



DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION

COURSE OUTLINE – Fall 2021

EN1201 (A2): Composition and Rhetoric – 3 (3-0-0) 45 Hours for 15 Weeks

Grande Prairie Regional College respectfully acknowledges that we are located on Treaty 8 territory, the traditional homeland and gathering place for many diverse Indigenous peoples. We are honoured to be on the ancestral lands of the Cree, Dene/Beaver and Métis, whose histories, languages, and cultures continue to influence our vibrant community. We are grateful to have the opportunity to work, learn, and live on this land.

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Heather Joyce **PHONE:** 780-539-2977
OFFICE: C418 **E-MAIL:** hjoyce@gprc.ab.ca
OFFICE HOURS: Tuesdays 3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. (e-mail in advance to receive a Zoom link) 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 TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:

All of the works you are required to read will be posted on myClass (D2L).

DELIVERY MODE(S): Course work includes lecture, class discussion, writing instruction, 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 strategies in their own writing
- proofread writing for surface errors and correct the majority of these errors

TRANSFERABILITY:

Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check to ensure the transferability of this course at the Alberta Transfer Guide main page: <http://www.transferalberta.ca>.

**** 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:

Attendance – 5%

Participation (contributions to discussion, group work, etc.) – 5%

Tasks – 25%

Short writing assignment – 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: Critical Reading Practices (Strategies for Active Reading)

Weeks 3-5: Considering Audience, Occasion, and Purpose (Planning Strategies, Research, and Documentation)

Weeks 6: Grammar and Style (Syntax, Diction, Style, Sentence Structure)

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, Argument

Weeks 12-14: Rhetoric in Action

Week 15: Review

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

- 1. This is a high-flex course. Although you are able to attend in person or remotely, please note that the final exam requires on-site attendance. Students who choose to attend class in person are strongly encouraged to wear masks.**
2. Assignments are to be submitted to myClass (D2L). **I will not accept assignments submitted via e-mail.** The myClass (D2L) site for this course contains everything you need to be successful. Resist the temptation to go outside of the course to consult literary guides, other websites, etc. All of the work you submit **MUST** be your own. We will discuss academic integrity in class. Please note students are required to accept the Turnitin user agreement when submitting assignments.
3. It is the student's responsibility to retain a copy of ALL assignments submitted for grading; in the unlikely event of loss, a duplicate copy must be available upon request.
4. 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 two days.
5. Extensions will be granted for written assignments in extenuating circumstances. Documentation may be required.
6. Students are required to check the myClass (D2L) site for this course before each class to stay informed.
7. Regularly scheduled office hours will be held via Zoom. I am also happy to discuss assignments, etc. with you outside of my official office hours. If you would like to meet either during my regularly scheduled office hours or at an alternate time, simply contact me via e-mail.
8. To help create a sense of community, students are required to enable video when they log into Zoom. Please make every attempt to minimize distractions (i.e. turn off cell phones, close unnecessary

windows, etc.). **Unless there are extenuating circumstances, you must enable video in order to be considered present.**

9. This class will be delivered synchronously; students are expected to attend each class either in person or virtually. Recordings or lecture materials may be made available to students who miss class if extenuating circumstances arise. Documentation may be required.

10. Students who miss more than 10 percent of classes (2-3 classes) will not receive a passing grade for attendance or participation. Students must attend the full class to be considered present.

11. You are more than welcome to contact me via e-mail to ask questions, etc. Please note that you are more likely to receive a quick response if you contact me during the week (Monday to Friday). My response time on weekends will be slower. I will respond to most e-mails within 48 hours (depending on the volume of e-mails I receive). If you have a complicated question or are seeking specific assignment advice (i.e. if you would like me to read drafts, make suggestions regarding essay structure, etc.), you should contact me via e-mail and request to meet via Zoom.

12. 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 Student Conduct section of the College Calendar at <http://www.gprc.ab.ca/programs/calendar/> or the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at <https://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies>

**Note: all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.