Writing 122: English Composition II

CRN 20046 | Online

**Instructor**: Jenn Kepka

**Office**: online and by appointment

**Office Hours**: Online (to be determined in class Week 1)

**Office Phone**: Please see the course site for my cell phone number

**E-mail**: kepkaj@linnbenton.edu

*I check e-mail at least once every weekday between 8 and 5 and will do my best to respond within 24 hours. I do not check my e-mail on weekends or holidays.*

**Text messages**:

 I use the Remind App to send and receive text messages during our class. You can sign up for our class by going to this link (<https://www.remind.com/join/WR122JK>) or by texting @WR122JK to the number 81010. (If you have trouble, try texting @WR122JK to (541) 647-2306). I will only use this to text you information about our class (no jokes or funny cat videos unless they’re relevant!), and your contact information won’t be released to anyone else.

Please expect to do up to 9 hours of work for this class, much of it online, each week.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

At the completion of WR122, successful students should be able to:

1. *Analyze the* *rhetorical needs* (the needs of their audience in relationship to the assignment) for academically-oriented writing assignments.
2. *Apply appropriate levels of critical thinking strategies* (knowledge, comprehension, application, analysis, synthesis, evaluation) in their written assignments, with a focus on factual, analytical, and evaluative writing.
3. *Implement appropriate rhetorical elements and organization* (introduction, thesis, development and support, definition, narration, comparison, conclusion, etc.) in their written assignments.
4. *Locate, evaluate, and integrate* *high-quality information and opinion* appropriate for college-level informational, analytical and evaluative assignments.
5. *Craft sentences and paragraphs* that communicate their ideas clearly and effectively using words, sentence patterns, and writing conventions at a college level to make their writing clear, credible, and precise.

PREREQUISITE:

Placement in WR122 is determined by pre-enrollment testing or by passing WR121 with a grade of 'C' or better. Students may challenge their mandatory placement, with an advisor's approval, by signing a self-placement form through a counselor. Before entering WR122, students are assumed to have basic competence in grammar, mechanics, sentence structure and in developing related ideas in a unified, coherent paragraph and/or short essay. These skills may be reviewed in WR122, if needed.

MATERIALS:

We will use only Open Educational Resources for this course -- which means there are no textbook purchases required. All materials will be accessed online through Moodle.

Other Materials:

LBCC E-mail account

Regular (at least four times a week) access to a computer with a writing program and high-speed Internet access.

ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY:

All work submitted must be your own and must be original to this class. If you copy OR paraphrase from an outside source without citation, copy from or collaborate with a classmate on an explicitly individual assignment, ask anyone else to complete your written work for you, or recycle old work of your own to complete a new assignment, this is a violation of academic honesty. Violations of this nature and plagiarism will result in failure of the assignment and possible failure of the entire course. I will pursue every case of plagiarism to the fullest extent.

I will use software called TurnItIn to check for plagiarism. All of your essays will be submitted using this online tool, and both you and I will be immediately alerted to any passages that are taken directly from other sources. The process for using TurnItIn will be posted online during the first essay cycle.

Most plagiarism and cheating occurs because a student is pushed against a deadline and turns to a quick, dishonest solution instead of being honest about his or her problem with the instructor. Please talk to me if you find yourself in such stress that cheating seems like a solution.

COMMUNICATION WITH INSTRUCTOR:

Contact me immediately if you are having difficulties in class. I check and respond to my LBCC e-mail at least once a day, every weekday, and will reply to your message as soon as I am able. I check my LBCC voice mail only during office hours, but I will also reply to messages left there as soon as I can. Any changes in assignments, due dates, class meeting schedule, etc., will be announced via e-mail and the Moodle news forum. Please make sure that you either regularly check or have forwarded your @mail.linnbenton.edu e-mail address to an address you use.

**When writing an e-mail to any instructor, please include your name and the time/days of your class**. Messages sent without a signature and with text such as “wht up in class this wk” most likely won’t receive a response; in addition, messages without text that are sent with attachments will most likely end up in my spam filter.

Please remember when you’re writing your message that you’re dealing with a Class 9 Grammar Nerd. Punctuation, even when used incorrectly, is greatly appreciated; capitalization is not optional.

TECHNOLOGY and MOODLE:

Our entire class will be held through Moodle, the online course management system used at Linn Benton. You’ll need to login several times a week to complete coursework and must log in within the first few days to remain in class.

This class will make extensive use of computer writing programs (like Microsoft Word or Google Docs, both available free to all LB students) and Internet research. In addition, I will communicate with the class via e-mail and Moodle, and I may require response or submission via these media. Familiarity with and access to a reliable e-mail address and the Internet is required to succeed in this class.

