

Course Syllabus

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Communication & Writing

WRT1010: College Composition

3 Units

Summer 2026 | Quad I

May 11 - July 5

Fully Online

Meeting Days: Online Asynchronous

Instructor: Dr. Holland Prior

Meeting Times: Online Asynchronous

Email: hprior@pointloma.edu

Meeting Location: Online

Office Location and Hours: Zoom, by appointment

Final Exam: (Day/Time): Final Portfolio Week 8

PLNU Mission

To Teach ~ To Shape ~ To Send

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service is an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we strive to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.



Course Description

WRT 1010 equips students to grow as writers and critical thinkers at PLNU and beyond. Students are immersed in writing by analyzing and composing texts for a variety of audiences. The course emphasizes the social nature of writing and the various stages of the writing process.

Recommended: Co-enrollment in WRT 1000L

Course Learning Outcomes

By the end of WRT 1010, students will be able to:

1. Identify and respond to the expectations of a specific audience. GELO 1c
 2. Critically analyze and evaluate the strategies writers use to appropriately respond to the demands of their rhetorical situation: audience, purpose, context, or culture. GELO 1a, 1c
 3. Engage in and articulate the various states of the writing process (prewriting, research, drafting, rewriting, revising, editing, etc.). GELO 1a, 1c
 4. Construct persuasive, thesis-driven, well-supported arguments that employ rhetorical strategies appropriate for an academic audience. GELO 1a
 5. Apply appropriate documentation styles and formatting to integrate external voices into their writing. GELO 1a
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General Education Learning Outcomes

1. Written: Students will be able to effectively express ideas and information to others through written communication. (GELO 1a)
 2. Information Literacy: Students will be able to access and cite information as well as evaluate the logic, validity, and relevance of information from a variety of sources. (GELO 1c)
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Institutional Learning Outcomes

1. Learning, Informed by our Faith in Christ

Students will acquire knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world while developing skills and habits of the mind that foster lifelong learning.

2. Growing, in a Christ-centered Faith Community

Students will develop a deeper and more informed understanding of others as they negotiate complex professional, environmental, and social contexts.



3. **Serving, in a Context of Christian Faith**

Students will serve locally and/or globally in vocational and social settings.

Required Texts and Recommended Study Resources

- Gibson, R.H., & Beitler, J.E. (2020). [Charitable Writing: Cultivating Virtue Through Our Words](https://www.ivpress.com/charitable-writing)  (<https://www.ivpress.com/charitable-writing>). InterVarsity Press.
- Additional readings as posted on Canvas.

Note: Students are responsible for having the required textbooks prior to the first day of class. Students are also encouraged to begin reading the books in preparation for the class as soon as possible.

Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the US Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside the class may violate the law. All supplemental materials posted on this course site (including articles, book excerpts, or other documents) are provided for your personal academic use. These materials may be protected by copyright law and should not be duplicated or distributed without permission of the copyright owner.

Course Credit Hour Information

In the interest of providing sufficient time to accomplish the stated Course Learning Outcomes, this class meets the PLNU credit hour policy for a 3-unit class delivered over 37.5 weeks. It is anticipated that students will spend a minimum of 37.5 participation hours per credit hour on their coursework. For this course, students will spend an estimated 112.5 total hours meeting the course learning outcomes. The time estimations are provided below and in the Canvas modules.

Estimated Time to Complete Course

<i>Activity Category</i>	<i>Time-to-Complete (Hours)</i>
Required Resources	35
Week 1: Writing as Convention	10
Week 2 & 3: Audience Analysis	25
Week 4 & 5: Triple Audience	20
Week 6 & 7: Academic Argument Essay	13
Week 8: Final Portfolio	10
Total:	112.5



Assessment and Grading

Weighted Grades

This course uses weighted grades. Each assignment category is worth a certain percentage of the total grade (100%) for the course, as specified in the table below:

