

Writing 1025G: Critical Reading and Writing

January – April 2011

Tues: 10:30-11:30
Thurs: 9:30-11:30

Instructor: Julian Sonik
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Office Hours: 11:30-1:30
Thursdays
Office Location: A6

HC W-101

Course Description

Students will be required to reflect and comment upon selected readings through online journal entries. They will write various short in-class critical pieces. Assignments include a summary, substantial critical review, an annotated bibliography and a research essay. Emphasis will be placed upon the creation and recognition of effective sentences as a way to structure clear and critical communication. It is an assumption of this course that all effective writing begins with effective sentences. Using template exercises, students will engage a critical writing process designed to prepare them to judge and produce academic writing. Current expectations placed upon academic writers by academic communities, discursive elements of academic communication, and the broader underlying assumptions upon which academic writing is predicated are all goals of the course.

Absences and Late Work

Students are expected to come to class. Late assignments will be evaluated minus 2% per day submitted after deadlines. Assignments submitted after deadlines will only be marked if a valid argument for the late submission is presented. Assignments submitted late for non-medical reasons more than one week after their due dates will not be graded and will receive a mark of zero. Non-Medical absences will result in the forfeiting or reducing of the class participation mark worth 10%. Because of the number of assignments requiring a thorough and practical understanding of a variety of formats and methods which will be discussed in class, it is clearly to the student's advantage to attend.

Students who cannot meet their academic responsibilities for medical reasons must submit appropriate documentation. Huron students should present this documentation to the Academic Counselor, Academic Services Center at Huron University College with a Request for Relief specifying the nature of the requested accommodation. Only where documentation indicates that the onset, duration and/or severity of the illness are such that the student could not reasonably be expected to complete his/her academic responsibilities will academic accommodation be granted.

Prerequisite Information

Students are responsible for ensuring that they have successfully completed all course prerequisites. Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enrol in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Conduct of Students in Classes, Lectures, and Seminars

Membership in the community of Huron University College and the University of Western Ontario implies acceptance by every student of the principle of respect for the rights, responsibilities, dignity and well-being of others and a readiness to support an environment conducive to the intellectual and personal growth of all who study, work and live within it. Upon registration, students assume the responsibilities that such registration entails. The academic and social privileges granted to each student are conditional upon the fulfillment of these responsibilities.

In the classroom, students are expected to behave in a manner that supports the learning environment of others. Students can avoid any unnecessary disruption of the class by arriving in sufficient time to be seated and ready for the start of the class, by remaining silent while the professor is speaking or another student has the floor, and by taking care of personal needs prior to the start of class. If a student is late, or knows that he/she will have to leave class early, be courteous: sit in an aisle seat and enter and leave quietly.

Please see the *Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities* at:

http://www.huronuc.ca/students/student_life/student_policies

Technology

It is not appropriate to use technology (such as, but not limited to, laptops, PDAs, cell phones) in the classroom for non-classroom activities. Such activity is disruptive and is distracting to other students and to the instructor, and can inhibit learning. Students are expected to respect the classroom environment and to refrain from inappropriate use of technology and other electronic devices in class.

Academic Accommodation for Medical/Non-Medical Grounds

For UWO Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness and a downloadable SMC see:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf

[downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC): <https://studentservices.uwo.ca> under the

Medical Documentation heading]

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation will be determined by the Dean's Office in consultation with the instructor.

For non-medical grounds or for medical grounds when work represents less than 10% of the overall grade for the course, the student must submit a request to the instructor in writing prior to the due date of an assignment and immediately in the case of a test. (Or as soon as possible following a medical emergency.) Students are protected under the Official Student Record Information Privacy Policy and so written requests need only include a broad and general explanation of the situation and the approximate length of time off required. At the discretion of the instructor, the granting of extensions and re-scheduled tests may require the student to submit supporting medical or non-medical documentation to the Academic counselor, who will then make the determination as to whether accommodation is warranted.

Statement on Academic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf .

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is an academic offence and will be treated as such. Students who are in doubt as to the nature of this offence should consult their instructor, Department Chair or the Dean, as well as the Huron University College Statement on Plagiarism, available at the reference desk in the HUC Library and at <http://www.huronuc.ca/library/Citing/>. In addition, students may seek guidance from a variety of current style manuals available at the Reference Desk in the HUC Library. Information about these resources can be found in LibGuides on the main page: <http://www.huronuc.ca/library>.

Students found guilty of plagiarism will suffer consequences ranging from a grade reduction to failure in the course to expulsion from the university. In addition, a formal letter documenting the offence will be filed in the Dean's Office, and this record of the offence will be retained in the Dean's Office for the duration of the student's academic career at Huron University College.

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com.

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

Policy on Special Needs

Students who require special accommodation for tests and/or other course components must make the appropriate arrangements with the Student Development Centre (SDC). Further details concerning policies and procedures may be found at:

http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/ssd/?requesting_acc

Attendance Regulations for Examinations

A student is entitled to be examined in courses in which registration is maintained, subject to the following limitations:

- 1) A student may be debarred from writing the final examination for failure to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year.
- 2) Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course. The Dean of the Faculty offering the course will communicate that decision to the Dean of the Faculty of registration.

Class Cancellations

In the event of a cancellation of class, every effort will be made to post that information on the Huron website, <http://www.huronuc.ca/accessibility> (“Postings of Service Disruptions”).

Accessibility

Huron University College strives at all times to provide its goods and services in a way that respects the dignity and independence of people with disabilities. We are also committed to giving people with disabilities the same opportunity to access our goods and services and allowing them to benefit from the same services, in the same place as, and in a similar way to, other customers. We welcome your feedback about accessibility at Huron. Information about how to provide feedback is available at: <http://www.huronuc.ca/accessibility>

Program and Academic Counselling

Writing students registered at Huron who require advice about modules and courses in Writing should contact Dr. T. Hyland, Coordinator, Writing Services - thyland@huron.uwo.ca. Students should contact Academic Counselling on other academic matters. See the Academic Counselling website for information on services offered.

http://www.huronuc.ca/students/service_centre/academic_counselling/

Required Texts

- Graff, Gerald & Cathy Birkenstein (2010) *They say/I say: the moves that matter in academic writing*. 2nd edition. New York: W. W. Norton & Co.
- Faigley, L., R. Graves & H. Graves (2007) *The brief Penguin handbook*. Canadian edition. Toronto: Pearson Longman.

Assignments

Online Journal (5 small assignments)	3% each	Due Jan 13, 27, Feb 10, March 1, March 22
Summary	5%	Due Jan 20
Short Critical Review	10%	Due Feb 3
Long Critical Review	15%	Due Feb 17
Annotated Bibliography	15%	Due Mar 17
Research Paper	15%	Due April 7
Final Exam	15%	
Class Participation	10%	