

Department of Literature, Journalism and Modern Languages

Writing 1016

College Composition, Research

2 Credit Hours

Spring Semester, 2020

Instructor Information:

Professor Kara deFreitas

BAC 117

Karadefreitas@pointloma.edu (the best way to contact me, or via Canvas messenger)

Office Hours: TBA, and always by appointment

Required Texts:

The Little Seagull Handbook, available online and in the bookstore. Make sure the book is bundled with the interactive online code (beware of Amazon in this regard).

Various readings provided by your professor.

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 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 (Catalog):

The purpose of College Composition: Research is to enable you to develop critical thinking skills, varying rhetorical writing skills, effective and correct use of English language conventions, effective research methods, effective and ethical strategies in working with text, and effective skills in communicating written and spoken word essential for successful completion of university-level work.

General Education Courses:

This course is one of the components of the General Education Program at Point Loma Nazarene University, under the category of Developing Cognitive Abilities. 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 Learning Outcomes:

This course focuses on writing as 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 in this course will practice developing, organizing, editing, and revising various types of skills in critical thinking, active reading and competent writing; and understand the importance of personal and academic competency.

Also: Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Apply the conventions of the English Language and creative skills in various forms of academic writing genres.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of the stages of the writing process in academic writing: planning, drafting, organizing, composing, revising and editing.
3. Evaluate and utilize rhetorical modes of organization in written compositions: narrative, and argument specifically.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of and apply documentation formats to properly cite research in written compositions.
5. Critically analyze writing to determine point-of-view, tone, purpose, audience, and theme to enable reflection and response in written compositions.
6. Evaluate and examine differing perspectives; evaluate and locate the points of agreement and the strengths and weaknesses of the argument.

Grading:

In-class Assignments, Homework and Participation:	20%
Essays:	20%
Research Paper:	60%

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

Academic Dishonesty:

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 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. The report will remain permanently in the student’s academic file.

The Writer’s Studio:

The Writer’s Studio is available to those students whose diagnostics 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 sessions will not be assigned a grade for Wri 116.

SAT, ACT and diagnostic essay scores reveal your strengths and weaknesses as a writer, thinker, and communicator on the college entry level. Your diagnostic essay results and your professor’s discretion will determine whether or not you will benefit the most by enrolling in Wri 097, which is a writing skills tutorial held

in the Writers' Studio. If your scores qualify you to enroll in Wri 097, you will fulfill the requirements by working on your writing skills with a trained tutor for 10 weeks beginning the third week of the semester. You will be required to attend an introductory session for the Studio the second week of classes. During that session, you will sign up for a time to work with a writing consultant one hour each week in the studio. **There will be no extra work in the Studio, only support for Wri1016.**

The fee for the Studio, Wri097, is \$150.00. Should you have the privilege of working in the Studio, know that the \$150.00 lab fee replaces a 3 unit, not-for-college credit course your scores would have previously required you to take.

Attendance:

Regular and punctual attendance at all classes is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. If the student is absent for more than 10 percent of class meetings (for this class, this is 2 class periods), the faculty can write a report which may result in de-enrollment. If the student's absences exceed 20 percent (4 class periods), the student may be de-enrolled without notice the university drop date, or, after that date, receive the appropriate grade for their work and participation. See "Academic Catalog Policies" in the Undergraduate Academic Catalog.

Academic Accommodations:

While all students are expected to meet the minimum standards for completion of this course as established by the professor, students with disabilities may require academic accommodations. At PLNU, 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. PLNU is committed to full compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Public Discourse:

Much of the work that we do in this class is cooperative, by nature of the class discussions and general feedback to written work and projects; thus, you should consider all your writing and speaking for and in class as public, not private, discourse. I will, however, make exceptions (we will talk about this).

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.

Methods of Instruction:

This class is interactive and activity-and-discussion based. So, you'll need to come to class prepared to talk and write about the course readings and contribute to and lead discussion, small group activities, and peer reviews. Students who attend regularly, stay engaged in the class activities, and keep up with all the assigned reading and writing will succeed in this class.

PLNU Email and Canvas:

Students must regularly check both their PLNU email accounts as well as Canvas.

Technology:

Refrain from using technology during class time; there will be exceptions to this. However, for the most part, you will be looking at hard copies of readings and your handbook.