

English 2010

Writing with emphasis on research

3 Credit hours

Prerequisite: English 1010

Instructor: Nickole Backman

Office: 2nd floor, top of stairs Office hours: Tuesday 7:20/after class

Classroom: 207 McDonald Bldg.

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Course Description: The course will focus on contemporary research methods with an emphasis on persuasion, critical thinking, and analysis. Students will engage in a variety of writing projects inside and outside the classroom. Successful students will demonstrate competence in the use of standard written English, paraphrasing, summarizing, and quoting source material and appropriately citing the work of authors.

What Should You Get For This Course?

Rules of Thumb

Dixie College Writing Guide

DSC Research Paper Guide

An official Dixie College computer account - from any student computer lab

A college level dictionary and thesaurus (see paperback combo in bookstore)

Two zip disks or two PC computer disks (label one "original", the other "back-up")

What's This Course Going To Be Like?

This will be a workshop class in which all of you will participate, often in small groups. We will focus as much on the process of writing as we will the final product of each paper. I will occasionally expect all of you to revise essays during class time. If, on workshop days, you tell me that you can't revise your essays because "the only copy is on my home computer", then this may decrease your grade.

Conferences:

I am not usually on campus except class nights and office hours will follow class at 7:20 p.m. Feel free to consult with me or ask for an appointment.

Attendance:

This is a writing class - by yourself and with other members of the class. I have found that student attendance is almost always a strong reflection of performance. It is tough to fulfill the course objectives if you are not attending. Also note that, even if you receive strong grades on all essays, missing class will affect your grade. If you do miss class, you are responsible for all material covered and you must attempt to hand in any missed work soon after your return. Class assignments completed in class usually can't be made up.

Please note: this does not apply to your research paper. If you are absent on the day your paper is due, have someone turn it in at the beginning of class. A late paper will receive no higher than a C, regardless of quality.

Why am I making such a big issue about attendance and tardiness? In this class you will be working in groups, and the in-class work and discussions will be essential to the essay

that you will write for this course. Also, the writing assignments and essay will be given and discussed in class. Missing such discussions puts you at a disadvantage before you even begin your task.

Participation: Attendance and class participation are not the same. Participation means you are energetically involved in classroom activities and that you come to class with assigned readings and homework completed. Cell phones are not allowed in class. If you are caught using your cell phone to play games, text message, etc. 50 points will be deducted each time you are caught. I will not hesitate to confront you in front of the class.

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is a serious offense that can result in your failing the course and can also result in the permanent marking of your college file. Plagiarism is either:

1. using someone else's ideas without giving credit to them (in that paragraph)
2. using someone else's words without "quoting" them (Smith wrote, "Blah blah.")

If you are unsure about a possible offense, it is always better if you bring it to my attention before (or while) it is happening, rather than my discovering something suspicious on my own and after the fact.

Course Objectives:

By the end of English 2010, successful students should be prepared to:

Recognize and avoid logical fallacies, emotional arguments, and misleading ambiguities.

Synthesize research in a balanced manner using own ideas and writing.

Correctly paraphrase, summarize, quote, and cite source material.

Recognize and avoid forms of plagiarism.

Effectively argue in writing.

Students should continue to practice the objectives of English 1010 listed below:

Correctly assess the relationship between writer and audience.

Understand that writing is a process that includes brainstorming, organizing, rough draft writing, revising, and proofreading.

Carefully choose and restrict the subject and create a precise thesis statement.

Use strategies for creating effective overall structure, including the use of repeated key words, topic sentences, transitions, and parallel structure.

Use organizational and developmental strategies to write unified, coherent, and developed individual paragraphs and the paper as a whole.

Compose introductory paragraphs that get the reader's attention, state the thesis, suggest a plan of development, make positive first impressions, and set the tone.

Compose concluding paragraphs that give a sense of closing.

Recognize and avoid fragments, run-ons, faulty modifiers, subject/verb and pronoun agreement problems.

Demonstrate mastery of conventional punctuation and mechanics used in standard written English.

Demonstrate a reasonable awareness of style, emphasis, and sentence variation.

Research and Source-Supported Writing Objectives

Be introduced to the research tools available in the Browning Library by taking a tour

or having some other informal introduction.

Demonstrate competent use of computerized catalog, periodical indexes, and the variety of electronic databases available for research.

