

## English 101

Synchronous online class  
9:30-10:45 am Mondays & Wednesdays  
Spring 2021

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Instructor: Rebecca Lorenz-Schumacher  
Office on campus: 208B CCC  
Email: [rlorenzs@uwsp.edu](mailto:rlorenzs@uwsp.edu) or message me on Canvas  
Virtual office hours: Mondays & Wednesdays 12:30-1:30 pm  
and by appointment  
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### REQUIRED TEXTS

Available from text rental:

Kirszner, Laurie G, and Stephen R. Mandell. *Patterns for College Writing*. 14<sup>th</sup> ed., Bedford/St. Martin's, 2018.

Available for purchase in the University Bookstore or purchase online:

Hacker, Diana. *Rules for Writers*. 9<sup>th</sup> ed., Bedford/St. Martin's, 2019.

\* You will be using *Rules for Writers* ALL SEMESTER (and for English 202 as well); therefore, **YOU ARE REQUIRED TO PURCHASE IT ASAP**. The custom version OR regular version of the 9<sup>th</sup> edition is fine. \*

Shakespeare, William. *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Folger Shakespeare Library edition, 1992.  
**\*\*THIS BOOK IS REQUIRED\*\***

NOTE: You probably saw multiple books available for purchase for this class. DO NOT BUY ANY YET! You will read ONE of them later on in the semester, and we will choose them "during" class. (We'll talk about this assignment later in the syllabus.) \*\*

### A NOTE ON BEING A COLLEGE STUDENT IN 2020-2021

Let me say that being online is not my preferred method of delivering this course, but this is what we're locked into for this semester. Therefore, you are expected to log into Zoom during class time and treat it like you were attending a class in person.

Also, this class is about what you put into it for success. If you attend and pay attention during the Zoom meetings, participate in the breakout sessions, complete the work on time, and read and implement my feedback in a timely manner, you will get darn near an in-person class experience. You will still get to meet and interact with other students in this class. You will still get to know me, and I am here to support you. If you put in the effort, I guarantee you will have a good experience. In fact, I had only synchronous classes in the fall, and 99% of students surveyed said being synchronous gave them a sense of belonging and structure they were longing for. Many students got to know their lit circle groups as well and they made friends within the class. Therefore, if you put in the effort, you will get a lot out of the course.

### CLASS OBJECTIVES

This class will focus on the essentials of effective composition.

We will spend a lot of time reading and analyzing various kinds of literature, writing papers, and working with your classmates on Zoom. You will learn how to apply these skills to your other college studies and beyond. You will learn how to fit the pieces of English together to become a strong critical thinker, a well-read college student, and an effective writer.

As with all English classes at UWSP, you will

- ✍ Compose an articulate, thoughtful, grammatically correct, and logically organized piece of writing with properly documented and supported ideas, evidence, and information suitable to the topic, purpose, genre, and audience.
- ✍ Apply your understanding of elements that shape successful writing to critique and improve your own and others' writing through effective and useful feedback.

Specifically, at the conclusion of this course, you will be able to

- ✍ Identify and write for specific purposes, audiences, and styles
- ✍ Understand the basics of college-level research and documentation
- ✍ Develop strong critical thinking skills through analysis of literature
- ✍ Effectively critique your peers' papers
- ✍ Demonstrate academic integrity by working responsibly and professionally

### HOW THIS CLASS WILL RUN

1. We will meet synchronously, which means we will meet live on Zoom during scheduled class times (9:30-10:45 am Mondays and Wednesdays). However, there will be many classes in which we do not meet for class or will have an alternate activity assigned; I will inform you at least one class period in advance of days we won't meet.
2. The link to this class is in Canvas under Zoom. You will need to be logged into Zoom AND Canvas with your UWSP credentials and student name to be let into the Zoom meeting. If you log in with a different name, I will not let you into the meeting.
3. Treat class like you would if you were in person. This means you are ready and prepared to take notes, you are appropriately dressed, and you are in a location that allows you to focus on the class (i.e. NO DRIVING OR FISHING or other random activity during Zoom. Seriously.).
4. No logging in and muting everything and sleeping during class time. While I will record the lectures, you will need to be present to get the most out of the material and instruction. Attendance will not be counted if you just log in. You need to actually participate in the course (handing things in, working with your peers during small group discussions, etc.) for attendance credit. Your writing will reflect if you have been participating.
5. If you are unable to attend the live Zoom for any reason, you do NOT need to inform me. Therefore, if you miss the Zoom, you need to watch the video and check Canvas for materials/due dates/assignments. I will not reteach the class via email.
6. When you log in to Zoom, you will be put into a waiting room until I let you in. This may take a few minutes depending on the connection. **I highly recommend logging in at least 5 minutes before class starts.** I usually have a welcome message and some cool '70s rock playing so you can test your audio and video connection.
7. Once I start the class, you MUST MUTE YOUR VIDEO AND AUDIO. I primarily share my screen, so if you toggle Zoom to Speaker View (it's in the upper right corner on a laptop, or you can swipe your screen if you're using a tablet), you will only see me and not be distracted by anything else. I also recommend you pin the video (under the 3 dots) so that you won't see anyone else. I discourage using your phone to watch the Zoom as it's almost impossible to see what's on my screen.

