English 202, sec. 1 English 202, sec. 3 English 202, sec. 17
Spring 2022 Spring 2022 Spring 2022
MW 8-9:15 MW 9:30-10:45 MW 3:30-4:45
CCC 231 CCC 231 CCC 206

Dr. Wade Mahon Office: CCC 443 wmahon@uwsp.edu Office hrs. MW 11-12, TR 2-3, and by appt.

Syllabus

Required Texts: • Kirszner & Mandell. Practical Argument. 3rd ed.

• Hacker, Diana. Rules for Writers.

This course is designed to prepare you to communicate effectively in an academic setting and to arm you with helpful strategies for successful writing outside of the university. Our focus will be on the methods of inquiry and argumentation most commonly practiced within academic communities. Because academic discourse relies so heavily on a thorough documentation of claims, a large component of the work you do this semester will involve library research. You will be working together with your classmates in a workshop environment, which means you will be writing almost every day and will be reading and commenting on your classmates' work.

Papers. You will complete 2 longer research papers (5 pages each), and 4 shorter papers (2-3 pages). See Guidelines for Papers (below) for more specific instructions on paper expectations. *Plagiarism* will not be tolerated; see the University's "Community Rights and Responsibilities" for more information on academic expectations.

Participation: (120 points)

<u>Daily Homework assignments</u>. (60 points total, 4 points per week) You will need to post responses to homework assignments once or twice a week. Most homework assignments will be turned in through Canvas, but some might be completed in class.

<u>Attendance</u>. (60 points total, 4 points per week). Regular attendance is required and is important for completing the course successfully. If you are unable to come to class, please let me know ahead of time if possible. You are responsible for making up any work missed due to an absence. There is no Zoom option for attendance.

Your final grade will be calculated as follows:

Research papers (2)	400
Short papers (4)	300
Participation	<u>120</u>
	820 points

Guidelines For Papers

All papers must adhere to the following guidelines*:

- 1. They must be typed and proofread with any errors neatly corrected.
- 2. Double-space and print on one side of the page only
- 3. Use 1" margins all around, use a 10- or 12-point regular (not **bold** or *italicized*) font, and number each page.
- 4. There is no need for a separate title page; however, you must use a creative title at the beginning of your paper.
- 5. Put your name and the date in the upper right-hand corner of the first page.

<u>Late Papers</u>: All papers must be turned in at the beginning of class on the day assigned; however, a *late paper* may be accepted if you work out a reasonable plan of completion with me. There is no guarantee that late papers will be returned to you before the end of the semester.

^{*} Failure to follow these guidelines may affect your grade.

Semester Calendar

(Bold=Short papers; Bold=Research Papers; chapter #s refer to Practical Argument. Schedule subject to change.)

Part 1 – Question Authority: Developing a Healthy Skepticism of Conventional Wisdom

Jan 24, Course introduction—Conventional Wisdom

Jan 26, Using reliable sources—chapter 12

Jan 31, Using sources reliably—chapters 9, 10

Feb 2, Using sources reliably—chapter 11

Feb 7, Writing effective sentences

Seven Sentence Essay (50 pts)

Part 2 – Trust but Verify: Evaluating Sources Critically

Feb 9, Intro Unconventional Opinion Analysis

Feb 14, Criteria for Evaluating sources—chapter 8

Feb 16, Understanding pseudoscience and conspiracy theories

Feb 21, Popular sources

Feb 23, Scholarly sources

Unconventional Opinion Analysis (100 pts)

Part 3 – Writing is Rewriting: Applying Critical Thinking to Improve Your Arguments

Feb 28, Intro critical thinking and revision

Mar 2, Argument mapping

Mar 7, Argumentation and Reasoning—chapter 5

Mar 9, Logical Fallacies—chapter 5

Mar 14, Revision, Organization—chapter 1

Mar 16, Introduce primary research project;

Revision: Conventional Wisdom (200 pts)

SPRING BREAK – Mar 21-23

Part 4 – Design Your Own Primary Research Project

Mar 28, Preliminary research question

Mar 30, Project planning

Apr 4, APA style

Apr 6, Bring peer-reviewed sources

Apr 11, Updated research question

Apr 13, Project planning

Literature Review (100 pts)

Apr 18, Primary/Secondary sources

Apr 20, Research methods

Apr 25, Logistics, ethics

Apr 27, Primary research strategic outlines

May 2, Individual conferences

May 4, Individual conferences

May 9, Draft Workshop

May 11, Final prep

Primary Research Final Report (200 pts)

Final: Reflective Essay (50 pts)

(Section 1) Tues., May 17, 2:45-4:45 p.m.

(Section 3) Wed., May 18, 8-10 a.m.

(Section 17) Mon., May 16, 2:45-4:45 p.m.

Covid-19 stuff. Masks are required in all classrooms for now. We are not allowed to hold class unless everyone is wearing a mask. If you are feeling any flu-like symptoms, please stay home. Please be patient with everyone because we're all trying to make the best of a bad situation. For more information on this, please refer to the UWSP Covid-19 website: Guidance-FaceCoverings.pdf (uwsp.edu)

Foundation Level Written Communication Learning Outcomes:

1. 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.

Course elements: paper assignments, daily writing, readings and in-class activities

2. Apply your understanding of elements that shape successful writing to critique and improve your own and others' writing through effective and useful feedback.

Course elements: draft workshops, paper #2 (revision), reflective essay