Course Assignments

Assignment Category	Description	Percentage of Total Grade
Week 1: Writing as Convention	These assignments consist of varied tasks such as: • Focusing on the conversational or social nature of writing. • Explore how "spiritual threshold concepts" (humble listening, loving argument, and hopeful timekeeping) can be integrated into academic writing.	10
Week 2 & 3: Audience Analysis	Your job in this unit is to complete an audience analysis of a series of different (but related) texts and determine which text is most successful in reaching its audience.	25
Week 4 & 5: Research	For this unit, you will formulate a research question, conduct academic research, and then use that research to produce a personal audience annotated bibliography. The annotated bibliography can help you map and understand the conversation surrounding your topic.	25
Week 6 & 7: Academic Argument Project	Academic Audience Project: Second, you'll compose an Argument Essay that enters that conversation and is designed to persuade an academic audience.	30



Week 8: Final Portfolio	At the end of the course, you'll compile a portfolio that discusses and demonstrates your growth as a writer. This portfolio will include a Critical Reflection Essay, a Writing Exhibit, and a Revision Exhibit. In addition, you will • Metacognitively reflect on your own writing process and development. • Identify writing practices that you will take with you beyond this course. • Public Audience Project (Extra Credit): Transform and “re-genre” the argument you made in your essay into a Public Argument for a public audience.	10
	Total	100

Student grades for assignments will be posted in the Canvas gradebook. It is important to read the comments posted in the gradebook as these comments are intended to help students improve their work. Final grades will be posted by the due date as posted in the Academic Calendar.

Grading Scale

The following grading scale will be used for all exams and final course grades:

- 93-100% = A
- 90 - 92% = A-
- 87 – 89% = B+
- 83 – 86% = B
- 80 – 82% = B-
- 76 – 79% = C+
- 73 – 75% = C
- 70 – 72% = C-
- 66 – 69% = D+
- 63 – 65% = D
- 60 – 62% = D-
- Less than 60% = F

Content Warning



I acknowledge that each of you comes to PLNU with your own unique life experiences. This contributes to the way you perceive various types of information. In this course, all of the class content, including that which may be intellectually or emotionally challenging, has been intentionally curated to achieve the learning goals for this course. The decision to include such material is not taken lightly. If you encounter a topic that is intellectually challenging for you, it can manifest in feelings of discomfort and upset. In response, I encourage you to come talk to me or your friends or family about it. Class topics are discussed for the sole purpose of expanding your intellectual engagement in the area of college composition, and I will support you throughout your learning in this course.

Incompletes and Late Assignments

All assignments are to be submitted by the due dates. There will be a 10% reduction of possible points for **each day** an assignment is late, and assignments will **not be** accepted for credit four days after the due date. If missing assignments result in the failure to meet learning outcomes, you may receive a letter grade reduction on the final grade in addition to the loss of points for missing work. Assignments will be considered late if posted after the due date and time using Pacific Standard Time. No assignments will be accepted after midnight on Sunday night, the last day of class.

Exceptions for extenuating circumstances must be pre-approved by the instructor and the program director.

PLNU Spiritual Care

PLNU strives to be a place where you grow as a whole person. To this end, we provide resources for our Graduate and Adult Undergraduate students to encounter God and grow in their Christian faith. At the Mission Valley (MV) campus we have an onsite chaplain who is available during class break times across the week. If you have questions or a desire to meet or share any prayer requests with the onsite chaplain, you may email Dr. Sylvia Cortez Masyuk at scortezm@pointloma.edu (<mailto:scortezm@pointloma.edu>).

In addition, on the MV campus, there is a prayer chapel on the third floor, which is open for use as a space set apart for quiet reflection and prayer.

State Authorization

State authorization is a formal determination by a state that Point Loma Nazarene University is approved to conduct activities regulated by that state. In certain states outside California, Point Loma Nazarene University is not authorized to enroll online (distance education) students. If a student moves to a



state after admission to the program and/or enrollment in an online course, continuation within the program and/or course will depend on whether Point Loma Nazarene University is authorized to offer distance education courses in that state. It is the student's responsibility to notify the institution of any change in his or her physical location. Refer to the map on [State Authorization](#) (<https://www.pointloma.edu/offices/office-institutional-effectiveness-research/disclosures>) to view which states allow online (distance education) outside of California.

PLNU Copyright Policy

Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the US Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside the class may violate the law.

PLNU Recording Notification

In order to enhance the learning experience, please be advised that this course may be recorded by the professor for educational purposes, and access to these recordings will be limited to enrolled students and authorized personnel.

