Expository Writing Dr. Stelmachowicz

Fall 2016

One semester .5 credits **Dual credit course** Concordia University Nebraska

Course Description

Expository Writing is a course focusing on developing student processes for writing in multiple genres, including a research-based academic project and creative works. Students will examine techniques for generating ideas (prewriting); giving and receiving feedback; finding, evaluating, and integrating sources; adapting rhetorical strategies for audience and context; revising; and editing. Students will also discuss the origins and application of English language conventions.

Goals/Objectives

Students who successfully complete the course will …

* Improve their ability to write clearly and concisely
* Understand and improve their writing process to produce more effective and efficient texts
* Refine their writing abilities in multiple genres, including academic writing, analytic writing, and creative writing
* Improve their ability to use rhetorical strategies in a variety of communication contexts
* Expand their ability to give and receive helpful feedback
* Improve basic information literacy skills

Outcomes

Students will complete

* 30 pages of published (final copy) material covering a variety of genres
* Over 60 pages (typed) of rough draft work and prewriting work as a means of generating ideas for revision
* One major research project that will require them to frame a research question and integrate source material while properly crediting their resources
* Essays of definition, division and classification, analogy, cause and effect, comparison/contrast, persuasive (argumentation), description, and evaluation.
* Writing group projects that will allow them to receive and give feedback on preliminary drafts
* A writing notebook –included will be all written material, drafts, revisions, vocabulary words, writing in class assignments, etc
* A summary portfolio exhibiting their best works

Methods

The instructor will…

* Lecture
* Facilitate discussion
* Assign in class and out of class writing prompts
* Write along with students and share writing strategies
* Share examples of excellent writing to study and imitate
* Offer critique and consultation
* Guide students in peer review and critique
* Guide students through a reflective writing process revision strategy
* Facilitate vocabulary strengthening exercises

Evaluation

Students will be evaluated on

* Involvement and participation in the writing process (in class writing tasks, notebook) **30%**

This means the writer participates fully with designed assignments

* Demonstrated effectiveness of published writing (final drafts submitted) **40%**

This equates to the marks earned on each published paper.

* Completed research paper **20%**

Mark earned for completed research paper. This is an accumulated grade throughout the process of crafting the research paper.

* Demonstrated understanding of rhetorical principles, editing, and evaluation techniques (final portfolio) **10%**

Late work will effect a student grade in a negative manner. Please communicate clearly and effectively if you are falling behind in this class.

**Bibliography**

Clark, Roy Peter. *Writing Tools*. Little, Brown and Co. USA, 2006

Elbow, Peter. *Writing without Teachers.* Oxford University Press USA, 1998

Gallagher, Kelly. *Write Like This.* Stenhouse Publishers Portland, Me, 2011

Kirszner, Laurie. *Patterns for College Writing.* Bedford/St. Martin’s, 2012

Kittle, Penny. *Write Beside Them.* Heinemann Portsmouth, NH, 2008

Strunk, William and White, E. B. *The Elements of Style,* 4th edition. Pearson Education, Inc., 2000.

Zinesser, William K. *On Writing Well.* Collins, 2006

**A Calendar**

Essays we need to write—definition, process, comparison/contrast, analogy, division and classification, cause and effect, description, exemplification, and a research paper. You, as a class, will decide the order we write these essays.

Wed. August 17th Class syllabus, procedures, introductions

Thurs. August 18th Why we write, the writing process, vocabulary acquisition, acrimony, adamant, apocryphal Prewriting—what is it? We begin to write…. Sections in your notebook--a Journal, rough drafts, prompts and daily work, final drafts, creative, vocabulary, etc

Fri. August 19th Writing prompts….Pre-writing. getting ideas for a paper, writing about self, who

am I? or who I am….

