



School of Liberal Arts

ENGL 050

College Writing Skills

Winter 2023

3 Credits

Course Outline

INSTRUCTOR	James Howell	OFFICE HOURS	T.B.A
OFFICE	A2306/7	CLASSROOM	Online via Zoom
Email	jhowell@yukonu.ca	CLASS TIME	Mon.-Thurs. 10:30-11:50
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COURSE DESCRIPTION

In this course, students will develop foundational skills in critical thinking, academic writing, and literary analysis in preparation for studying English at the university level. Critical thinking and reading skills will be developed through reading a variety of genres, including textbook and online references, literature, and academic essays. Lectures, class discussions, and reading responses will further develop critical thinking and reading skills. Writing and research skills will be developed through written assignments, including reading responses, essays, a research project, and writing-on-demand assignments. Students will also learn how to gather and organize information, avoid plagiarism, and follow conventions of documentation styles.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

PREREQUISITE Suitable score on writing assessment, 65% or higher in ENGL 030, or equivalent.

RELATED COURSE REQUIREMENTS

It is highly recommended that all students have access to a computer or tablet (not only a phone) and Internet to do their studies. The minimum specifications for a student device are as follows:

Requirement	Windows-based PC	Apple Mac/macOS-based PC
Operating System	Windows 10	macOS X
Web Browser	Firefox, Edge or Google Chrome	Firefox, Edge or Google Chrome
RAM/Memory	4 GB	4 GB
Storage	5 GB of available space	5 GB of available space

EQUIVALENCY OR TRANSFERABILITY

Please refer to the B.C. Transfer Guide for the most up to date information on course transferability. If you have questions about course transferability, contact the School of Academic Skill Development.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Please see Appendix I which provides a list of learning outcomes as articulated by BCCAT. Please note that at least 85% of the following outcomes are required to be followed in order to uphold our transfer agreement with BCCAT.

LEARNING INTENTIONS

Students are invited to explore the following:

Creative & Critical Thinking

- Apply critical and creative thinking skills in some of the following ways: explore personal identity and situating self, consider context, discuss, interpret, make inferences about, and respond to information, make inferences, etc.

Reading, Research & Referencing

- Use a variety of strategies and sources to gather, summarize, synthesize, critically evaluate, make inferences from, and organize written and multimedia information
- Gather, evaluate, synthesize, and organize information into a research paper or report using an appropriate documentation style (e.g., APA, MLA or Chicago)

Written Communication

- Apply a writing process to compose a variety of written responses (eg. summary, paragraph, essay, creative response, reflection)

Contribution to Learning Community: Cooperative Communication, Building Relationships, Speaking & Listening

- Through conversations and collaboration, students will listen and respond respectfully to

others with the intention to develop and articulate reflections and cultivate curiosity towards other ideas

Making Meaning & Connections

- Recognize the interconnections between ideas and experiences and connect own experiences, ideas and context to those of others

Learning to Learn

- Identify personal learning goals and develop a plan for achieving them
- Use learning strategies to meet personal and academic goals

Emergent Learning

- Hold space for the collaborative visioning, deconstructing, sharing and co-creating knowledge to influence direction of the course

YUKON FIRST NATIONS CORE COMPETENCY

Required only for courses that meet the Yukon First Nations Core Competency (see the list at www.yukonu.ca/yfnccr); delete if not applicable)]

Students who successfully complete this course will have achieved core competency in knowledge of Yukon First Nations. By the end of this course, students will have greater understanding and awareness of Yukon First Nations history, culture, and journey towards self-determination. For details, please see www.yukonu.ca/yfnccr

COURSE FORMAT

Classes will all be on-line (not face-to-face) and will involve both scheduled Zoom sessions as well as required online work. Zoom is a synchronous (real time) virtual format that enables face-to-face approaches to teaching and learning. These classes take place at specific times as per the schedule above.

Each class will consist of a combination of lecture, discussion, group work, and individual activities. Students will be expected to read or interact with media outside of class time and come in ready to discuss, participate and make meaning of the content.