Note that all recordings are subject to copyright protection. Any unauthorized distribution or publication of these recordings without written approval from the University (refer to the Dean) is strictly prohibited.

PLNU Academic Honesty Policy

Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. Academic dishonesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or concepts as one's own when, in reality, they are the results of another person's creativity and effort. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for that assignment or examination or, depending on the seriousness of the offense, for the course.

For all student appeals, faculty and students should follow the procedures outlined in the University Catalog. See [Adult Undergraduate Academic and General Policies](#)  (<https://pointloma-public.courseleaf.com/aug-catalog/academic-general-policies/#text>) for definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty and for further policy information.

During the first week of class, you will be asked to submit an Academic Honesty Verification Statement. Submitting the statement is a requirement of this course. By submitting the Academic Honesty



Verification Statement, you will be verifying all assignments completed in this course were completed by you. Carefully review the Academic Honesty Statement below.

Statement: "In submitting this form, I am verifying all the assignments in this course will be completed by me and will be my own work."

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy

You are allowed to use Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Gemini Pro 1.5, GrammarlyGo, Perplexity, etc) to generate ideas, but you are not allowed to use AI tools to generate content (text, video, audio, images) that will end up in any work submitted to be graded for this course. If you have any doubts about using AI, please gain permission from the instructor.

Any engagement with a generative AI tool should be conducted within a closed system, and you are not permitted to upload any course materials (assignment prompts, readings, etc.) into an LLM that will incorporate those training materials into its data set.

PLNU Academic Accommodations Policy

You are allowed to use Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Gemini Pro 1.5, GrammarlyGo, Perplexity, etc) to generate ideas, but you are not allowed to use AI tools to generate content (text, video, audio, images) that will end up in any work submitted to be graded for this course. If you have any doubts about using AI, please gain permission from the instructor.

Any engagement with a generative AI tool should be conducted within a closed system, and you are not permitted to upload any course materials (assignment prompts, readings, etc.) into an LLM that will incorporate those materials into its training models and data sets.

Language and Belonging

Point Loma Nazarene University faculty are committed to helping create a safe and hospitable learning environment for all students. As Christian scholars, we are keenly aware of the power of language and believe in treating others with dignity. As such, it is important that our language be equitable, inclusive, and prejudice-free. Inclusive/Bias-free language is the standard outlined by all major academic style guides, including MLA, APA, and Chicago, and it is the expected norm in university-level work. Good writing and speaking do not use unsubstantiated or irrelevant generalizations about personal qualities such as age, disability, economic class, ethnicity, marital status, parentage, political or religious beliefs, race, gender, sex, or sexual orientation. Inclusive language also avoids using stereotypes or terminology that demeans persons or groups based on age, disability, class, ethnicity, gender, race, language,



national origin. Respectful use of language is particularly important when referring to those outside of the religious and lifestyle commitments of those in the PLNU community. By working toward precision and clarity of language, we mark ourselves as serious and respectful scholars, and we model the Christ-like quality of hospitality.

If you (or someone you know) have experienced a bias incident regarding language, you can find more information on reporting and resources at www.pointloma.edu/bias (<http://www.pointloma.edu/bias>).

Sexual Misconduct and Discrimination

Point Loma Nazarene University faculty are committed to helping create a safe learning environment for all students. If you (or someone you know) have experienced any form of sexual discrimination or misconduct, including sexual assault, dating or domestic violence, or stalking, know that help and support are available through the [Title IX Office](https://www.pointloma.edu/title-ix) (<https://www.pointloma.edu/title-ix>). Please be aware that under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, it is required to disclose information about such misconduct to the Title IX Office.

If you wish to speak to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting responsibility, you can contact Counseling Services at counselingservices@pointloma.edu or find a list of campus pastors via our [Sexual Harassment and Discrimination Policy](https://www.pointloma.edu/title-ix). (<https://www.pointloma.edu/title-ix>)

If you (or someone you know) have experienced other forms of discrimination or bias, you can find more information on reporting and resources via our [Nondiscrimination and Anti-harassment Policy](https://www.pointloma.edu/bias) (<https://www.pointloma.edu/bias>).

PLNU Attendance and Participation Policy

Regular and punctual attendance at all class sessions is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. Therefore, regular attendance and participation in each course are minimal requirements.

