

SYLLABUS: WR 121 English Composition

<h2 style="margin: 0;">SYLLABUS: WR 121 English Composition WINTER 2015</h2>
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	OFFICE HOURS:	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 9 to 10
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	WR121 PREREQUISITE:	College Placement Test and/or grade of "C" or higher in WR115 or registration in ALP
	Final Exam Times:	WR 121 exams will be Monday, noon – 12:50 p.m., and Tuesday, 11:30 a.m. - 12:20 p.m. Students must test both days.
	COURSE DESCRIPTION:	<p>Welcome to our writing class. I firmly believe that this class is among the most practical of classes you will take during your college career. The skills you develop in this class will help you as you apply for jobs, woo potential significant others, and get refunds for bottles of spaghetti sauce that were hiding marinated insects. This last situation actually happened to me. I have photos. I sent my letter to Ragu and they responded immediately with coupons for free bottles of Ragu. It was something of a refund and it came to me because I know the skills that we cover in this class.</p> <p>This class helps you find your own writing process as I share with you the useful bag of tricks all writers need to keep their audiences interested while they make their specific points. I'll give you strategies for drafting, organizing and revising your essays until they sparkle.</p> <p>The key here is practice: you'll encounter writing practice in a variety of situations and for several different purposes, but you'll never be on your own. I'm always available to help you peek at your own writing through my pair of possibly more experienced eyes.</p>

		<p>There's one important thing to remember in this class: you and I are on the same team!</p> <p>USING COMPUTERS IN THIS CLASS: You'll see below that we will be using computers not only to access some of the material we'll be studying, but we'll also be turning in a big percentage of our work in our Moodle Area. If you have never heard this Moodle word before you will need to visit one of our computer labs on campus and have one of the staff their walk you through the ins and outs of using Moodle. It's really quite easy. Here is a link that should help you: http://www.linnbenton.edu/go/computer-resources-and-labs</p>
	WR 121 LEARNING OUTCOMES	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Analyze the rhetorical needs</i> (the interaction of audiences, purpose/outcome, and subject) of a variety of academic and practical writing assignments. 2. <i>Apply appropriate levels of critical thinking strategies</i> (knowledge, comprehension, application, analysis, synthesis, evaluation) in response to the rhetorical needs of an assignment. 3. <i>Implement appropriate rhetorical elements and organization</i> (introduction, thesis, development and support, rebuttal, visuals, narration, conclusion, etc.) in response to the rhetorical needs of an assignment. 4. <i>Locate, evaluate, and integrate high-quality information and opinion</i> in response to the rhetorical needs of an assignment. 5. <i>Craft sentences and paragraphs</i> that communicate their ideas clearly and effectively using words, sentence patterns, and writing conventions to make their writing clear, credible, and persuasive.
	COURSE ASSESSMENT	<p>You will have the opportunity to demonstrate these learning outcomes by accomplishing the following tasks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three Essay Projects linked to writing exercises, collaborative/peer review workshops, and essay postscripts. • WR 121 Final Exam: All LBCC WR121 students take a common exit final exam, an essay you will compose in response to a given topic. Your essay will be read by a team of English Instructors and holistically scored. This final essay counts 30% toward your final grade for WR121: <p>GENERAL IDEA OF THE GRADING BREAKDOWN:</p> <p>Writing In Community 50 Essay 1 100</p>