Knowledge of a computer writing program is required for success in this class. Microsoft Word is the supported word processing program at LBCC, and you may use it at any of the library or lab computers. If using a word processor may be a challenge, consider taking one of LBCC’s five-week Business Technology courses before/during Writing 122.

GRADING:

Grades are as follows: A: 90-100; B: 80-89; C: 70-79; D: 60-69; F: 0-59

Your overall grade will be based *mostly* *upon your writing and writing process.*

Class Work is further divided as Writing (~60%) and Class Participation (Writing Exercises and Online homework). (~40%).

Please note: regardless of your overall grade, **you must pass all three essays with a grade of C or better to pass the course.** You will be able to revise the first two essays to receive a higher grade and will receive ample feedback along the way on drafts.

Reading Grades on Moodle:

I will update grades within 1 week of the due date (and sometimes sooner). All grades will be communicated through Moodle. Access them from the front page of Moodle by clicking on Grades in the Course Administration block (on the left side or bottom of the course page).

Grades appear like this on Moodle:

**Ungraded assignment:**



(All of the columns are blank or contain a dash mark or the word “Empty” when an assignment has not yet been graded).

**Graded assignment:**



There are six columns of information provided.

1. Name of the assignment (with a link that returns you to the assignment)
2. Calculated weight. This shows what percentage of the category’s total is currently decided by this grade. For example, during the first week, you may have only one grade for the writing category; this number will show “100%” because the one grade you have will be 100% of your current writing grade. As the class goes on, this number will change as more assignments are completed.
	1. **Note: If you see a - in a column, that means it hasn’t been completed and/or graded yet.**
3. Actual grade: You’ll see two numbers here. The first is the total points scored. The second (in parentheses) is the percentage grade. In the example here, the student earned 18 points, which was a 90%.
4. Grade range: This is how many points are available (0-20).
5. Letter grade: A-F
6. Feedback: I will often post written feedback here. You can view it in the gradebook or on the assignment page at the bottom of the page itself.
7. Percent this assignment is currently worth in the class. In the example above, this is one of only 2 assignments that have been graded -- so it is currently worth 90% of the student’s grade. These numbers will fluctuate as the course goes on and more points become available.

FORMATTING:

All assignments must be typed and submitted using MLA format. Rough drafts are unacceptable for classroom submission. The paper should be at its best before you present it to your peers or your instructor. You will receive some instruction/review on this before the first paper, but please consult the Writing Center or your 121 text/experience, too.

LATE WORK:

Late papers and assignments receive an automatic one-letter grade deduction. No assignments will be accepted after one week. Computer failure is never an excuse for a late paper. Plan ahead and save often. If you are in many classes with written assignments, please consider investing in an off-site backup program (like Dropbox.com, which allows 1GB of free space online, or Mozy.com, which allows electronic back-ups under 2GB for free) that will protect your work against crashes, viruses, fire, and theft. I have sympathy for many things; computer trouble is not one of them.

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION:

Class participation, through writing exercises, discussion forums, and other activities, makes up roughly 40 percent of your class grade. Your participation in our class is vital not only to your own learning but to that of your classmates, who will benefit from your input. Students who do not participate fully during the first week by turning in major assignments will be dropped from the course.

If you fall behind in our course, please get in touch with me.

INCLUSIVE CLASSROOM POLICIES:

LBCC is committed to inclusiveness and equal access to higher education. If you have approved accommodations through the Center for Accessibility Resources (CFAR) and would like to use your accommodations in this class, please talk to your instructor as soon as possible to discuss your needs. If you believe you may need accommodations, but are not yet registered with CFAR, please go to http://linnbenton.edu/cfar for steps on how to apply for services or call 541-917-4789.

WRITING CENTER:

From initial ideas to final drafts, the LBCC Writing Center can help you take your writing to the next level. Please feel free to drop in during regular hours to work one-on-one with one of the supportive Writing Assistants. In addition to your draft, please bring your assignment and any questions you have. You may also submit your work online. Links are available at our class Moodle site.

LBCC COMPREHENSIVE STATEMENT OF NON-DISCRIMINATION:

**LBCC Comprehensive Statement of Nondiscrimination**

LBCC prohibits unlawful discrimination based on race, color, religion, ethnicity, use of native language, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, marital status, disability, veteran status, age, or any other status protected under applicable federal, state, or local laws. For further information see Board Policy P1015 in our [Board Policies and Administrative Rules](http://linnbenton.edu/42145BA0-3DCC-11E3-AA36782BCB47BBE7). Title II, IX, & Section 504: Scott Rolen, CC-108, 541-917-4425; Lynne Cox, T-107B, 541-917-4806, LBCC, Albany, Oregon.  To report: [linnbenton-advocate.symplicity.com/public\_report](http://linnbenton-advocate.symplicity.com/public_report)