

WRI 1010 College Composition: Writing and Research

Fall 2022

Section 14

4 Units

Meeting days/times: MWF, 2:45-3:55 p.m.

Meeting location: Bond Academic Center (BAC) 155

Final Exam: Wednesday, 12/14, 1:30 - 4:00 pm

Instructor	David L. Coddon
E-mail	dcoddon@pointloma.edu
Office Hours	By appointment
Office Location	BAC 125 or Zoom

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.

Foundational Explorations Mission

PLNU provides a foundational course of study in the liberal arts informed by the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. In keeping with the Wesleyan tradition, the curriculum equips students with a broad range of knowledge and skills within and across disciplines to enrich major study, lifelong learning, and vocational service as Christ-like participants in the world's diverse societies and culture.

Course Description

WRI 1010 is a comprehensive first-year composition experience in reading, writing, and critical thinking, centered on essay and research writing. The course emphasizes the processes of

writing thesis-based manuscripts as an evolving product, with attention to sentence-level conventions and coherence among well-developed paragraphs. Library research and writing the source-based essay are major components of the course. A diagnostic exam given at the beginning of the semester will determine if students need to co-enroll in WRI 0097 Writing Skills Tutorial.

In this course, we will focus on developing transferable writing, research, and analytical skills that you will continue to strengthen and build upon throughout your time at PLNU and in your academic, vocational, and personal lives. You will develop these skills through a series of writing and research assignments and activities that expose you to the different stages of the composing process, with an emphasis on revision.

Course Learning Outcomes

By the end of WRI 1010, you should 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, cause/effect, compare/contrast, persuasion, process analysis, and others.
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 disagreement and the strengths and weaknesses of the argument.

Foundational Explorations Learning Outcomes

As a Foundational Explorations course, WRI 1010 helps to equip you with a broad range of knowledge and skills that will enrich not only your academic studies but also your lifelong learning and vocational service as a Christ-like participant in the world's diverse societies and cultures. The table below highlights the specific Foundational Explorations Learning Outcomes (FELOs) that WRI 1010 serves alongside their corresponding course assignments and activities.

FELO	Assessment Measure(s)
1a. Written: Students will be able to effectively express ideas and information to others through written communication.	Major essay assignments, in-class writing activities
1c. 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.	Research Paper, homework assignments, and in-class writing activities
1d. Critical Thinking: Students will be able to examine, critique, and synthesize information in order to arrive at reasoned conclusions.	Major essay assignments, Research paper

Required Texts and Materials

- Lunsford, Andrea A. *The St. Martin's Handbook*. 9th ed. Bedford/St. Martin's, 2021.
- Birkenstein, Cathy and Gerald Graff. *They Say I Say*. 5th ed. W.W. Norton & Company, New York, 2021.
- A notebook for in-class rewriting and response to journal prompts.

You'll also need access to the Internet, a PLNU e-mail account, and Canvas. Plan to bring your laptop or some other device that is capable of accessing and submitting work via Canvas to every class.

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 4-unit class delivered over 15 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 150 total hours meeting the course learning outcomes.

WRI 0097 | Writers' Studio

Everyone benefits from receiving extra feedback and help with their writing, and WRI 0097 (aka the Writers' Studio) is a writing workshop designed to help students succeed in this course. Students qualify for WRI 0097 based on their SAT/ACT scores and/or the results of a diagnostic exam I will give you at the beginning of the semester. If you qualify, you will co-enroll in WRI 0097 while you are taking this course. Students enrolled in WRI 0097 will meet with a trained writing consultant in the Writing Center (located in the Ryan Library) once per week for 10 weeks. Each of these consultant sessions will last one hour, and you will work with your writing consultant on your assignments for this course. You will be required to attend an introductory session to the Writers' Studio the second week of classes, and during that session you will sign-up for a time to work with a writing consultant one hour a week throughout the semester.