In addition to attending mandatory Zoom sessions, students are expected to complete readings, view videos and complete assignments on the online platform, Moodle. All writing assignments will be completed outside of scheduled Zoom classes. Students should expect to spend at least four to eight hours per week outside of class time on homework, assignments, readings, meetings with writing coaches, librarians and/or instructor, etc.

It is suggested that students work one-on-one with an instructor and/or a writing coach for the major assignments.

EVALUATION

Contribution to Learning Community (Zoom and Moodle Participation)

Active engagement in activities and discussions is a key component of the sharing of ideas and co-creation of knowledge. As such, 30% of the overall grade is allocated to participation, which is broken down into weekly online discussions or journals and in-class activities (via Zoom) that may include discussions, mini-presentations, personal reflections, sharing ideas, or other related activities. Students are strongly encouraged to attend all classes and participate in online forums as participation marks cannot be made up.

Assignments

Late Policy: Students are allowed one “negotiated late” during the semester (does not apply to the research). Such requests *must be made at least two days in advance of the due date*.

Assignments are due by the designated due date and time. Late papers will receive a 2% deduction per day to a maximum of 10%. Assignments will be accepted up to one week after the due date. After that, the student will receive a mark of zero, unless arrangements have been made by communicating directly with the instructor.

Exams (Midterm and Final Exam)

Students will write a 3-hour midterm and a 3-hour final exam. These will be online and written at the student’s convenience during a time frame of 3-5 days.

EVALUATION:

Argumentative Essay 10%
Compare and Contrast Essay 10%
Cause and Effect Essay 10%
Descriptive Essay 10%
Research Project 15%
Grammar Quiz 10%
Participation 5%
Creative Project 5%
Mid-Term 10%
Final Exam 15%

TEXTBOOKS & LEARNING MATERIALS

Online material including readings, online content, and supplementary resources.

COURSE WITHDRAWAL INFORMATION

Students may officially withdraw from a course or program without academic penalty up until two-thirds of the course contact hours have been completed. Specific withdrawal dates vary, and students should become familiar with the withdrawal dates of their program. See withdrawal information at www.yukonu.ca/admissions/money-matters

Refer to the YukonU website for important dates: www.yukonu.ca/admissions/important-dates

Refunds may be available. See the Refund policy and procedures at www.yukonu.ca/admissions/money-matters

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students are expected to contribute toward a positive and supportive environment and are required to conduct themselves in a responsible manner. Academic misconduct includes all forms of academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, fraud, deceit, using the work of others without their permission, aiding other students in committing academic offences, misrepresenting academic assignments prepared by others as one's own, or any other forms of academic dishonesty including falsification of any information on any Yukon University document.

Please refer to Academic Regulations & Procedures (updated bi-annually) for further details about academic standing, and student rights and responsibilities:

www.yukonu.ca/policies/academic-regulations

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT CONDUCT

Information on academic standing and student rights and responsibilities can be found in the current Academic Regulations that are posted on the Student Services/ Admissions & Registration web page.

PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence. Plagiarism occurs when a student submits work for credit that includes the words, ideas, or data of others, without citing the source from which the material is taken. Plagiarism can be the deliberate use of a whole piece of work, but more frequently it occurs when students fail to acknowledge and document sources from which they have taken material according to an accepted manuscript style (e.g., APA, CSE, MLA, etc.). Students may use sources which are public domain or licensed under Creative Commons; however, academic documentation standards must still be followed. Except with explicit

permission of the instructor, resubmitting work which has previously received credit is also considered plagiarism. Students who plagiarize material for assignments will receive a mark of zero (F) on the assignment and may fail the course. Plagiarism may also result in dismissal from a program of study or the University.

COMMUNICATION

As an adult student, it is your responsibility to communicate regularly with your instructor. If you need additional assistance, if you need to miss classes, or if you need to renegotiate a deadline, it is your responsibility to initiate communication with the instructor. The instructor can be approached at the end of class, during office hours, by email, or by telephone. There may also be an opportunity to communicate during one-on-one feedback sessions during class time.