If the student is absent for more than 10 percent of class sessions, the faculty member will issue a written warning of de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent, the student may be de-enrolled without notice until the university withdrawal date or, after that date, receive an “F” grade.

Students who anticipate being absent for an entire week of a course should contact the instructor in advance for approval and make arrangements to complete the required coursework and/or alternative assignments assigned at the discretion of the instructor. Acceptance of late work is at the discretion of the instructor and does not waive attendance requirements.

Refer to [Academic Policies](https://pointloma-public.courseleaf.com/aug-catalog/academic-general-policies/)  (<https://pointloma-public.courseleaf.com/aug-catalog/academic-general-policies/>) for additional details.



Synchronous Attendance/Participation Definition

For synchronous courses that have specific scheduled meeting times (including in-person, hybrid, and synchronous online courses), absences are counted from the first official meeting of the class regardless of the date of the student's enrollment. For courses with specific attendance requirements, those requirements are outlined in the course syllabus.

Note: For synchronous courses with an online asynchronous week, refer to the Online Asynchronous Class Attendance policy listed below.

Online Asynchronous Attendance/Participation Definition

Students taking online courses with no specific scheduled meeting times are expected to actively engage throughout each week of the course. Attendance is defined as participating in an academic activity within the online classroom which includes, but is not limited to:

- Engaging in an online discussion
- Submitting an assignment
- Taking an exam
- Participating in online labs
- Initiating contact with faculty member within the learning management system to discuss course content

Note: Logging into the course does not qualify as participation and will not be counted as meeting the attendance requirement.

Course Modality Definitions

1. Online Courses: These are courses with class meetings where all instruction and interaction are fully online.
 1. Synchronous Courses: At least one class meeting takes place at a designated time.
 2. Asynchronous Courses: All class meetings are asynchronous.
2. Hybrid Courses: These are courses with class meetings that take place both in the classroom and online synchronously and/or asynchronously.
3. In-Person Courses: These are courses that meet in person with the instructor and students in a physical classroom setting. With approval by the area dean, this may include up to 25% of qualified class interactions through a Learning Management System (such as Canvas).

Use of Technology



In order to be successful in the online or hybrid environment, you'll need to meet the minimum technology and system requirements; please refer to the [Technology and System Requirements](https://help.pointloma.edu/TDClient/1808/Portal/KB/ArticleDet?ID=108349) (<https://help.pointloma.edu/TDClient/1808/Portal/KB/ArticleDet?ID=108349>) information. Additionally, students are required to have headphone speakers, microphone, or webcams compatible with their computer available to use. Please note that any course with online proctored exams requires a computer with a camera (tablets are not compatible nor allowable) to complete exams online.

Problems with technology do not relieve you of the responsibility of participating, turning in your assignments, or completing your class work.

GPS Academic Resources

PLNU offers the following free academic resources virtually for Graduate Professional Studies (GPS) Students. Visit myPLNU through the links below for more information.

- [The GPS Writing Center](https://my.pointloma.edu/pages/writing-center-gps) (<https://my.pointloma.edu/pages/writing-center-gps>) offers:
 - **Zoom Writers Workshops** offered each quad on a variety of helpful topics
 - **One-to-one appointments** with the Writing Coach
 - **Microlearning YouTube Video Library** for helpful tips anytime
- [Research Help Guide](https://my.pointloma.edu/pages/research-help) (<https://my.pointloma.edu/pages/research-help>) to help you start your research
 - The physical office is located on the third floor of the [Mission Valley Regional Center](https://maps.app.goo.gl/CRXui8PJUnSkvokC9)  (<https://maps.app.goo.gl/CRXui8PJUnSkvokC9>) off the student lounge
- [Academic Writing Resources Course](https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/64301) (<https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/64301>): Found on your Canvas Dashboard, this course is non-credit with 24/7 access, no time limits, and self-paced content. [Watch a quick video run-through](https://youtu.be/JB8MmVPznFI)  (<https://youtu.be/JB8MmVPznFI>) and take time now to explore!
- [Grammarly](https://www.grammarly.com/edu/point-loma-nazarene-university-graduate-professional-studies)  (<https://www.grammarly.com/edu/point-loma-nazarene-university-graduate-professional-studies>): Students have unlimited FREE access to Grammarly for Education, a trusted tool designed to help enhance writing skills by providing real-time feedback, identifying areas for improvement, and providing suggestions. Grammarly's Generative AI is NOT available with our student accounts.
- [Tutoring](https://my.pointloma.edu/pages/tutoring-gps) (<https://my.pointloma.edu/pages/tutoring-gps>): Students have access to 24/7 live or scheduled subject tutoring through Tutor.com, including a Paper Drop-Off Service with feedback within 12 hours.

