | 10% |
| Paper 2: Compare/Contrast Essay | 10% |
| Paper 3: Research Essay | 15% |
| Portfolio | 20% |
| Final | 30% |

Final:

The department final for Writing 121 is worth 30% of your final grade for the course. During finals week, students will participate in two one-hour in-class writing sessions designed by the writing department; we will discuss details the week prior to finals.

Finals Dates:

Monday, Mar. 16th 12-12:50

Tuesday, Mar. 17th 11:30-12:20

Resources: (use them!)

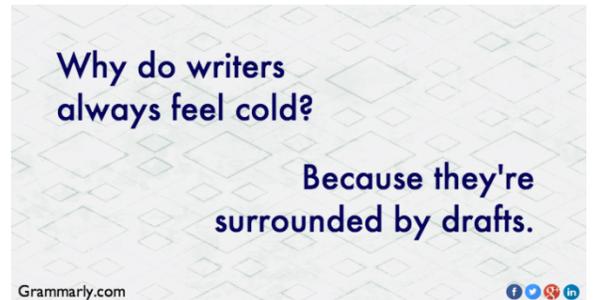
THE LIBRARY

Linn Benton Learning Center

Linn Benton Writing Center

Linn Benton Online Writing Lab (OWL)

Purdue OWL (Online Writing Lab): <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/>

**Late Work Policy:**

Things happen, emergencies come up; as long as it does not become a clear pattern, if you ask me within 24 hours notice, I will most likely provide you with an extension plan for your work. If you do not request an extension within the 24 hour period before the assignment is due, you will automatically lose one letter grade for each class period thereafter. Just don't do it.

Attendance Policy:

Attendance is considered part of your participation for this course. I will allow you three missed classes, no questions asked. Each absence after will result in the lowering of your participation grade for this course which factors into your final grade for Writing 121. If you have an emergency which may affect your ability to complete this course, please contact me as soon as possible to make arrangements.

Class Cancellation Information:

In the event that we cannot meet on campus (weather, for instance), please be sure to check your LBCC e-mail. You should receive an e-mail from me, as we will still have out-of-class work either via an assignment through e-mail or through moodle.

Electronics in the Classroom:

Please refrain from using electronics in class. I ask that you do not use a laptop or tablet to take notes as it does become a distraction not only for you, but also for your peers, as well as me. If you must make or take a phone call (or a text message), please remove yourself respectfully from class to do so.

Plagiarism:

The MOST important thing to remember when writing and studying for your own academic success, is to only claim your own thoughts and ideas. If you incorporate the work of others, you must utilize citations to provide them with the credit. Not using proper citations when using someone else's work may result in you failing the assignment and even this course. For more information about plagiarism and what plagiarism includes, please visit: <http://plagiarism.arts.cornell.edu/tutorial/index.cfm>.

Nondiscrimination Policy:

LBCC maintains a policy of nondiscrimination and equal opportunity in employment and admissions, without regard to race, color, sex, marital and/or parental status, religion, national origin, age, mental or physical disability, Vietnam era, or veteran status. (See Administrative Rule No. E029 and Board Policy Series No. 6090, found at <http://po.linnbenton.edu/BPsandARs/>).

Accessibility

You should meet with your instructor during the first week of class if:

- You have a documented disability and need accommodations,
- Your instructor needs to know medical information about you, or
- You need special arrangements in the event of an emergency.

If you believe you may need accommodation services please contact Center for Accessibility Resources, 917-4789. If you have documented your disability, remember that you must make your request for accommodations through the Center for Accessibility Resources Online Services web page every term in order to receive accommodations.

Contact:

If you need to contact me, e-mail is the best resource. I frankly do not typically utilize phone communication, but check e-mail regularly except for on weekends, evenings, and holidays. And of course, come to my office hours; they're designed for you to utilize!

Course Calendar:

For the course calendar please access the google doc found here:

<https://docs.google.com/a/linnbenton.edu/document/d/1bLj9qANCfuBdM16MmC6l6UjbA2aa2HmZX4g-mGwhMbw/edit?usp=sharing>

Please note that this google doc calendar is subject to change, and I will notify you of those changes as they become relevant.