APPROPRIATE BEHAVIOUR

In all areas of the college environment, students are responsible for showing respect for others. Swearing, or language that is discriminatory or derogatory in relation to race, sex, ethnic background, religious beliefs, age, and physical condition is not appropriate and will not be tolerated.

DISTRACTIONS DURING CLASS TIME

In order to be successful in classes and minimize distractions for others, students are asked to be present and participatory during scheduled Zoom class times. Cell phones, used for purposes other than class activities should be silenced and put away while students are attending Zoom classes.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

Reasonable accommodations are available for students requiring an academic accommodation to fully participate in this class. These accommodations are available for students with a documented disability, chronic condition or any other grounds specified in section 8.0 of the Yukon University Academic Regulations (available on the Yukon University website at www.yukonu.ca/policies/academic-regulations)

It is the student's responsibility to seek these accommodations by contacting the Learning Assistance Centre (LAC): LearningAssistanceCentre@yukonu.ca.

APPENDIX I: BCCAT Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to demonstrate the following:

Critical and Creative Thinking

- recall and interpret information (identify subject/topic, main ideas, supporting ideas, and sequence)

- summarize information
- make inferences
 - using prior knowledge
 - identifying purpose and audience
 - evaluating information for accuracy, relevance, and importance
 - recognizing underlying assumptions (bias and tone) synthesizing information
- compare and contrast
- classify
- define
- draw conclusions
- respond to information (create solutions, identify impact of solutions, modify solutions)
- identify and discuss examples of fact and opinion

Speaking and Listening

- ask questions to clarify meaning
- demonstrate effective listening skills and respond appropriately to listener feedback
- effectively use voice and body language
- provide useful input and feedback in a variety of situations (peer editing, group discussion, classroom participation)
- respond appropriately to thoughts, opinions, and work of others
- paraphrase ideas
- deliver an effective oral presentation to inform or persuade

Reading, Research, Reference

- use context clues and word structure analysis (prefix, suffix, root) to determine meaning
- use a dictionary and a thesaurus to expand vocabulary and to learn homonyms, antonyms and synonyms
- use in-book reference tools (index, table of contents, glossary)
- use skimming and scanning techniques
- read to locate specific information
- recognize point of view, illogical argument, fallacies, stereotypes, bias and propaganda
- use variety of reference materials
- develop note-taking skills
- develop research skills (internet and library catalog searches)
- critically evaluate, make inferences, and draw conclusions

Written Communication

- use the steps of the writing process (prewrite, outline, draft, revise, edit)
- write paragraphs and essays in a variety of rhetorical modes including exposition and persuasion
- write a summary
- adjust content and style of writing to suit purpose, audience, and situation
- revise and edit work to improve content, organization, word choice, phrasing, grammar, sentence and paragraph structure, spelling, and punctuation
- recognize and edit for clichés, jargon, slang, and wordiness
- use complex and compound sentence structures
- use parallel constructions and correct misplaced or dangling modifiers
- develop advanced spelling strategies

- write a review of a book, movie, play, television program, documentary, piece of music, or other non-print material
- write paragraphs and essays on demand
- identify, discuss, and evaluate literary elements (plot, theme, character, setting, conflict)
- analyze and respond to editorial comment, magazine articles, technical or investigative writing, or advertising
- gather, evaluate, and organize information into a research assignment using appropriate documentation (MLA or APA)
- understand and avoid plagiarism

Co-operative Communication

- establish co-operative working relationships with others
- recognize and respect diversity and individual differences
- recognize non-verbal cues
- problem-solve
- challenge assumptions constructively

Media Literacy

- identify and track a theme, topic, or specified content from a variety of media
- interpret common graphics (graphs, charts, tables)
- critique a variety of media messages

Computer Literacy

- use computer programs to create, edit, and publish, format assignments appropriately
- use electronic communication

Creative Writing

- write a creative piece (poetry, blog, journal, story)