Students who complete the Writers' Studio benefit greatly from the time spent working alongside a trained peer writing consultant. The lab fee for the Writers' Studio, WRI 0097, is \$150.00. Should you qualify for WRI 0097, 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. Failure to complete all 10 tutoring sessions for WRI 0097 will result in a failing grade *in this course* and re-entry into the Writers' Studio the following semester to complete 10 sessions.

Major Assignments, Grade Distributions, & Due Dates

Assignment Category	Length (approx.)	Weight	Due
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Narrative Essay In a 750-word essay, you will explore a significant moment or event in your life, making it clear to the reader its importance and impact.	750 words	10%	September 19
Cause and Effect Essay In this essay, you will argue how one principle or condition causes or effects another and why.	750 words	20%	October 10
Research Paper For this project, you will formulate a research question and then write a research paper that responds to your question and enters an academic conversation taking place through published scholarship.	2000 words	30%	November 30
Comparison and Contrast Essay For this project, you will explore two similar pieces of work, perhaps in two different mediums, then write about how they are alike and different and which is more effective in its storytelling.	Varies	10%	November 7
Final Exam During the final exam period, you'll write a 500-750 word essay in response to a prompt.	750 words	5%	December 14
Homework Unless otherwise specified, all homework assignments will be submitted via the course Canvas site.	Varies	15%	Most Days
Reading Quizzes & In-Class Activities Be sure you are on time to class each day and have completed the assigned reading. This segment will also include an oral presentation.	Varies	10%	Most Days

Assessment and Grading

The grading scale for this course is as follows:

A	93-100	B-	80-82.9	D+	67-69.9
A-	90-92.9	C+	77-79.9	D	63-66.9
B+	87-89.9	C	73-76.9	D-	60-62.9
B	83-86.9	C-	70-72.9	F	0-59.9

I grade all coursework not listed as a major assignment using the Canvas complete/incomplete grading system.

- A "complete" indicates that you successfully completed the assignment in a timely, thoughtful, and thorough manner.
- An "incomplete" suggests that either your work was too brief or superficial to demonstrate learning, indicated confusion or an incomplete understanding of the course concepts, failed to respond fully to the prompt, demonstrated evidence of not reading, or was missing altogether.

Revision

You will be allowed to revise/rewrite one of your three major essays during the semester by a prescribed deadline (details to come).

If you wish to revise, you must:

1. Schedule an appointment with me to discuss your plans for revision.
2. Upload your revision as a re-submission to the original assignment prompt in Canvas.

Note: If you plagiarize and receive a zero as the penalty, you will not be allowed to revise the paper. (For more information about plagiarism, see "Academic Honesty" section).

Late Work

This course requires extensive reading and writing on a regular basis, and due dates are to help us all work at a manageable pace. Work is due on Canvas by the start of class on its due date, and you must complete all assignments on time to keep up with the course. Extenuating circumstances do intrude, however, so please be transparent and timely with me re: submissions that might be late.

Spiritual Care

PLNU strives to be a place where students grow as whole persons. To this end, we provide resources for our students to encounter God and grow in their Christian faith.

If you have questions, a desire to meet with the chaplain, or if you have prayer requests, you can contact the [Office of Student Life and Formation](#).

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 another 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](#) 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 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

PLNU is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all its programs, services, and activities. Students with disabilities may request course-related accommodations by contacting the Educational Access Center (EAC), located in the Bond Academic Center (EAC@pointloma.edu or 619-849-2486). Once a student's eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, the EAC will issue an academic accommodation plan ("AP") to all faculty who teach courses in which the student is enrolled each semester.

PLNU highly recommends that students speak with their professors during the first two weeks of each semester/term about the implementation of their AP in that particular course and/or if they do not wish to utilize some or all of the elements of their AP in that course.

Students who need accommodations for a disability should contact the EAC as early as possible (i.e., ideally before the beginning of the semester) to assure appropriate accommodations can be provided. It is the student's responsibility to make the first contact with the EAC.

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 at 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 at pointloma.edu/title-ix.