8. You are allowed to send me messages in the Chat to clarify content and ask questions, but be aware the whole class will see the message. Keep it appropriate. You will be unable to chat with anyone else during class. You can also briefly unmute your microphone to ask a question.
9. Anyone who creates a distraction in Zoom will be removed and possibly banned from future sessions.
10. There will be times when I want you to turn your cameras and microphones on, especially when we work in small groups. In particular, you should have both on when we start Literature Circles (more on this later in the syllabus). Make sure your surroundings are appropriate. If they are not, do not turn your video on. However, I want this to be the exception, not the norm (see #3).
11. If you don't participate/log in/submit assignments for more than 4 consecutive class periods without contacting me, I'll assume you've chosen to fail the course and I will report you to the university as not attending.

### **CLASS POLICIES**

1. You will be respectful of all people in the virtual class and in Canvas at all times. This means muting your video and mic when required, not distracting other students during the Zoom, nor will you badmouth me, other students, or other professors while in Zoom or in Canvas.
2. You will be respectful of my time, which means you will not beg me to redo an assignment nor distract me or others during the Zoom sessions.
3. I assess your performance class by grading your written work, mainly through your major papers. Therefore, I cannot accurately nor fully assess you unless you hand in ALL of your papers. You can't pass the class on just small assignments, logging into a Zoom meeting or two, or a miracle. I also have a late paper policy, so you can't turn in the paper whenever you feel like it. **Be aware that failure to turn in even ONE paper will result in decrease of an entire letter grade – and possibly more – from the final class grade.** This will also set the stage for almost certain failure in this class.
4. Since I want you to treat this class like you would if we were in person, please silence (or better yet, turn off) your cell phones. You don't need the distraction. Even if there is a "down" moment in class, please refrain from checking your phone.
5. Class materials, assignments, quizzes, grades, news, updates, etc., are all on Canvas.
6. Most assignments will be due by **midnight** on the date due; however, check the assignment to make sure.
7. All work in this class must be original (i.e. your own creation) and new in execution. You are NOT allowed to turn in work done for a previous class (in whole or part, from high school or another college course), nor may you use work from this class in future classes. If you do, it constitutes academic misconduct, and you will receive a D or F on the paper depending on the severity of the infraction.
8. If you have a detailed question or concern about an assignment, grade, or the class, don't ask before or during the whole class Zoom meeting. Instead, email me and, if needed, we can set up a time to meet on Zoom.

9. Everyone has the right to be addressed and referred to by the name & pronouns they want. Talk to me if you have any concerns.

10. Email/Canvas message info: I know it's surprising, but I do have a life outside of Zoom and teaching. I typically will not respond to emails or messages between 5:00pm-9:00am, nor will I reply on the weekends at all. Allow at least 24 hours for a response (Monday for a weekend email). I will NOT respond if what you're asking for is found on the syllabus or Canvas, if you're asking me to reteach the day via email, if you're asking me to look over your draft, or if you're rude or disrespectful.

11. Office hours: My office hours are listed at the top of the first page of this syllabus. They are times when I am free to meet with students on Zoom. I will not be logged into Zoom, so if you want to meet with me, send me an email. If my office hours don't work for you, please contact me to set up another time.

### LATE WORK POLICY

It is rude & unfair to assume I will grade your work whenever you feel like handing it in. I am flexible if you are ill or have something pop up, but you need to contact me PRIOR to the due date or ASAP after if you are unable to contact me before. And even so, an extension is not guaranteed.

