

Freshman English
Fall 2019
TR 11:00-12:15 Room 125

Professor Julie Tharp
Office: Laird 445
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Office Hours—10-11 MWF
and by appointment
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Course Goals:

My primary goal is for us to get lots of practice at writing for different purposes and situations. Throughout this practice we will use an approach that values the process as much as the product. We will have ample opportunity to read and respond to one another's work. I hope you will learn to value your writing for personal and professional reasons, if you don't already.

Textbooks:

"They Say, I Say": With Readings, Edition 2 Gerald Graff, Cathy Birkenstein, and Russell Durst

Requirements:

- 1) Class Attendance and Participation—I encourage as much day-to-day class participation as you can muster. The best way to increase your participation is to prepare for the next class by reading assignments thoroughly and preparing your writing assignments.
- 2) Conference Group Participation—In order to pass this class you have to attend the conference group meetings and participate actively within them. Active participation includes submitting copies of your rough drafts to the other group members, reading the other members' drafts thoughtfully and providing detailed feedback.
- 3) Short writing assignments—I will frequently ask you to write short, casual, handwritten responses to something we've read, observed, etc. Some are done in class, some out.
- 4) 5 essays—The essays we will work on this semester will range from 2-4 pages in length. We will take most of our material from personal experience and informal research.

Classroom Policies

Attendance:

If you miss more than 10% of the classes during the term your final grade will be lowered. (In case your math skills are rusty, that's 3 classes.)

Assignment:

I will accept any final draft one class period late. There is no penalty for this, but after that class period I will not accept the paper at all unless you have a terribly good excuse (childbirth, natural disaster, alien abduction, . . .). This does not apply to work done for conference groups. That work must be ON TIME.

Scholastic Dishonesty:

I have no sense of humor about plagiarism or cheating in any form. I assume we all enter the course in good faith. Do nothing to break with it.

Grading:

A—Exceptional work

B—Very good work—clearly above average

C—Average work—satisfies all the requirements

D—Below average work—fails to satisfy some basic requirements

Rewrite—Unsatisfactory work—please revise and resubmit.

If you do not revise Rewrites, they become F's at the end of the term. I strongly advise that you seek out my help on Rewrites. They usually indicate that the student is lost or confused about the assignment.

Revision:

You may revise and resubmit any graded essay. Simply print out the revised copy, highlight the changes and paperclip it to the graded essay. Turn them both in! If by some quirk of fate your revision is worse, don't worry. The higher grade stands. My only request is that you make a real effort to improve the essay. Don't just "fix the commas." Make it worth my while to read it.

Course Outline

Date	Reading Assignment/Topic	Work Due
Sept. 3	Introduction	
5	Process Approach Introduction in TSIS	Exercises 1 and 2
10	"They Say" pp. 17-27 "Her Point Is" pp. 28-38	Exercises 1 and 2 Exercise 1
12	Conference Groups	Rough Draft +3 copies
17	"As He Himself Puts It"	Ex. 1 and Final Draft
19	"Yes/No/Okay, But" "Don't Blame the Eater"	Exercise 1 Questions 1-4

24	“Kentucky Town of Manchester. . . “	Questions 1-5
	“Fat is a Feminist Issue”	Questions. 1-5
26	Conference Groups	Rough Draft w/copies
Oct. 1	“And Yet”	Final Draft
	“Skeptics May Object”	Ex. 1
3	“Watching TV Makes you Smarter”	Questions 1-4
	“Thinking Outside the Idiot Box”	Questions 1-4
8	“The Good, the Bad, and the Daily Show”	Questions 1-5
	“Family Guy and Freud”	Questions 1-4
	“As a Result”	Intro. and outline
10	“Saying Why it Matters”	Rough Draft w/copies
15	“Ain’t So/Is Not”	Final Draft
	“Income Inequality”	Questions 1-5
17	“Up Against Wal-Mart”	Questions 1-4
22	“Progressive Wal-Mart, Really.”	Questions 1-5
24	<i>Wal-Mart: The High Cost of Low Price</i>	
	Film Discussion	Outline
29	Conference Groups	Rough Draft w/copies
31	Weird Things Brainstorming!	Final Draft
	“I Am Therefore I Think”	Handout
Nov. 5	“Why DO People Believe Weird Things”	Handout
	“Abducted! Encounters with Aliens”	
7	Group Work—Formulate Inquiry	
12	Group Work—Follow through on Inquiry	
	Discuss Oral Presentations	
14	Research Workshop	
	Annotated Bibliography	
19	Group Presentations	Outline of presentation
21	Bibliography Workshop	Bibliography Draft
	MLA Documentation	
26	In class draft work	Bibliography Due
28	NO CLASS—THANKSGIVING BREAK	
Dec. 3	Conference Groups	Rough Draft
5	Draft Polishing	

10 Essay Examinations
Reading to be chosen by class
12 Essay Examinations

Final Draft due