Attendance and Participation Policy

Students are expected to attend and participate in class every day. Success in WRI 1010 is highly dependent upon interaction with your peers and the instructor. That means arriving to class on time, having completed all assigned readings and homework, and participating

actively and respectfully in all class activities. Sleeping, talking, texting, being uninvolved with group work, or outright disruptive behavior can negatively impact your grade. If you are experiencing difficulty with attendance or participation, please talk with me so that we can work out an appropriate arrangement.

If you are absent for more than 10% of class sessions (4 classes for a MWF course), I will issue a written warning of de-enrollment. If your absences exceed more than 20% (8 classes for a MWF course), you may be de-enrolled without notice until the university drop date or, after that date, receive the appropriate grade for your work and participation to that point.

Students who are absent due to illness or other emergencies do not need to submit documentation for that absence, but you should email me as soon as you are able to let me know about your absence. Should you miss a class (for any reason), it is your responsibility to reach out to a classmate to get notes and any other material you may have missed. Some in-class work, such as peer review workshops, cannot be made up later if they are missed.

Inclusive Language

Because the Literature, Journalism, Writing, and Language department recognizes the power of language, all public language used in this course, including written and spoken discourse, should be inclusive. This standard is outlined by all major academic style guides, including MLA, APA, and Chicago, and is the norm in university-level work.

Classroom Hospitality

I try to maintain a friendly atmosphere in class, and I encourage you to debate and voice disagreement when we discuss readings; however, I expect this to be done respectfully. This includes not talking while others have the floor and never turning discussion into a personal attack. You should also, of course, show up on time, be alert, and ensure that your behavior with technology, food, or drink is not a distraction to the students around you. As stated above, if your classroom behavior becomes an issue, your grade will suffer. I will let you know if your behavior is becoming an issue, and if problems persist further action may be taken, such as asking you to leave class.

Resources

There are a lot of resources available to you as a student in this course and at PLNU. I will highlight three here that I believe are particularly useful: the Tutorial Center, the Ryan Library, and the Wellness Counseling Center.

The Tutorial Center

Getting feedback while you're in the process of working on an assignment is a great way to improve the quality of your writing and develop as a writer. You're encouraged to talk with one of the Tutorial Center's trained tutors about getting started on an assignment, organizing your ideas, finding and citing sources, revising, editing for grammar and polishing final drafts, and more. For information about how to make in-person or online appointments,

see <https://www.pointloma.edu/offices/tutorial-services> or visit the Tutorial Center inside the Ryan Library.

The Ryan Library

The Ryan Library is staffed by knowledgeable and helpful professionals and should be one of your first research resources throughout your time at PLNU. The easiest way to get help is to connect with a reference librarian in the "Ask a Librarian" chat window on the Ryan Library homepage at <https://libguides.pointloma.edu/ryanlibrary>. You can also stop by the "Research Help" desk inside the Ryan Library.

The Wellness Counseling Center

The Wellness Counseling Center helps students maintain and develop emotional well-being to achieve their educational and personal goals and promotes a healthy and inclusive community through relationship building, education, crisis intervention, and support. They provide short-term therapy to all undergraduate students registered for classes on the main campus, and they can recommend and refer to other resources for more long-term care and support. If you could benefit from their assistance, contact them anytime:

- Website: <https://www.pointloma.edu/offices/wellness-counseling-center>
- Email: counselingservices@pointloma.edu
- Phone: (619) 849-3020

If you need emergency assistance, please call 911 or the Access and Crisis Line at (888) 724-7240.

Class Schedule (MWF)

I reserve the right to change the course schedule this semester, and I will always notify you in advance of any changes. Unless otherwise noted, all readings and assignments are due at the beginning of class on the day they appear on the schedule. Blank dates for "class description" will be filled in as we go along.