Tues. August 23rd Revision/Editing discussed/defined……..**Rough draft due**

Wed. August 24th Final draft due—hey it’s the first paper, relax journal entry #1

Thurs. August 25th Prompts—prewrite—discuss the 1st paper and grading procedures

Discuss abstract and concrete words

Fri. August 26th Begin writing description paper—prompts journal entry #2

Tues. September 30 Revision/editing again……….and again

Wed. September 31 Description paper rough drafts due

Thurs. Sept. 1st **Final draft description paper due**—prompts for process paper

Fri. Sept. 2nd Process paper prompts….how do you do this? journal entry #3

Tues. Sept. 6th  Review process paper style--prompts

Wed. Sept. 7th  Process rough drafts due

Thurs. Sept. 8th  **Process final drafts due**………… journal entry #4

Prompts compare/contrast

Fri. Sept. 9th  Block or side by side

Tues. Sept. 13th  Where are we? Revision/editing journal entry #5

Wed. Sept. 14th  Rough drafts due compare/ contrast

Thurs. Sept. 15th **Olympic Day**

Fri. Sept. 16th **Final draft compare/contrast paper due** Research paper—topic ideas

Tues. Sept. 20th  —begin research paper process—

Definition papers discussed and rough drafts created ? Prompts

Wed. Sept. 21st Continue work on definition paper—writing one in class

Thurs. Sept. 22nd Revise and edit Definition papers

Fri. Sept. 23th Student Help Day

Tues. Sept. 27th  **Definition papers due**\*\* begin understanding analogies

Wed. Sept. 28th argumentation—read editorials

Thurs. Sept. 29th Olympic Day

Fri. Sept. 30th **Journal #6….Fall classic or define respect…..**

Tues. October 4th Letter to editor due—include article—ongoing respect definition

Wed. Oct. 5th Vocabulary day—just wait and see—begin writing story about the child who

disappeared, or ran away, was in a boat….

Thurs. Oct. 6th Work on definition and begin vocab story

Fri. Oct. 7th Continue work on Definition/ RESPECT== no pronouns

Tues. Oct. 11th **Final paper—Respect—no pronouns—analogy prewrite**

Wed. Oct. 12th Analogy ideas—begin an analogy—examples—**testing day**

Thurs. Oct. 13th Work on analogies—thesis paper ideas discussed

Fri. Oct. 14th Vocab stories due—analogy rough drafts

Tues. Oct. 18th Analogy final published paper due—research topics

Wed. Oct. 19th Research papers discussed Division and Classification examples

Thurs. Oct. 20st Research paper thesis sentence due—Division and classification prewrite

Fri. Oct. 21st More on div and classification

Tues. Oct. 25th Division and Classification rough draft**—clichés**

**Wed. Oct. 26th Cliché Day cont….**

Thurs. Oct. 27th **7th and 8th grade visit day**

Fri. Oct. 28th **Div and Classification paper due—**more writing

**Tues. Nov. 1st Cause and effect rough drafts**

**Wed. Nov. 2nd Research Paper—Thesis due—main idea--position**

**Thurs. Nov. 3th** Drafting the paper—Position paper

**Fri.. Nov. 4th Creative Day**

**Tues. Nov. 8th Cause and Effect Final Due………**Research

**Wed. Nov. 9th** More research

**Thurs. Nov. 10th Outline for research paper due**

**Fri. Nov. 11th** Writing philosophy---who are you as a writer and why?

Position paper ideas--arguments

**Tues. Nov. 15th Position paper essay discussion**

**Wed. Nov. 16th Begin evaluation essay discussion…movie or book**

**Thurs. Nov. 17th Rough Draft—Evaluation/review**

**Fri. Nov. 18th  Rough drafts due—early birds--+.05**

**Tues. Nov. 22th Rough drafts due—the rest**

**Wed. Nov. 23rd More vocab fun—**

**Thurs. Nov. 26th HAPPY THANKSGIVING**

**Tues. Nov. 29th Early turn in for Research Paper +15**

**Wed. Nov. 30th Creative pieces for publication**

**Thurs. Dec. 1st Working on Class publication**

**Fri. Dec. 2nd**

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**Tues. Dec. 6th Early turn in for Research paper +10**

**Wed. Dec. 7th**

**Thurs. Dec. 8th**

**Fri. Dec. 9th Research Papers due++++++++++300**

**Tues. Dec. 13th  Review for Final**

**Wed. Dec. 14th**

**Thurs. Dec. 15th**

**Fri. Dec. 16th Finals**

**Mon. Dec. 19th Finals**

**Tues. Dec. 20th Finals**