

**English 101**  
Fall semester 2020

---

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 (when I will be on Zoom for meetings): Mondays and Wednesdays noon-1:00 pm; Tuesdays noon-2:00pm, and by appointment

---

**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.** \*

Shakespeare, William. *Macbeth*. Folger Shakespeare Library edition, 1992.

\*\* 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.) \*\*

---

**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

**A NOTE ON BEING A COLLEGE STUDENT IN 2020**

Let me say that being online is NOT my preferred method of delivering this course. I would MUCH rather be in person. However, this way keeps us all safe and is the best we can do given the circumstances.

That being said, this class is about what you put into it for success. If you attend all the Zoom sessions, 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.

ALSO – the format and assignments in this class are subject to change. We may find that we don't have enough time or need more time for certain items. Please be flexible (be like water, as Bruce Lee once said).

### **ATTENDANCE & PARTICIPATION**

While I expect you to log in and attend Zoom class meetings whenever possible, I do realize that some of you may not be able to access the class live. Therefore, if you are unable to attend class live, I will upload a video of the lecture to Canvas shortly after class time. You are REQUIRED to watch the lecture if you do not attend it live as it will contain vital information for success in this class. I don't assign many textbook readings, so most of the information you need will come in the form of lectures and PowerPoints.

In addition, you will be required to participate in various class activities for passing grade. This means attending at least some breakout class sessions, working with your peers in literature circles, and completing peer review assignments.

Obviously, there are times when you will be unable to log into a live class or have difficulty turning something in on time. Please contact me if you are having difficulties and we'll work something out. If you don't participate for more than 6 consecutive class periods without contacting me, I'll assume you've chosen to fail the course.

### **ZOOM CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS**

Whenever we have a class Zoom meeting scheduled (which won't be every class period, but there will be MANY meetings), the following rules apply:

1. Log in at least 5 minutes early and be ready to start on time.
2. Microphones MUST BE MUTED for the duration of class. If you have a question, use the "raise hand" icon OR submit it in the chat for EVERYONE. If I ask to you speak, then you can unmute your microphone. Please mute it again when you are done talking. Exceptions to this rule include meeting in breakout sessions, literature circle meetings, or when I give the OK.
3. If you're going to attend a Zoom meeting, I would prefer that you have your video/camera on. This way I can see you, get to know you, and make sure you're not just logging in and not listening. If you need to leave for a bit, you may mute your camera for a few minutes, but come back on once you are ready. I also understand that there may be circumstances where you cannot have your video on due to internet/bandwidth restrictions or other factors. If you feel that it's a hindrance to have your camera on, please let me know.
4. You must be appropriately clothed, just like you would be in an in-person class. It's fine if you're in a t-shirt and sweatpants, but the t-shirt should not contain offensive matter. Please, for everyone's benefit, wear a pair of pants/shorts/a kilt/a sarong/etc. that is appropriate for class. Even if you don't think we can see, I would prefer to avoid an embarrassing scene. 😊
5. Save the chat function for talking to the entire class. If you chat with your friends, it could accidentally get sent to everyone. Also, it's distracting for yourself and others to message them while I'm talking.

6. Have an appropriate background (i.e. remove the beer cans, girly/beefcake posters, etc.) as best you can. That being said, we really don't care if your room is a mess, you're outdoors, or wherever you need to be for internet. You can also use a virtual background (I sometimes use SpongeBob's pineapple) as long as it's appropriate for all of us to see. However, virtual backgrounds won't work on all devices.

**Violation of any of the above policies will result in removal from the Zoom session and a loss of participation for the day. If I have to remove you more than once, I will deduct 10 points from your overall grade EACH time. If I have to remove you 3 times, you will not be allowed to attend another Zoom meeting.**

