

Academic Writing (ACWR) 203 – Lecture 01
Academic Writing for Specialized Audiences II (Introductory)

Winter 2013

Wednesdays 12:00 to 14:50

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Office Hours: Wednesday 3:00pm to 4:00 pm or by appointment

Course Description

In this course, you will learn the conventions of academic discourse, document analysis, and research writing. You will discuss your ideas with peers and formulate written responses in a number of essays. You will analyze one short story: “Jury of Her Peers,” by Susan Glaspell and write a research paper. As you progress through the class, you will have also one-on-one writing consultations with me, in class, about your essays. You will be covering grammar, sentence structure, and writing style as needed.

Additional Information

You will need to bring a memory stick to each class as you will be completing written assignments in class on the computer that will need to be saved and submitted.

Objectives of the Course

Through focused writing assignments and an inquiry-based research project, this course will help you to

- Read and think critically
- Conduct primary and secondary research
- Write a research paper using a range of strategies for developing research questions, finding information, exploring and organizing ideas, and drafting
- Structure papers with an effective thesis, introduction, and conclusion; develop focused arguments; produce well developed paragraphs with strong topic sentences

- Critically analyze, use, and cite sources using APA and MLA formats.
- Work individually and collaboratively to present an oral, researched response to a selected research question
- Edit effectively, checking for errors in sentence structure, grammar, word use, spelling, and punctuation

Internet and electronic communication device information

The use of internet and electronic devices (laptops, electronic devices—no cell phone use please) during class is permitted. Students are expected to keep internet use to matters pertaining to the class and lectures.

Textbooks and Readings:

Texts that will be available at the Bookstore

- (1) Lundsford, A. *The Everyday Writer*, 5th Edition.

On-line works (in public domain)

- (1) “Jury of her Peers” (short story by Susan Glaspell – link to be posted on Blackboard)

Other handouts or exercises to be provided in class.

Assignments and Evaluation

** All essay writing will be done in class. The research outline will be done out of class.

Introductory Essay (diagnostic) 0% January 9, 2013

- This will be a personal essay, 2 pages in length, double spaced and written in class.

Preliminary Quiz In class Grammar test 0% January 16, 2013

- This will be a 25 – 30 question quiz on grammar to assess your skill level.

Movie / Book Review 10% January 23, 2013

- This will be an essay 3-5 pages in length, double spaced and written in class. You will chose the Book or Movie to be reviewed prior to class and can come with notes, but will do the essay writing in class. This assignment will be graded on content, format, sentence structure, and grammar. Guidelines will be presented in class.

Essay on “Jury of Her Peers” 15% February 6, 2013

- This will be an essay 3-5 pages in length, double spaced, and written in class. You can bring notes on “Jury of her Peers,” but the essay question will be given out in class. You

will be expected to cite properly from “Jury of Her Peers.” This assignment will be graded on content, format, sentence structure, and grammar. Guidelines will be presented in class.

Argumentative Essay 15% February 27, 2013

- This will be an essay 4-5 pages in length, double spaced, and written in class. Topics will be given out in class. This assignment will be graded on content, format, sentence structure, and grammar. Guidelines will be presented in class.

Research Paper – outline 10% March 13, 2013

- You will provide a comprehensive outline of all the points you will discuss in your upcoming Research Essay, including an Introduction and Conclusion, and specific details for the body paragraphs. This assignment will be graded on content, format, sentence structure, and grammar. Guidelines will be presented in class.

Grammar Test 15% March 20, 2013

- Grammar/writing skills quiz based on writing skills taught in class to date.

Research Paper 25% March 27, 2013

- This will be an essay 4-6 pages in length, double spaced, based on the Research Paper Outline. You will be permitted to bring in your outline and your sources, but the paper will be written in class. This assignment will be graded on content, format, sentence structure, and grammar. Guidelines will be presented in class. At least five references, including three separate library (non-Internet) sources, are required.

Final Exam, Argumentative essay (closed book) 10% April 10, 2013

- This exam will be written in class. You will be asked to write a 5 - 7 argumentative essay. Your essay should prove your analytical ability, use of effective writing, and skills in organization. Details will be presented in class beforehand but the question will not be given in advance.

All assignments must be completed or a grade of F may be assigned at the discretion of the instructor.

It is the student's responsibility to keep a copy of each submitted assignment.

Note: Please hand in your essays directly to your tutor or instructor if possible. If it is not possible to do so, a daytime drop-box is available in SS320; a date stamp is provided for your use. A night drop box is also available for after-hours submission. Assignments will be removed the following morning, stamped with the previous day's date, and placed in the instructor's mailbox.

Registrar-scheduled Final Examination: No

Policy for Late Assignments

Assignments submitted after the deadline may be penalized with the loss of a grade (e.g.: A- to B+) for each day late.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act

This course is conducted in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP). As one consequence, **students should identify themselves on all written work by placing their name on the front page and their ID number. Also you will be required to provide a piece of picture identification in order to pick up an assignment or look at a final exam from SS320 after classes have ended.**

For more information see also <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>.

