

WR 121 – English Composition & Intro to College Writing | Accelerated Learning Program (ALP)

**Fall Term 2018 / CRN 21237 & 25173 / 3 credits each (6 credits total)
Tuesdays & Thursdays 8:30am – 9:50am & 10:00am – 11:20am / NSH 107**

Instructor: Robin Cedar

Office Hours: 11:30AM – 12:30PM and 1:20pm – 2:20pm Tuesdays & Thursdays or by appointment

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Final Exam: Monday December 3, noon-12:50pm **AND** Tuesday December 4, 11:30am-12:20pm;
students must test both days

Course Description for WR 115

Introduces college-level critical inquiry in academic reading and writing. Students critically read, summarize and respond in paragraph format. Students develop expository essay writing skills, review conventions, and use individual and collaborative writing processes.

PREREQUISITE: Placement by CPT or successful completion of WR95.

Learning Outcomes for WR 115

1. Write thoughtful, clear, and focused paragraphs and essays for a variety of purposes.
2. Illustrate critical reading by clearly summarizing, paraphrasing, and directly quoting.
3. Distinguish your ideas from others' ideas.
4. Focus a main point and develop this main point clearly and logically using examples and illustrations in a well-organized essay.
5. Revise writing using standard college editing and proofreading conventions (grammar, syntax, spelling, punctuation).

Required Texts

They Say, I Say, 3rd edition (same as WR-121; you do not need to buy a separate textbook)

Required Materials

- Notebook for notes, free-writing, and writing assignments
 - 2 Green Books for final exam
 - Access to the internet and the Canvas website
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How to be Successful in this Class

1. Attend class! Each class gives necessary information for a successful completion of the course; significantly missing classes will limit your success.
2. Be prepared for class by completing assignments & readings. The class experience will be richer for you when you have the background information needed.
3. Challenge yourself to do your best work. You will get from this class what you put into this class. I do not *give* grades; you earn the grade you earn through your hard work and effort.

4. Review the syllabus and learn the policies/procedures for this class. Understand your rights and responsibilities as a student and as a class member. You are highly encouraged to keep this syllabus with you throughout the course.
 5. Ask questions, especially if you need clarification.
 6. Please visit me during my office hours, or by appointment, in order to work one-on-one with class materials and questions.
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Course Requirements

Because this WR-115 section is part of ALP and a continuation/support from WR-121, there is much carry-over between the two courses. Like WR-121, 70% of the overall grade is from course work and 30% is from the (holistically graded) exit final exam. (Note: your final exam counts towards your final grade in WR-115 **AND** WR-121. You will not be taking two separate exams.)

Summary/Responses	30%
Major Essay Rough Drafts & Group Peer Review	15%
Presentation & Participation	15%
Other Writing Tasks & In Class Work	5%
College Skills Zone Passport to Success	5%
Final Exam	30%

Grading

Assignments are graded using four criteria: 1) Quality of thinking, 2) Organization and coherence, 3) Style and technique, and 4) Use of conventions, according to the following standards (see scoring guides for more information):

90% - 100% = A	A = exceptional achievement
80% - 89% = B	B = superior achievement
70% - 79% = C	C = satisfactory work, meets requirements
60% - 69% = D	D = requirements not met, but worthy of credit
59% and below = F	F = failure to meet requirements

A note on grading: in a writing class, each assignment you turn in does not automatically begin with full points that are then docked as the teacher finds things that are wrong or missing. Rather, each assignments begins with zero points; each point awarded is earned.

Please note that I will not “round up” final grades at the end of the term, so please do not ask me. Grades *will* be calculated based on the preceding scale. 89.9% *is* a B, 79.6% *is* a C, etc. To revise any scores simply to alter a final grade defeats the purpose of the carefully-designed rubrics and policies that I must apply across the board to all assignments.

Canvas Invite Code

To join our Canvas page, follow this link: canvas.instructure.com/enroll/C6RE3A **AND** canvas.instructure.com/enroll/3CYAFF (I will share it via email, as well). Please sign up using your LBCC email. **Note that you will be joining two Canvas pages— one for WR-121 and one for ALP.**

Course Policies Specific to ALP

Note: WR-121/WR-115 class expectations are available in the WR-121 syllabus. Below is a breakdown of expectations for ALP-specific content.

Attendance: I take attendance for both WR-121 and ALP. You are expected to attend both classes both days of the week. If you know you will be missing one or both classes, please contact me. See WR-121 syllabus for specifics on attendance policy and contacting me.

Presentations: At the beginning of the term, you will be assigned a day in which you will give a short (5 minutes tops) presentation on that day's reading. More information will be forthcoming of what this will look like, but these presentations are designed to encourage discussion. This is a required task for ALP but if you have concerns about the date you are assigned or the reading itself, please contact me as soon as possible.

ALP Assignments & Readings: Because ALP is a separate class from WR-121, you will have additional tasks and assignments due *in addition to* anything due in WR-121. Please keep this in mind when planning your tasks. Some weeks, the workload can be very heavy but keep in mind that you are doing two classes worth of work for 6 credits: the workload will reflect the 6 credits.

College Skills Zone & Passport to Success: Every ALP student at LBCC is required to visit the College Skills Zone at least once per term in order to complete a task in the Passport to Success. More information will be provided in the first week of class. These passports are due by the end of Week 10.

Resources Available to You

Please see the WR-121 syllabus for information on the Center for Accessibility Resources Online Services and the Writing Center.

College Skills Zone: The College Skills Zone offers an interactive, quieter study space in the Learning Center, where students can access drop-in help related to college success and reading strategies and college writing fundamentals. Here, students can learn and practice grammatical skills, organizational skills, time management skills, and other college-specific skills such as studying, preparing for finals, or managing schedules. More information can be found: linnbenton.edu/current-students/study/learning-center/college-skills-zone

Note: Instructor reserves the right to make changes in the course syllabus.