

English 202
Fall 2021

Instructor: Rebecca Lorenz-Schumacher
Office on campus: 464 CCC
Email: rlorenzs@uwsp.edu or message me on Canvas
Office hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays 2:00pm-3:30pm; Fridays 11:00am-noon,
and by appointment and/or Zoom

REQUIRED TEXTS
Available in text rental:

Kirszner, Laurie G., and Stephen R. Mandell. *Practical Argument*. Third ed., Bedford/St. Martin's, 2017.

Available for purchase in the University Bookstore:

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

** It doesn't matter if it's the custom one or not, but it must be the 9th edition. **

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 in class. (We'll talk about this assignment later in the syllabus.)

CLASS OBJECTIVES

This class will focus on the essentials of argument, research, and documentation.

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 in this English 202 class, you will

- 📖 learn how arguments are formed, what kinds of arguments exist, how to identify strong and weak arguments, how to form a refutation, and how these arguments affect your audience
- 📖 be able to take research and integrate it into your own writing
- 📖 be proficient with both MLA and APA styles of documentation
- 📖 perform appropriate college-level research by identifying various kinds of sources, evaluating their rhetoric, knowing how and when to use appropriate sources, learning how to analyze sources, and knowing how to incorporate sources into your writing
- 📖 critically analyze a nonfiction book
- 📖 work with your peers to improve your writing and critical thinking skills

ATTENDANCE

I expect you to attend, arrive on time, stay the entire class period, and keep up with the reading and writing assignments every class.

However, there are times when you may need to miss class. If you are exhibiting any symptoms of COVID or any other communicable illness, please do not attend class. Check Canvas to see what you missed.

If you need to miss a class occasionally, you do not need to email me regarding the absence (unless it's a day an assignment or exam is due). If you know you will be gone multiple class periods for any reason, contact me ASAP so we can work something out, if needed.

However, if you know you will be absent for more than 1 class period or have something major occur that will cause you to miss more than 1 class period, contact me ASAP so we can work something out, if needed.

CLASS POLICIES

1. You will be respectful of all people in the classroom and in Canvas at all times. This means you will attend each class on time, stay for the entire class period, not talk while I'm talking, nor will you badmouth me, other students, or other professors either in the classroom or on Canvas or Zoom.

2. You will be respectful of my time, which means you will not beg me to redo an assignment nor distract me during class.

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, attending a class 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. Silence (or better yet, turn off) your cell phones. Neither you nor I need the distraction. Even if there is a quiet moment in class, please refrain from checking your phone.

5. Class materials, assignments, quizzes, grades, news, reminders, access to Zoom (including my meeting room for conferences), updates, etc., are all on Canvas.

6. Most assignments are due at the beginning of class (with the exception of a few quizzes or other things online, which have a midnight due date). Anything submitted after the due date/time will be considered late and not accepted.

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 right after class. This causes the class to be delayed and brings everyone into your business. Instead, meet with me during my office hours or 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 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. For any number of reasons, we may need to hold class on Zoom. I may also hold office hours on Zoom. The link is in Canvas on the left side of the page. Make sure you set up your Canvas account as well as your Zoom account ASAP. I will not let you in to the class/meeting if your screen name does not match your name on the class roster. I will give you at least 24 hours' notice if a class will be on Zoom. Please make sure your background is appropriate and mute yourself until I give further directions.

12. 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 both in person and/or on Zoom. If my office hours don't work for you, please contact me to set up another time.

13. **FACE COVERING POLICY:** We will be following UWSP's guidelines throughout the semester. Therefore, for the foreseeable future, face coverings are **REQUIRED AT ALL TIMES IN CLASS**. I will not start the class until everyone has an appropriate face covering in place (i.e. covers nose and mouth). I am not going to play the mask police, so I'm only saying this one time: If you refuse to wear a face covering, you will be asked to leave until you go get a face covering (there should be some available in class, otherwise run back to your car/room to get it). If you choose not to comply, I cannot allow you in class and will report you to the dean of students. These are clearly-stated rules provided by UWSP, and we all need to abide by them.

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 Tuesday, you can turn it in Thursday with no points off).

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

I may deduct points from your grade for the following behaviors:

- 🔔 Missing more than 4 classes
- 🔔 Arriving late more than 3 times
- 🔔 Leaving class early more than 3 times
- 🔔 Talking while I'm talking or another student is talking
- 🔔 Being distracting or disruptive
- 🔔 Not being prepared for class
- 🔔 Using your phone during class

Typically, 10 points will be deducted **EACH** time the above infractions occur. I reserve the right not to give a warning before deducting points. Check your grade frequently on Canvas as I will put a note in the grade when I deduct points.

Short writing assignments/quizzes/peer review workshops (200 points)

Throughout the semester, we will have several short assignments. Some may be due only during class time; some may be due entirely on Canvas before midnight on a certain day. There will be 200 total points available for this grade. **These assignments are unable to be made up if they are late or incomplete;** however, I will drop the grades of the **THREE LOWEST-SCORED**

assignments throughout the semester. Therefore, 230 points will be available, but only a maximum of 200 points will count towards your grade.

Current Events discussion (50 points)

Each Tuesday, we will spend a bit of class time discussing current world events. Each article you post to Canvas AND discuss in class will be worth 10 points, with a maximum of 50 points for the semester.

Papers (400 points)

You will write four papers of varying styles and topics. Each paper is worth 100 points.

1. An I-search paper on your career or major (approx. 3-5 pages in length, in MLA format)
2. An evaluative biography paper (approx. 3-5 pages in length, in MLA format)
3. A literature review of a current event topic (approx. 6 pages, in APA format)
4. An annotated bibliography of your lit circle book (approx. 3 pages long, in APA or MLA format).

All will utilize UWSP library’s many resources. You will be required to watch videos on library instruction or attend library instruction sessions to find the correct sources for these papers. You are also required to peer review drafts of some of the papers on either in class or online on Canvas (this will be determined on the assignment). There will be points attached to the peer review workshops (part of the Short Writing Assignments grade).

Nonfiction literature circles project (300 points)

In small groups, you will read a nonfiction book that you have chosen from a list. You will meet with your group each week during class & discuss the book, have assignments (50 points/week total) to complete on the readings, and fill out an evaluation of the project (this will be part of the **Short Writing Assignments**). There will be in-class writings as well. Attendance during the lit circle meetings is required to get a passing grade for these assignments.

Final Exam (50 points)

Details and format TBA

REQUIREMENT AND POINT BREAKDOWN:

Current Events	50 points
Short writing assignments/quizzes	200 total points
I-search paper	100 points
Evaluative biography paper	100 points
Literature review	100 points
Literature circle assignments	300 points
Annotated bibliography	100 points
Final exam	50 points

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

I tend to get inundated with unnecessary emails. This wastes time for both of us. Instead, follow these simple guidelines to see if you should email me:

1. Before you email, check the assignment, Canvas, syllabus, or prior communication/class notes to see if you can find the answer.
2. Don't email me to tell me you won't be attending class UNLESS you will miss multiple class periods.
3. 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.
4. Don't email me asking me trivial matters (E.g. "Do I have to bring my textbook to class?").
5. Be respectful and professional in email correspondence (i.e. Don't address me as "Hey You" or "Yo").
6. Don't send me drafts for review.
7. Use email sparingly, and **only** for urgent concerns.