Writing Skills Statement

Department policy directs that all written assignments (including, although to a lesser extent, written exam responses) will be assessed at least partly on writing skills. For details see <http://www.comcul.ucalgary.ca/needtoknow>. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc) but also general clarity and organization. Research papers must be properly documented.

If you need help with your writing, you may use the Writing Centre. Visit the website for more details: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support>

Grading System

The following grading system is used in the Department of Communication and Culture:

	Grading Scale
A+	96-100
A	90-95.99
A -	85-89.99
B+	80-84.99
B	75-79.99
B-	70-74.99
C+	65-69.99
C	60-64.99
C-	55-59.99
D+	53-54.99
D	50-52.99
F	0-49

Where a grade on a particular assignment is expressed as a letter grade, it will normally be converted to a number using the midpoint of the scale. That is, A- would be converted to 87.5 for calculation purposes. F will be converted to zero.

Plagiarism

Using any source whatsoever without clearly documenting it is a serious academic offense. Consequences include failure on the assignment, failure in the course and possibly suspension or expulsion from the university.

You must document not only direct quotations but also paraphrases and ideas where they appear in your text. A reference list at the end is insufficient by itself. Readers must be able to tell exactly where your words and ideas end and other people's words and ideas begin. This includes assignments submitted in non-traditional formats such as Web pages or visual media, and material taken from such sources.

Please consult your instructor or the Writing Centre (3rd Floor Taylor Family Digital Library, <http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support>) if you have any questions regarding how to document sources.

Academic Misconduct

For information on academic misconduct and the consequences thereof please see the current University of Calgary Calendar at the following link;
<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

Students with Disabilities

If you are a student with a disability who may require academic accommodation, it is your responsibility to register with the Disability Resource Centre (220-8237) and discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of the course.

Students' Union

For details about the current Students' Union contacts for the Faculty of Arts see
<http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/governance/elections/home.html>

Student Ombudsman

For details on the Student Ombudsman's Office see
<http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>

Emergency Evacuation and Assembly points

For information on the emergency evacuation procedures and the assembly points see
<http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

"SAFEWALK" Program -- 220-5333

Campus Security will escort individuals day or night -- call 220-5333 for assistance. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phone located at most parking lot booths.

Ethics

Whenever you perform research with human participants (i.e. surveys, interviews, observation) as part of your university studies, you are responsible for following university research ethics guidelines. Your instructor must review and approve of your research plans and supervise your research. For more information about your research ethics responsibilities, see

The Department of Communication and Culture Research Ethics site:

<http://www.comcul.ucalgary.ca/ethics>

or the University of Calgary Research Ethics site:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/research/ethics/cfreb>

Schedule of Lectures and Readings

Wednesday January 9, 2013 - Introduction to class and go over course outline. Short, informal essay to be written in class (worth 0%).

Wednesday, January 16, 2013 – Go over major points from Introductory essay. Diagnostic grammar test (worth 0%). Go over answers to grammar test in detail. Discussion on how to write a Movie Review or Book Review and how to gather sources.

Wednesday January 23, 2013 – Movie / Book Review written in class (worth 10%). During class, I will meet briefly with each student and go over the Introductory Essay.

Wednesday January 30, 2013 – Go over Movie / Book Review and address any grammar issues arising. We may do some grammatical exercises. Discussion of short story “Jury of her Peers,” by Susan Glaspell.

Wednesday February 6, 2013 – Draft critical essay on “Jury of Her Peers” in class (worth 15%). During class, I will meet briefly with each student and also go over the Movie / Book review essay.

Wednesday February 13, 2013 – Discussion of the Argumentative essay and further Grammar / Stylistic Exercises as needed.

Wednesday February 20, 2013 – no class -- Reading Break

Wednesday, February 27, 2013 – Draft Argumentative Essay in class (worth 15%). During class, I will meet briefly with each student and go over the “Jury of her Peers” essay.

Wednesday, March 6, 2013 – Discussion of Research Paper, outlining, drafting, and finding sources.

Wednesday, March 13, 2014 - Research Paper outlines due (worth 10%) Short, informal presentation on proposed essay topic (use your outlines to discuss your topic) and peer discussion on paper-writing and ideas.

Wednesday, March 20, 2013 –Grammar test (worth 15%). Further discussion about research papers. Practice exercises using MLA and APA formatting.

Wednesday, March 27, 2013 – Research Paper written in class (worth 25%). Student will bring in outlines and sources.

Wednesday, April 3, 2013 – Discussion of any further grammatical, stylistic issues.

Wednesday, April 10, 2014 – Final Exam (worth 10%) –written in class, Argumentative essay.