

. . . *the unexamined life is not worth living* . . . Socrates

English 101

Spring 2022

University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point
ENG 101, Section 9
Section 09: Tu/Th 12:30-1:45 pm (CCC 204)

Instructor: Jeff Snowbarger
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Office: 446 CCC
Zoom Office Hours: Email to make
appointment.

Course Description

Bring curiosity and wit—leave your assumptions at the door. This course will explore the ways in which we experience our world through language. Our main objective is to equip students for the rigors of university learning. We will focus our energy on achieving the necessary skills of Active Reading, Critical Thinking, Clear/Effective Composition. Through various essays, film clips, stories, and other explorations, we hope to uncover the strengths and limitations of different thinking and writing strategies. We will investigate what goes into the creation of an organized piece of writing from an architect's perspective, from the foundation of its sentences to the structural integrity of its overall design. Students will be asked to share their work in class and regularly open it up to a peer critique. Laziness will not be tolerated: attendance and participation are mandatory.

UWSP English Department Learning Outcomes for Written Communication

- 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.

Covid Craziiness

Face Coverings:

- At all UW-Stevens Point campus locations, the wearing of face coverings is mandatory in all buildings, including classrooms, laboratories, studios, and other instructional spaces.

Any student with a condition that impacts their use of a face covering should contact the Disability and Assistive Technology Center to discuss accommodations in classes. Please note that unless everyone is wearing a face covering, in-person classes cannot take place. This is university policy and not up to the discretion of individual instructors. Failure to adhere to this requirement could result in formal withdrawal from the course.

Other Guidance:

- Please monitor your own health each day using this screening tool. If you are not feeling well or believe you have been exposed to COVID-19, do not come to class; email your instructor and contact Student Health Service (715-346-4646).
- As with any type of absence, students are expected to communicate their need to be absent and complete the course requirements as outlined in the syllabus.
- Maintain a minimum of 6 feet of physical distance from others whenever possible.
- Do not congregate in groups before or after class; stagger your arrival and departure from the classroom, lab, or meeting room.
- Wash your hands or use appropriate hand sanitizer regularly and avoid touching your face.
- Please maintain these same healthy practices outside the classroom.

What the Pandemic Means for This Class

- Communication and flexibility are the name of the game.
- We will strictly abide by university policies to protect our personal health, the health of others, and ensure our class operates as smoothly as possible under the current circumstances. If you choose not to wear a mask and do not have an official exemption from the DATC, you will not be able to attend. NO EXCEPTIONS. I will keep some extra masks in my office, so let me know if you forget yours, and I will provide one for you.
- Masks must be worn properly. I expect you to make a good faith effort to keep them on and over your nose. Slips happen, I get it. But please be mindful that you're wearing them effectively.
- If large cohort of our class is required to quarantine, myself included, we may need to temporarily meet via Zoom to keep the class on track. This will be a last resort. This decision will be made with input from you.
- The university has asked us to abide by a seating chart this semester to facilitate contact tracing. I will alert you ahead of time if our seating arrangements change.
- Important updates will be sent via Canvas announcements.
- If you are unable to attend for an extended period, please notify me, so we can make alternate accommodations. I will be unable to fully replicate what happens in class, but I will do what I can so no one falls too far behind.
- Alternate assignments: If poor attendance becomes a liability to successfully completing this class we can discuss an alternate assignment. These will often require more work and time than attending class. For example, if someone misses a day where we discuss a particular essay or article, I will ask you to write a one or two-page essay that discusses how the text explores a key writing or rhetorical technique. These assignments will usually require outside research on your part to familiarize yourself with concepts covered in class.

Required Materials

- One notebook for in class writing assignments
 - Printer access, printer paper
 - Rules for Writers* by Diana Hacker and Nancy Sommers
- Instructor will supply additional handouts.

Optional Materials

-*Patterns for College Writing, 14th ed.* by Laurie Kirsznner and Stephen Mandell. (On textbook rental.)

Canvas

You will be able to find copies of all the necessary materials for this class on our Canvas page. This includes assignments, handouts, syllabi, schedule. As the semester unfolds, I will update it as needed.

Course Requirements

Students will be required to participate in each class. This means asking questions, challenging the texts, and encouraging your peers. The participation requirement will not be met if the student sits quietly through discussions and fails to engage the material. Students are also expected to complete all the reading for each week in addition to the writing assignments. Expect pop quizzes based on the weekly reading material.

Attendance Policy

This course depends on your attendance and participation. *Unexcused absences* will not be tolerated. After **THREE** unexcused absences your final grade WILL be lowered a half-letter for every absence thereafter. **SIX** unexcused absences may result in you being disenrolled from the course. **THREE tardies will count as one absence.** This policy pertains to all scheduled classes, online or in-person.