Therefore, this is my late paper policy which applies ONLY to major papers (worth 100 points):

**If your paper is one class period late = full credit (grace period)**

**Two class periods late = -20 points**

**Not handed in after one week = 0 on the assignment**

I reserve the right to provide fewer comments on late papers. And remember, "class periods" refers to when we meet (i.e. if a paper was due Monday, you can turn it in Wednesday with no points off).

### COURSE REQUIREMENTS

#### **Short writing assignments (150 points)**

We will have various short writing assignments, quizzes, and peer review workshops throughout the semester. They will each be worth 10 points with 150 points total for the semester. These assignments **are unable to be made up if you are either not logged in/did not turn in the item by its due date or did not complete the assignment. However**, I will drop your THREE lowest grades (so there will be 180 points available, but only 150 points will count).

#### **Papers (400 points)**

You will write four papers of various styles and topics:

- ✍ A descriptive essay (approx. 3 pages long)
- ✍ A paper on *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (approx. 2 pages long)
- ✍ A profile paper on your lit circle book (uses research and is approx. 4 pages long)
- ✍ A compare & contrast paper on your lit circle book to its movie/TV show counterpart (approx. 3 pages)

They are each worth 100 points. You will also be required to peer review these papers on Canvas. These points will be part of the Short Writing Assignments listed above.

#### ***A Midsummer Night's Dream***

We will read the book/play as a class. We will have many breakout sessions and discussions on the book. You will have a paper (one of the papers mentioned above) and an exam on the book worth 100 points each. **YOU MUST PURCHASE/BORROW A COPY OF THE PLAY!** You won't be able to pass the assignments without it.

### Literature circles project (300 points total)

From a list presented to you, you will pick a book to read in small groups for several weeks of class. You will need to complete various assignments (50 points each week), a profile paper, and a compare & contrast essay (listed as papers above). You will also receive bonus points for attending AND participating in the live Zoom lit circle meetings.

### Final exam (50 points)

Format TBD.

### REQUIREMENT AND POINT BREAKDOWN:

Short writing assignments	150 points total
<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i> exam	100 points
Papers (4 X 100 points each)	400 points total
Literature circle assignments	300 points
Final exam	50 points
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Total	1000 points

### Approximate point/letter grade correspondence:

940+ = A	900-919 = B+	820-839 = C+	740-759 = D+
920-939 = A-	860-899 = B	780-819 = C	680-739 = D
	840-859 = B-	760-779 = C-	below 680 = F

**\*\* PLEASE NOTE: YOUR GRADE IS POINT BASED, NOT PERCENTAGE BASED. \*\***

### A QUICK GUIDE TO PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is, essentially, taking credit for someone else's work. It includes turning in a paper written by someone other than you (with or without permission), downloading a paper off the internet, or incorrectly using a source.

It is up to you to pay attention in class, follow *Rules for Writers*, and ask questions in regards to citing and plagiarism. **Ignorance is not an excuse.**

If I discover plagiarism, I will first contact you and hold a meeting in which we discuss the issue. If you fail to have proof that you did not plagiarize, I will contact the office of Student Rights & Responsibilities. They will put letter in your student file stating that you plagiarized. In addition, you will receive a 0 on the assignment, and you will be unable to make up that assignment. If you plagiarize again, I will again contact Student Rights & Responsibilities. You will then automatically receive an F for the course. **If a student has two incidents of plagiarism in one or more courses, you may be expelled from the university.**

If you have any questions, please either talk to me or contact the office of Student Rights & Responsibilities for more information.

### EMAIL ETTIQUETTE

Since we're not meeting in person, I get inundated with emails. Most are unnecessary and waste time for both of us. Instead, follow this simple guidelines to see if you should email me:

1. Don't email me to tell me you won't be logging in UNLESS you will miss multiple class periods.

2. Don't email me to ask for things that are already posted to Canvas. If the document/assignment is not on Canvas, then let me know.
3. Don't email me asking me trivial matters (E.g. "Is this Beatles poster OK for my background?").
4. Be respectful and professional in email correspondence (i.e. Don't address me as "Hey You" or "Yo").
5. Don't send me drafts for review.
6. Use email sparingly, and only for urgent concerns. This will save time for everyone.