



Point Loma Nazarene University

Department of Literature, Journalism and Modern Languages

Wri. 110. College Composition and Communication

Four Units

Spring Semester, 2017

Meeting days:	Instructor title and name: Professor Kara deFreitas
Meeting times: MWF	Phone:
Meeting location: BAC105A	Email: Karadefreitas@pointloma.edu
Final Exam: Dec. 12; 1:30-4PM	Office location and hours: TBA
Additional info:	Additional info:

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 becomes an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we aspire to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

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 undergraduate students, 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 LEARNING OUTCOMES

Student will: 1: Apply the conventions of the English language and creative skills in various of academic writing genres.

2: Demonstrate knowledge of the stages of the writing process in academic writing: planning, drafting, composing, revising and editing.

3: Evaluate and utilize rhetorical modes of organization in writing compositions: narrative and argument.

4: Demonstrate knowledge of and apply documentation formats to properly cite research in writing (MLA).

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 reading, time, patience, rewriting, editing, and studying the skills of other writers. As a class we will study the works of published authors 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.

Description of Course 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 class very familiar with the assigned essay, prepared to discuss it and at times be quizzed on it.

Handbook Assignments: Although not listed in the class schedule, I will assign grammar-based practices from your handbook as we review grammatical principles.

Peer-Led Writes: Once each week you will come to class and write during class in response to a prompt that a classmate has designed. A whole-hearted effort is expected with each of these; a good goal of length for each is two pages. The individual who assigned the piece of writing will then take it home, edit and grade the essays, and turn the entire project in to me for a grade. All of you will receive assignment level credit for participating in each project,

MLA Style Research Paper and Presentation: The culminating project of the semester will be a 15-17 page, MLA style, fully-documented research paper. You will also be required to present your work to the class in an informal presentation.

Quizzes, Class Discussions, "Arbitrary" Writing Assignments that I Deem Useful

REQUIRED TEXTS AND RECOMMENDED STUDY RESOURCES

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 edition*.

ASSESSMENT AND GRADING

• Essays (4)	40%	A=93-100	C=73-76
• Midterm	10%	A-=92-90	C-=70-72
• Quizzes, homework.	20%	B+=87-89	D+=67-69
• Peer Led Writing Project	5%	B=83-86	D=63-66
• Final Research Paper	15%	B-=80-82	D-=60-62
• Final Exam	10%	C+=77-79	F=0-59

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 Wri097 and will 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 Wri110.

INCOMPLETES AND LATE ASSIGNMENTS

All assignments are to be submitted/turned in by the beginning of the class session when they are due—including assignments posted in Canvas. Incompletes will only be assigned in extremely unusual circumstances.

FINAL EXAMINATION POLICY

Successful completion of this class requires taking the final examination **on its scheduled day**. The final examination schedule is posted on the [Class Schedules](#) site. No requests for early examinations or alternative days will be approved.

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 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. Faculty should follow and students may appeal using the procedure in the university Catalog. See [Academic Policies](#) for definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty and for further policy information.

PLNU ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY

If you have a diagnosed disability, please contact PLNU's Disability Resource Center (DRC) within the first two weeks of class to demonstrate need and to register for accommodation by phone at 619-849-2486 or by e-mail at DRC@pointloma.edu. See [Disability Resource Center](#) for additional information.

PLNU ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION POLICY

Regular and punctual attendance at all classes is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. If the student is absent from more than 10 percent of class meetings, the faculty member can file a written report which may result in de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent, the student may be de-enrolled without notice until the university drop date or, after that date, receive the appropriate grade for their work and participation. See [Academic Policies](#) in the Undergraduate Academic Catalog.