*Do not email me to ask what we covered in a class you missed. Use your student contacts.

If you must miss class for an excusable reason you are obligated to notify me by email before class is scheduled to begin. I define an excused absence as a class missed due to illness, mandatory religious obligations, certain University activities, or unavoidable circumstances. Again, please notify me in advance when you need to take an excused absence.

Respect

You are expected to respect your peers. Personal attacks will not be tolerated. Make sure your critiques are geared toward the materials at hand. Learning how to give polite, constructive criticism will improve your own writing more than you can imagine.

Cell Phones & Other Electronic Devices

Please silence/turn off these items at the beginning of class and leave them stored. Laptops may be used only to take notes. There will be times I ask students to shut computers down if I feel the devices are diminishing class participation. If devices become a distraction you will first be warned; continued distractions will *not* be discussed, but *will* result in a full loss of Participation Points(30% of your final grade).

Recording Policy

Students may not make audio, video, or photographic recordings of lectures or other class activities without written permission from the instructor. Anyone violating this policy will be asked to turn off the device being used. Refusal to comply with the policy will result in the student being asked to leave the classroom, and possibly being reported to the Dean of Students.

Major Assignments

You will be assigned 3 major writing assignments as part of this course.

- 1) Personal Narrative (3-4 thoroughly revised pages)
- 2) Informal Essay #1 (3-4 thoroughly revised pages)
- 3) Informal Essay #2 (3-4 thoroughly revised pages)

ALL PAPERS ARE DUE AT THE BEGINNING OF CLASS ON THE ASSIGNED TURN IN DATE. LATE PAPERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED WITHOUT SIGNIFIANT DEDUCTIONS TO THE OVERALL GRADE. A FULL LETTER WILL BE DEDUCTED FOR EVERY DAY THE PAPER IS TURNED IN PAST THE DEADLINE. PAPERS MAY NOT BE EMAILED. ALL PAPERS MUST BE TURNED IN TO PASS THIS COURSE.

Grading

Grades will be based on the following:

Attendance and Participation:	30%
Final Self Evaluation:	10%
Major Assignments:	1 Personal Narrative 20%
	1 Informal Essay #1 20%
	1 Informal Essay #2 20%

Each assignment will be assessed according to the “Criteria for Passing Grades in English 101”

Grading Scale

- 93-100% A
- 90 - 92% A-
- 87-89% B+
- 83-86% B
- 80-82% B-
- 77-79% C+

73-76% C
70-72% C-
66-69% D+
60-65% D
0-59% F

Assignment Format

All assignments must be typed on white paper, **double-spaced**, in **12 pt. Times New Roman**. **One inch margins all around**. I can spot doctored assignments from a mile.

In the top right-hand corner of each assignment you must type:

Your Name
Course title, section #
Professor Snowbarger
Date

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is taking credit for work that is not your own. There will be serious consequences if I find that you have stolen other people's work and turned it in as your own. You are also expected to turn in new work. Recycling old work is also considered plagiarism. (See the University's stance on plagiarism below).

Rights and Responsibilities

UWSP values a safe, honest, respectful, and inviting learning environment. In order to ensure that each student has the opportunity to succeed, we have developed a set of expectations for all students and instructors. This set of expectations is known as the *Rights and Responsibilities* document, and it is intended to help establish a positive living and learning environment at UWSP. Click here for more information: <http://www.uwsp.edu/stuaffairs/Pages/rightsandresponsibilities.aspx>

Academic integrity is central to the mission of higher education in general and UWSP in particular. Academic dishonesty (cheating, plagiarism, etc.) is taken very seriously. Don't do it! The minimum penalty for a violation of academic integrity is a failure (zero) for the assignment. For more information, see the UWSP "Student Academic Standards and Disciplinary Procedures" section of the *Rights and Responsibilities* document, Chapter 14, which can be accessed here: <http://www.uwsp.edu/stuaffairs/Documents/RightsRespons/SRR-2010/rightsChap14.pdf>

Learning Inclusive Environment

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal law requiring educational institutions to provide reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. For more information about UWSP's policies, check here: <http://www.uwsp.edu/stuaffairs/Documents/RightsRespons/ADA/rightsADAPolicyInfo.pdf>

If you have a disability and require classroom and/or exam accommodations, please register with the Disability and Assistive Technology Center and then contact me at the beginning of the course. I am happy to help in any way that I can. For more information, please visit the Disability and Assistive Technology Center, located on the 6th floor of the Learning Resource Center (the Library). You can also find more information here: <http://www4.uwsp.edu/special/disability/>

Concerns/Extra Help

If at any point during the semester you have concerns regarding your standing in this course, I strongly encourage you to meet with me outside of class.

I also encourage every student to take their papers to the Tutoring-Learning Center (TLC) located in the University Library basement. Make appointments by calling (715) 346-3568.