Demonstrate the ability to use the MLA or APA style of parenthetical documentation, bibliographic form, and research paper format.

Properly cite books, periodicals, reference works, and electronic sources.

Develop a preliminary bibliography, notes, and an outline or other organizational strategies as steps in writing a research paper.

Course Assessment:

Research Paper Preps

Research Topic	Due: Sept. 19
Working Thesis	Due: Sept. 19
Annotated Bibliography	Due: Oct. 3
Research Proposal	Due: Oct. 10
Outline	Due: Oct 24
Note cards	Due: Nov. 7
Paper rough draft	Due: Nov. 14
Works Cited Page	Due: Nov. 21
Final research paper	Due: Dec. 5
Reader Response	Periodic assignments
Applications Portfolio	Due: (5 written pieces) Nov. 28
Final Exam	Dec. 13

Quizzes - short evaluations throughout semester

Paper = 50% of your grade; in-class/writing assignments and attendance 25%; Reader Response papers and portfolio 25%

Explanation of Course Assessments:

Note: Research paper must adhere to the following format guidelines. Manuscript must be typed and double spaced using one inch margins and 12 point Times New Roman Font. If paper does not comply with guidelines, it will be returned for format correction before being read. **State number of words at beginning or end of essay.**

Research Paper - A research project will be devoted to a persuasive topic about **diversity**. It must follow correct MLA format and must include a title page, outline page, note cards, works cited page(s), and a minimum eight - ten pages (about 2700 words) of **your own written text**.

Research Paper Preps: Intermittent submissions of preparatory work for your research paper. Items are listed in syllabus.

Reader Response: Assignments relating to reading handouts given periodically.. All out of class reader response papers must be typed.

Applications Portfolio: A collection of your finest personal in-class writing assignments created as the semester progresses. Portfolio assignments earn 20 points each to a maximum of 100 points. (5 submissions). Include rough drafts and these may be hand written, but final drafts must be typed. I expect that your final draft is reworked, improved, and lengthened to at least one page. Just retyping your rough draft is not acceptable. Do not include your class notes, my handouts, or homework assignments.

Final Exam: Written assignment and reading of one of your portfolio submissions.

Students with disabilities, in accordance with state and federal guidelines and regulations, are eligible for assistance from the Disability Resource Center. Telephone: 435-652-7516. Students needing extra help can schedule a conference at the Writing Center with a tutor who can give you individualized assistance.

Fall Assignment Schedule

- August 22 Course introduction
- 29 The research paper process
In class writing assignments
- September 5 **Reader Response: *What Made Lizzie Bordon Kill?* by Marcia R. Carlisle and *Laying Down the Law* by Ann Jones**
Developing active-reading habits
In class writing assignments
- 12 Choosing a topic
Defining research goal
Forming a research question
Formulating a working thesis
In class writing assignments
- 19 Importance of using sources effectively
Avoiding plagiarism
Guidelines for citation
In class writing assignments
**Due: Research topic
Working thesis**
- 26 Evaluating sources
Writing a research proposal
Annotated bibliography
In class writing assignments
- October 3 Reading sources selectively
Making the most of reading
Taking notes
In class writing assignments
Due: Annotated Bibliography
- 10 Organizing and outlining
Understanding outlines
In class writing assignments
Citation /Works Cited Quiz
Due: Research Proposal

- 17 **Reader Response: Narrative of the life of Frederick Douglass
Ch. VII, Ch. VIII**
Developing your own outline
In class writing assignments
- 24 Writing a paragraph
In class writing assignments
Due: Research paper outline
- 31 **Reader Response: Dangers In A Deli (paragraph/essay model)**
Developing your note cards
Developing introductions
In class writing assignments
- November 7 Developing body paragraphs
Using outline to develop body paragraphs
In class writing assignments
Citation/Works Cited quiz
Due: Research paper notecards
- 14 Developing conclusions
In class writing assignments
Due: Research paper rough draft
- 21 **Reader Response: *Just Say No, Something For Nothing* (Student Model)**
Writing persuasively
In class writing assignments
Due: Works Cited Page
- 28 Putting it all together
Research paper checklist/revision and ?'s
Due: Applications Portfolio
- December 5 **Due: Final Research Paper**
Review/Read Around
- 12 Final Exam