



DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION

COURSE OUTLINE – Fall 2015

EN1201 (D2) – Composition and Rhetoric - (3-0-0) 45 Hours

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Craig Smith

PHONE: 780-539-2894

OFFICE: C308

E-MAIL: CrSmith@gprc.ab.ca

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday 2:30-4:00 or by appointment

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE: Successful Completion of Alberta English 30 (or equivalent of grade 12 English).

REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:

Gaetz et al. – *The Canadian Writer's World* 2nd Edition

I will also post material to the Moodle page for this course. It is *your* responsibility to check Moodle regularly to keep up with the assigned readings.

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.

CREDIT/CONTACT HOURS: 3 credits / 3 hours per week

DELIVERY MODE(S): The course work includes lectures, class discussions, in-class tests, group work, and assignments.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: The aims of this course are to enable students to become more technically- and rhetorically-proficient writers. Students taking this course will not only gain a greater understanding of the fundamentals of grammar and punctuation but will also have the chance to read and analyze a range of texts that will provide students with the tools to recognize and utilize persuasive rhetoric in a variety of forms. The goal of this course is to provide students with an understanding of the ways in which critical reading and effective writing go hand-in-hand.

LEARNING OUTCOMES: After taking this course, the successfully participating students will demonstrate the following:

- The ability to identify and to employ a range of sentence structures
- The ability to compose grammatically-correct sentences
- The ability to punctuate writing proficiently and to recognize improperly- punctuated material
- The ability to recognize varied rhetorical strategies in a range of texts as well as the ability to employ a variety of rhetorically-persuasive techniques in students' own writing
- The ability to produce coherent and well-structured essays
- The ability to consider factors such as the occasion, purpose, and audience for a piece of writing
- An understanding of a range of paragraph structures and patterns as well as some ability to recreate them in students' own writing
- An understanding of what makes for an effective thesis statement and topic sentence and an ability to apply that understanding in practice
- An understanding of the close interrelation between strong critical reading practices and effective writing

TRANSFERABILITY:

Athabasca University: ENGL 155 (3)

Canadian University College: ENGL 1xx (3)

Concordia University College of Alberta: ENG 1xx (3)

DeVry Institute of Technology - Calgary: ENGL 1TR (3)

Grant MacEwan University: ENGL 102 (3)

King's University College: ENGL 2xx (3)

Lethbridge College: ENG 1150 (3)

University of Alberta: ENGL 1xx (3) OR AUENG 1xx (3)

University of Calgary: Jr. ENCO (3)

University of Lethbridge: HUM 1xxx (3)

Accepted by The University of Lethbridge as junior prerequisite for senior literature courses. If you are transferring to University of Alberta or University of Calgary, you will need EN1201 and a 3 credit course in English Literature as prerequisite for senior literature courses.

**** 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**

GRADING CRITERIA:

GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE			
GRADING CONVERSION CHART			
Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines	Designation
A ⁺	4.0	90 – 100	EXCELLENT
A	4.0	85 – 89	
A ⁻	3.7	80 – 84	FIRST CLASS STANDING
B ⁺	3.3	77 – 79	
B	3.0	73 – 76	GOOD
B ⁻	2.7	70 – 72	
C ⁺	2.3	67 – 69	SATISFACTORY
C	2.0	63 – 66	
C ⁻	1.7	60 – 62	
D ⁺	1.3	55 – 59	MINIMAL PASS
D	1.0	50 – 54	
F	0.0	0 – 49	FAIL
WF	0.0	0	FAIL, withdrawal after the deadline

EVALUATIONS:

Monthly tests – 15%

Writing assignment 1 – 5%

Writing assignment 2 – 10%

Writing assignment 3 – 10%

Final essay – 20%

Attendance and Participation – 10%

Final Exam – 30%

During the course of the semester, you will write three tests. These tests will take place on the final class of every month and will function as “unit tests” that will help you determine your level of understanding heading into the final exam. A final examination will be scheduled for the end of the semester by the registrar; students should avoid making travel plans before this exam date is available. Absolutely **no** alternative examination dates will be considered except in the case of a medical emergency.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Written assignments are to be submitted directly to me in hard copy form. I **will not** accept electronic copies. 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.

2. Written assignments are to be submitted *on time*. This means that they are due *before the beginning of class*. Late assignments will incur a penalty of 5% per day, with weekends counting as one day.

3. Extensions will not be granted for written assignments except in extenuating circumstances. Documentation will be required.

4. Students are required to check the Moodle site for this course before each class to

stay informed concerning course updates and announcements.

5. 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.

Refer to the College Policy on Student Rights and Responsibilities at
www.gprc.ab.ca/d/STUDENTRIGHTSRESPONSIBILITIES

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

Refer to the College Student Misconduct: Academic and Non-Academic Policy at
www.gprc.ab.ca/d/STUDENTMISCONDUCT

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

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

Weeks 1-4: Grammar, syntax, diction, and style

Sentence structure: phrases, clauses, sentences

Weeks 5-8: Rhetoric: The art of persuasion

Considering occasion, purpose, and audience

Weeks 9-14: Argument and evaluation

Critical reading and Essay writing