		<p>Essay 2 100 Essay 3 100 Quizzes 50 Reading/Thinking Checks 100 Final Exam: 30% of total grade in class. TOTAL 500 points (not including final exam)</p> <p>Unless I have been contacted by the Office of Disability Services (ODS) on your behalf, it is LBCC English Department policy that all students, including ESOL students, will have the exact same amount of time to answer the final.</p>
	SKILLS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work in teams through reading groups and peer editing workshops • Demonstrate each of the steps in your writing process (developing, drafting, revising, and editing) • Provide critical response to peers' work • Develop your responses to readings • Focus, develop, and organize your thoughts in writing • Evaluate your own work using commonly accepted standards for thoughtful writing • Follow standard grammatical conventions for academic writing • Integrate outside sources using MLA or APA standards
	Textbooks & Materials:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They Say, I Say. Graff, Birkenstein, Durst ISBN978-0-393-93274-7. 2009. Publisher: Norton. • The Little Seagull Handbook. Bullock and Weinberg. ISBN: 978-0-393-91151-0. Publisher: Norton • A good college dictionary • One jump drive, disc or CD for work in the computer lab, a pocket folder, and a binder for your class work
	College Resources	Library Writing Center and ONLINE WRITING LAB (OWL)
	Attendance and Time Management:	<i>Come to this class.</i> You'll notice from the first day of class that we work together a lot. We'll be getting into groups to explore key concepts and then breaking into different groups to share what we've learned. We'll be working one on one and in small

		<p>groups on simple assignments and more challenging ones. I like to keep this course fun, informative and practical. Missing a meeting of this class is like buying a ticket to Disneyland and then going out to sit in your car in the hot parking lot all day. But I understand that we all have lives. If you must miss a class: send me an e-mail before the class you can't attend, and then make sure that you communicate with someone else in the class so that he or she can help you understand what we covered. Remember that we'll spend two hours outside of class working on our writing for every hour we spend in class.</p> <p>Up to three unexcused absences will not affect your grade. In fairness to the students who come to all the classes, a fourth absence will result in one lower letter grade. The same will happen with each absence after. I would like you to come and see me if you must incur a fifth absence or more.</p>
	<p>Tips for Success</p>	<p>Make this class fun for you. Crack yourself up as you practice your writing. Crack up your friends.</p> <p>Teach me how to make this class as fun and engaging as a college level writing class can be.</p> <p>Come to class prepared and read/write assignments before class. Do your work on time. Always have your book, your notebook and the draft of the essay project with you in class. Do your own work. <i>Plagiarism (using someone else's work as your own without proper in-text citation and documentation) will result in your failing the assignment and possibly failing the class.</i></p> <p>Write about what matters to you.</p>
	<p>LATE WORK POLICY</p>	<p>After many years of being both a student and teacher, I have learned that getting our assignments in on time is best for us as students and for me as your teacher. This is the most ideal situation and it is the most fair one for all of the members of our class. We have deadlines and everyone meets the deadlines.</p> <p>I realize that life can interfere with a deadline, but more often than not it is not really something important and unforeseen that interferes with our</p>

		<p>ability to turn in an assignment on time. Very often it is simply a lack of focus on time management that causes a paper to be late. I feel like it isn't fair to other students in the class if late papers are awarded the same points as papers that were turned in on time. We will be turning in our work in Moodle. Moodle will accept your late papers for up to seven days after an assignment deadline. The maximum score that late paper can receive is a C.</p> <p>If you find yourself submitting a second paper late, please come and see me during my office hours.</p>
		<p>Disability Statement: You should meet with your instructor during the first week of class if</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · 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. <p>If you have not accessed services and think you may need them, please contact Disability Services, 917-4789.</p> <p>Nondiscrimination Statement: LBCC prohibits unlawful discrimination based on race, color, religion, ethnicity, use of native language, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, veteran status, age, or any other status protected under applicable federal, state, or local laws.</p>
	Distractions	<p>There will be times when students need to take notes and really concentrate during this course. It is our responsibility to keep our environment as free from distractions as possible. For this reason food is not allowed in the classroom. Please eat before or after class.</p> <p>Of course all personal technological devices should be silenced during class. There might be times when you absolutely must be available to take a phone call. I understand that. If such a day arises, please sit in one of the chairs nearest the door and place your phone on vibrate. Take your call outside the classroom.</p>
	Revisions	<p>You may revise papers one and two for a higher grade if you respond to all of the comments that I have made on the paper and improved it. When you resubmit your paper, place an introductory note at the beginning of it, reminding me about what notes I gave you and how they guided your revision. Please also place the sections you have changed in bold so that I can immediately see how you responded to the</p>

		comments I offered.
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