



## DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION

### COURSE OUTLINE – FALL 2019

#### EN1201 (B2): Composition and Rhetoric – 3 (3-0-0) 45 Hours for 15 Weeks

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Heather Joyce      **PHONE:** 780-539-2977  
**OFFICE:** C418      **E-MAIL:** [HJoyce@gprc.ab.ca](mailto:HJoyce@gprc.ab.ca)

#### OFFICE HOURS:

Thursdays 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m., Fridays 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m., and by appointment

#### CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:

This course will help students become more sophisticated users and producers of written texts. Instruction will include basic academic essay-writing skills and the various rhetorical approaches used when addressing specific audiences. The main goals of the course are to help students integrate reading and writing and to become familiar with the conventions of college- (and university-) level writing. This includes producing coherent, logical texts that are relatively free of surface errors. To achieve these goals, the course encourages students to think critically, to read closely and analytically, and to compose responses to a variety of texts, both written and visual.

**PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE:** English 30-1, EN0130, or equivalent

#### REQUIRED TEXTS/RESOURCE MATERIALS:

All of the works you are required to read will be posted to Moodle. You may also choose to purchase the following book.

Messenger, William E., et al. *The Canadian Writer's Handbook: Essentials Edition*. 2nd ed., Oxford UP, 2017.

**DELIVERY MODE(S):** Course work includes lecture, class discussion, writing instruction, in-class tasks, writing assignments, and a final exam.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:** This course is designed to develop each student's ability to think critically, read closely, and write proficiently (technically and rhetorically) at the university level.

Students will practice translating careful reading into effective writing. By the end of the course, students will be able to describe how works are constructed using specific terminology that pertains to the study of fiction and nonfiction. Students also will be able to construct persuasive argumentative essays, proofread writing for surface errors, and correct most fundamental errors of grammar and punctuation.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:** After taking this course, successful students will be able to

- analyze texts through close reading
- express ideas clearly and respond critically to written works through writing
- describe the constituent parts of an effective essay (thesis statement, topic sentence, etc.) and reproduce these elements in their own writings
- recognize and use a range of paragraph structures and patterns
- plan, outline, and draft a piece of writing that develops a specific thesis
- revise a text, adjusting style and content for specific purposes and audiences
- recognize varied rhetorical strategies in a range of texts and employ these techniques in their own writing
- proofread writing for surface errors and correct the majority of these errors

**TRANSFERABILITY:** UA, UC, UL, AU, GMU

**\*Warning:** Although we strive to make the transferability information in this document up-to-date and accurate, **the student has the final responsibility for ensuring the transferability of this course to Alberta Colleges and Universities.** Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check to ensure the transferability of this course at Alberta Transfer Guide at <http://transferalberta.alberta.ca/transfer-alberta-search/#/audienceTypeStep>

**\*\* Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability.**

## **EVALUATIONS:**

Participation – 5%

In-class tasks –20%

Short writing assignment 1 – 10%

Short writing assignment 2 – 15%

Essay – 20%

Final exam – 30%

## GRADING CRITERIA:

Please note that most universities will not accept your course for transfer credit **IF** your grade is **less than C-**.

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines		Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines
A+	4.0	90-100		C+	2.3	67-69
A	4.0	85-89		C	2.0	63-66
A-	3.7	80-84		C-	1.7	60-62
B+	3.3	77-79		D+	1.3	55-59
B	3.0	73-76		D	1.0	50-54
B-	2.7	70-72		F	0.0	00-49

## COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

Weeks 1-2: Grammar and Style (Syntax, Diction, Style, Sentence Structure)

Weeks 3-5: Critical Reading Practices (Strategies for Active Reading)

Weeks 6: Considering Audience, Occasion, and Purpose (Planning Strategies)

Week 7: Development Patterns I: Illustration and Narration

Weeks 8-9: Development Patterns II: Description, Definition, Classification

Weeks 10-11: Development Patterns III: Comparison and Contrast, Cause and Effect, Argument

Weeks 12-14: Rhetoric in Action: Research Writing and Documentation

Week 15: Review

## STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Written assignments are to be submitted to Moodle as an electronic copy AND directly to me as a hard copy. I will not accept assignments submitted via e-mail. Please note students are required to accept the Turnitin user agreement when submitting assignments via Moodle.
2. It is the student's responsibility to retain a copy of ALL assignments submitted for grading; in the unlikely event of theft or loss, a duplicate copy must be available upon request.
3. Written assignments are to be submitted *on time*. This means that they are due *at the beginning of class*. Late assignments will incur a penalty of 5% per day, with weekends counting as one day.
4. Extensions will not be granted for written assignments except in extenuating circumstances. Documentation will be required.
5. Students are required to check the Moodle site for this course before each class to stay informed concerning the schedule of readings as well as course updates and announcements.
6. Cellphones are to be turned off and kept out of sight during class time. Students who text while the instructor and/or other students are speaking will lose marks for participation.
7. Students should avoid making travel plans until after the exam schedule has been set. The registrar will release the exam schedule during the semester; please note that absolutely no alternative examination dates will be considered except in the case of a medical emergency.

### **STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:**

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and there will be penalties. For a more precise definition of plagiarism and its consequences, refer to the section on Plagiarism and Cheating in the College policy titled Student Misconduct: Academic and Non-Academic at (<https://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/fetch.php?ID=68>).

Instructors reserve the right to use electronic plagiarism detection services on written assignments. **Instructors also reserve the right to ban the use of any form of electronics (cell phones, Blackberries, iPods, tablets, scanning pens, electronic dictionaries, etc.) during class and during exams.**

\*\*Note: all Academic and Administrative policies are available at <https://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/>