Week 1:

Date	Class Description	Reading	Assignments Due
T 8/30	Welcome and Course Introduction		
W 8/31	In-Class Essay - bring your laptops!		
F 9/2	Class interviews, profile writing exercise		

Week 2:

Date	Class Description	Reading	Assignments Due
M 9/5	<i>Labor Day - no class</i>		

W 9/7	Introduction to the narrative essay	"The Chase" by Annie Dillard	
F 9/9	Introduction to research paper	"When the Walls Came Tumbling Down" by Trey Ellis	

Week 3:

Date	Class Description	Reading	Assignments Due
M 9/12	Grammar overview	"The Top Twenty" in SMH; "Hidden Intellectualism" in TSIS	
W 9/14	Nuts and bolts of sentence-level construction	"Fragments" and "Comma Splices" in SMH; "The Sanctuary of School" by Linda Barry (outside text)	
F 9/16	Peer workshopping of narrative essay drafts	"My Grandfather the Outlaw" by Frank Bruni (outside text)	

Week 4:

Date	Class Description	Reading	Assignments Due
M 9/19	Personal narratives vs. narrative remembrances	"The New Jim Crow" in TSIS	Narrative essays
W 9/21	Library training in Ryan Library		
F 9/23	Library training in Ryan Library		

Week 5:

Date	Class Description	Reading	Assignments Due
M 9/26	Introduction to cause and effect essay	"Subject/Verb Agreement" in SMH	
W 9/28	MLA style review (including textbook overview)	"The Seat Not Taken" by John Edgar Wideman (outside text)	
F 9/30	The building blocks of argumentation	"Constructing Arguments" in SMH; "All Words Matter" in TSIS	

Week 6:

Date	Class Description	Reading	Assignments Due
M 10/3	Plagiarism	"Acknowledging Sources" in SMH	

W 10/5	More review of cause and effect	"Modifier Placement" in SMH; "Rise of the Machines" in TSIS	
F 10/7	Peer workshopping of cause and effect essays		

Week 7:

Date	Class Description	Reading	Assignments Due
M 10/10	Solution argumentation		Cause and effect essay
W 10/12	More on argumentation	"The Electoral College Embodies American Ideals" in TSIS	
F 10/14	More on argumentation	"What Happiness Is" (outside text)	

Week 8:

Date	Class Description	Reading	Assignments Due
M 10/17	Introduction to comparison and contrast essay		
W 10/19	Comparison/contrast exercise	"Don't Blame the Eater" in TSIS	
F 10/21	<i>Fall Break - no class</i>		

Week 9:

Date	Class Description	Reading	Assignments Due
M 10/24	More on comparison and contrast	"The Veldt" by Ray Bradbury (outside text)	
W 10/26	TBA	"Roe Butt, Cy Borg" in TSIS	
F 10/28	Seminar on research paper	"Preparing for a Research Project" in SMH	

Week 10:

Date	Class Description	Reading	Assignments Due
M 10/31	Field research exercise	"Conducting Research" in SMH; "Songs of the Summer of 1963 ... and 2013" (outside text)	
W 11/2	Deadline for decision on research paper topic	"Evaluating Sources" in SMH; "So What? Who Cares" in TSIS	

F 11/4	Peer workshopping of comparison and contrast rough drafts	"Integrating Sources" in SMH	
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Week 11:

Date	Class Description	Reading	Assignments Due
M 11/7			Comparison and contrast essay
W 11/9		"Why Public Schools Should Teach the Bible" (outside text)	
F 11/11	Introduction or oral presentations	"Skeptics May Object" in TSIS	

Week 12:

Date	Class Description	Reading	Assignments Due
M 11/14	Research paper conferencing		
W 11/16	Research paper conferencing		
F 11/18	Research paper conferencing		

Week 13:

Date	Class Description	Reading	Assignments Due
M 11/21	No class today		
W 11/23	<i>Thanksgiving Recess - no class</i>		
F 11/25	<i>Thanksgiving Recess - no class</i>		

Week 14:

Date	Class Description	Reading	Assignments Due
M 11/28	Revision	"What I Really Want to Say" in TSIS	
W 11/30			Research papers
F 12/2	Oral presentations begin		

Week 15:

Date	Class Description	Reading	Assignments Due
M 12/5	Oral presentations		
W 12/7	Oral presentations		
F 12/9	Preparation for final exam		

Final Exam: Wednesday, 12/14, 1:30 - 4:30 pm