

Department of Literature, Journalism and Modern Languages
Writing 110
College Composition
4 Credit Hours
Fall Semester, 2015

Instructor Information:

Professor Kara deFreitas

BAC 117

849-2311

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Office Hours: MW:

Required Texts and Materials:

A good college-level dictionary and thesaurus

Lunsford, Andrea. *The St. Martin's Handbook*. Eighth Addition.

Atwan, Robert. *The Writer's Presence*,

Angelou, Maya. *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*. Any publisher or edition.

Course Description (Catalog)

The study of writing as a process incorporating the principles of sentence, paragraph and essay composition with an emphasis on critical thinking. Introductory practice in library-based research and writing. Use of computers in composing and research processes.

This course is one of the components of the General Education Program. By including this course in a common educational experience for undergraduates, the faculty supports the pursuit of personal awareness and skill development, focusing on analytical, communication and quantitative skills necessary for successful living in modern society.

Course Goals:

This course emphasizes that writing is a skill and a process; that is, like learning to ride a bike or play tennis, progress is achieved through practice. Writing improves through practice, time, patience, rewriting, editing and studying the skills of other writers. As a class we will study professional writers' work and learn together what is effective and successful about those pieces. Students will then write their own essays (4), seeking to present a strong thesis and focus, organize their ideas in coherent paragraphs, control their tone and limit their discussion to the assignment while keeping their audience in mind, and to punctuate their papers well, finally presenting a polished, clear and professional product.

Grading Procedures:

Essays:	40%
Quizzes, homework	
Attendance, class participation:	20%
Midterm	10%
Peer-Led Writing Project:	5%
Final Research Project	15%
Final Exam	10%

Note: There are no “make-up” quizzes given; neither will late essays or homework assignments be accepted barring a serious and proven emergency.

Policies:

Academic Dishonesty: Plagiarism and Cheating

The University System supports and promotes academic honesty and personal integrity. Cheating can take the following forms:

- Submitting another person's work
- Writing a paper for someone else
- Working in a group effort without faculty consent
- Buying a paper from a research service
- Submitting the same work for credit without approval

The Web and Plagiarism Note: The Web has made it very easy to copy and insert materials into a paper. Students must be careful to attribute materials found on the Web.

The Department of Literature, Journalism and Modern Languages deems intellectual and academic integrity to be critical to academic success and personal development; therefore, any unethical practice will be detrimental to the student's academic record and moral character. Students who present the work of others, in any form, commit plagiarism and will earn a failing grade on the assignment and possibly for the course. In either event, a written report will be filed with the department chair and area dean. The dean will review the report and submit it to the provost and the vice president of student development. It will then be placed in the student's academic file.

The Writer's Studio:

The Writer's studio is available to those students whose first essay and diagnostic grammar test indicate that they need the additional one-on-one time that a trained student tutor can provide. Students who qualify for the Writer's Studio are registered for Wri 097 and attend weekly tutorials. Students who do not complete the required ten tutorials, by the deadline of two weeks before finals will not be assigned a grade for Wri 110.

Vocation:

The diagnostic essay exam given the first week of the semester and the final exam will focus on vocation. Vocation in this context includes your career path as well as the significant choices you make to live out God's call on your life. You will be given a variety of essays to help challenge and inspire you as you consider what God's call is for you.

Attendance:

Per the college catalog, a student may be dropped from the course if his or her absences equal more than one and one half weeks of class. Even two or three absences will negatively affect a student's grade.

Academic Accommodations:

While all students are expected to meet the minimum standards for completion of this course as established by the instructor, students with disabilities may require academic accommodations. At Point Loma Nazarene University, these students are requested to file documentation during the first two weeks of the semester with the Academic Support Center, located in the Bond Academic Center. This policy assists the University in its commitment to full compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act. Section 504 prohibits discrimination against students with special needs and guarantees all qualified students equal access to and benefits of PLNU programs and activities. Once the student files the documentation, the ASC will contact the student's instructor and provide written recommendations for reasonable and appropriate accommodations to meet the individual learning needs of the student.

Public Discourse:

Much of the work that we will do in this class is cooperative, by nature of the class discussions and general feedback given to written work and projects; thus you should think of all your writing and speaking for and in class as public, not private, discourse. By continuing in this class, you acknowledge that your work will be viewed by others in the class.

Description of Requirements:

Formal Essays: You will write four formal essays throughout the semester, three of which you will draft, edit and revise at home and during class peer editing workshops. These essays should average 1050-75words (4 pp) double-spaced, and should use standard, one inch margins. You will be expected to bring a well-executed draft of the essay for editing workshops. The fourth essay will be written during class. This essay count does not count the diagnostic write or the exit essay (your final exam).

Atwan Reading Assignments: In the class schedule you are assigned to read various essays by twentieth century writers, At the end of each reading you will answer three questions in response to the essay; expect to write three well-developed paragraphs to respond well to these questions. You may hand write or type your responses, and all are due at the beginning of the class period for which they are assigned. Also, come to