Assignments-at-a-Glance

The course summary below lists our assignments and their due dates. Click on any assignment to review it.



Course Summary:

Date	Details	Due
Tue May 12, 2026	 Academic Honesty Verification Statement (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/87735/assignments/1316530) 	due by 11:59pm
Wed May 13, 2026	 Wk 1 Introduction Videos & Reading Response (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/87735/assignments/1316537) 	due by 11:59pm
	 Wk 1 Writing Letter Assignment Draft & (Peer Review) (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/87735/assignments/1316539) 	due by 11:59pm
Fri May 15, 2026	 Reminder: Peer Review	to do: 11:59pm
Sun May 17, 2026	 Wk 1 Writing Letter Final Draft Submission (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/87735/assignments/1316540) 	due by 11:59pm
Wed May 20, 2026	 Wk 2 Elite 8 Context Analysis (Groups) (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/87735/assignments/1316535) 	due by 11:59pm
Sat May 23, 2026	 Wk 2 Final 4 Appeals Analysis (Groups) (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/87735/assignments/1316534) 	due by 11:59pm
Wed May 27, 2026	 Wk 3 Semi-Final Analysis Report + (Peer Review) (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/87735/assignments/1316541) 	due by 11:59pm
	 Wk 3 Reminder: Peer Review	to do: 11:59pm



Date	Details	Due
Sat May 30, 2026	 Wk 3 Championship Vote https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/87735/assignments/1316536	due by 11:59pm
Mon Jun 1, 2026	 Wk 4 Developing a Research Question Padlet	to do: 11:59pm
Wed Jun 3, 2026	 Wk 4 Final Research Question https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/87735/assignments/1316542	due by 11:59pm
Sun Jun 7, 2026	 Mid-Course Survey https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/87735/assignments/1316531	due by 11:59pm
Wed Jun 10, 2026	 Wk 4 Library Research Assignment https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/87735/assignments/1316543	due by 11:59pm
Fri Jun 12, 2026	 Wk 5 1:1 Conference Appointment Sign-Up	to do: 11:59pm
Sun Jun 14, 2026	 Wk 5 Personal Audience: Annotated Bibliography Assignment https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/87735/assignments/1316544	due by 11:59pm
Mon Jun 15, 2026	 Wk 6 Thesis Statement Gallery Padlet	to do: 11:59pm
Fri Jun 19, 2026	 Wk 6 Writing Center Sign-Up	to do: 11:59pm
Sat Jun 20, 2026	 Wk 6 Outline: Academic Argument Essay	due by 

Date	Details	Due
	https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/87735/assignments/1316545	
		
Sun Jun 21, 2026	 Wk 6 Rough Draft: Academic Argument Essay & (Peer Review) (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/87735/assignments/1316546)	due by 11:59pm
		
Tue Jun 23, 2026	 Wk 7 Reminder: Peer Review	to do: 11:59pm
Sat Jun 27, 2026	 Wk 7 Writing Center Appointment (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/87735/assignments/1316548)	due by 8pm
		
Sun Jun 28, 2026	 Wk 7 Academic Audience: Argument Essay (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/87735/assignments/1316547)	due by 11:59pm
		
Wed Jul 1, 2026	 Wk 8 Discussion: Course Takeaways (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/87735/assignments/1316552)	due by 11:59pm
		
	 End-of-Course Evaluation (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/87735/assignments/1316538)	due by 11:59pm
		
Fri Jul 3, 2026	 Wk 8 Composition Final Portfolio (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/87735/assignments/1316549)	due by 11:59pm
		
	 Wk 8 Public Argument Project: Argument Remix Assignment (Extra Credit) (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/87735/assignments/1316550)	due by 11:59pm
		