### **OVERALL CLASS POLICIES**

1. You will be respectful of all people in the class at all times. This means not bothering nor distracting them during a Zoom session, respecting everyone in the session as well as within online spaces (the Canvas discussion boards, emails, etc.), listening thoughtfully and carefully in breakout/small group sessions, and muting your video/microphone if necessary.
2. You will be respectful of my time, which means you will not beg me to redo an assignment, ask if something is "OK" if it doesn't match the assignment, nor will you distract the class during a Zoom session.
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 submit ALL of your papers. You can't pass the class on just small assignments, showing up to a Zoom meeting or two, or a miracle. **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. **Cell phones must be TURNED OFF (or on Do Not Disturb) AND COMPLETELY OUT OF SIGHT during class meetings or group work time.** Neither you nor I need the distraction.
5. Canvas is your friend. YOU NEED TO USE IT. Class materials, assignments, quizzes, grades, news, updates, etc., are all on Canvas.
6. 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 so, it constitutes academic misconduct and you will receive a D or F on the paper depending on the severity of the infraction.
7. If you have a detailed question or concern about an assignment, grade, or the class, you need to email/message me on Canvas and set up an appointment to talk to me on Zoom. That way I can focus on you and your question. If it's a short general question, it's OK to post it in the chat or in an email/Canvas message.
8. Everyone has the right to be addressed and referred to by the name & pronouns they want. Talk to me if you have any concerns.
9. Email/Canvas message info: Allow 24 hours (Monday morning for a weekend email) for me to respond. 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.

10. Office hours: My Zoom office hours are listed at the top of the syllabus. They are a time I purposefully set aside to meet with students. Most of that time I am just working on my laptop and have Zoom open. However, I may need to step away from my computer for a bit. Therefore, I would appreciate it if you let me know that you would be “seeing” me so I can be prepared to meet with you. If the times I have on the syllabus do not work for you, contact me and we will see what we can work out. You can always visit the Tutoring-Learning Center (TLC) virtually if you need help with an assignment.

### LATE WORK POLICY

These are extraordinary times to be certain. I understand that some of you will be attending class from home, working full time, perhaps getting ill, helping out parents, etc. It’s not the same as getting to just be a college student. However, we still live on a schedule and we have to complete assignments before moving on. Therefore, I have a late paper policy which applies ONLY to major papers (worth 100 points):

**If your paper is one class period late = no points off**

**Two class periods late = -10 points PER CLASS LATE**

**Not submitted by the last day of class = 0 on the assignment and cannot be made up**

I reserve the right to provide fewer comments on late papers. And remember, “class periods” refers to when we meet.

HOWEVER, if you are struggling with the assignment or are ill, please contact me ASAP so we can work out a solution. Don’t email me 3 weeks later and ask me to make an exception (because I won’t).

All papers are due by MIDNIGHT on the date due.

### COURSE REQUIREMENTS

#### **Participation/Attendance**

You all start off with 50 points for participation & attendance. This means you log into Zoom class meetings as often as you can, you actively participate in breakout/group sessions, complete the coursework on time, are prepared for class, etc. Any time you violate the Zoom rules from above, I will deduct 10 points from this grade for EACH infraction. See the section above about additional info on participation and attendance. Please check this grade often as I will update it as needed. You will always have time to make things right, too, so please look over my feedback.

#### **Short writing assignments**

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**

You will write five papers of various styles and topics:

- ✍ A descriptive essay (approx. 3 pages long)
- ✍ A paper on *Macbeth* (approx. 2 pages long)
- ✍ An exemplification and narrative essay (approx. 3 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.

### *Macbeth*

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.

### **Literature circles project**

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 (150 points), evaluations (part of the Short Writing Assignments grade), a profile paper, and a compare & contrast essay (listed as papers above).

### **Final exam**

Your final exam will be on your literature circle book, and it will be worth 50 points.

### **REQUIREMENT AND POINT BREAKDOWN:**

|                               |                  |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Attendance & participation    | 50 points        |
| Short writing assignments     | 150 points total |
| <i>Macbeth</i> exam           | 100 points       |
| Papers (5 X 100 points each)  | 500 points total |
| Literature circle assignments | 150 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 |

### **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.**

1. Don't email me to tell me you won't be logging in UNLESS it is a day in which there is an exam OR you will miss multiple class periods.

2. Don't email me to ask for things that are already posted to Canvas. If the document 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. Please allow at least 24 hours for a response via email. (Monday morning at the earliest for a weekend email.)
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. This will save time for everyone.