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Office Hours: T & Th 3:45-6:00 and by appointment

We must study not only that every hearer may understand us, but that it shall be im-
possible for him not to understand us. Quintilian (Mary T. Carbone, Better Writing, p.1)

Writing is rewriting. (James McBride, Luncheon Address, Moravian College, 2001.)

Prerequisites: none


Course Objectives: The course prepares students for college writing of many genres. According to the course catalogue, you will be able to:
- Write in many styles for varied audiences
- Use research materials and cite them appropriately
- Use technology as a tool for research and writing
- Work collaboratively in workshop settings
- Practice both oral and written communication

My goal for you is simple: I want you to enjoy writing and to become more proficient.

Course Theme: Every day, people make many decisions that have uncertain outcomes: they are risky. We will practice writing by analyzing what the various outcomes can be and whom they can impact. Is the decision-maker able and willing to face the consequences of those decisions? What does it mean to bear responsibility?

Requirements: The major writing medium in this course will be a series of short weekly writing assignments. Typically, I will request a draft each Tuesday, and I will return it on Thursday with comments. A final copy is due on Monday (when there is no class). Then the process can repeat. I may alternate my draft reviews with student reviews.

Any late assignment is penalized by one half of a grade (5 points) each day it is late.

There will be occasional quizzes to check if you have completed the assigned readings.

A 10-page research paper assignment is forthcoming. It incorporates visiting the Writing Center.

Grading: First drafts.................................30%
Rewrites…………………….35%
Research paper……………….20%
Class writing……………………10%
Quizzes……………………….5%

Grading Scale:

93 - 100: A  90 - 92.99: A-
87 - 89.99: B+ 83 - 86.99: B 80 - 82.99: B-
77 - 79.99: C+ 73 - 76.99: C 70 - 72.99: C-

Attendance Policy:
Attendance does not enter you grade directly. It does influence your grade indirectly, as it reinforces your reading and gives you an opportunity to participate and learn from your classmates. If you are not present for any in-class writing, you will receive zero on the assignment. I will give you a free pass for true sickness (e.g. mononucleosis) or emergency, but not for visiting doctors.

Academic Honesty Policy:
I expect all work to be your own. I also encourage you to read other students' work. If you give assistance to a student or if receive assistance, you must acknowledge it in writing on the assignment.

Please beware of plagiarism. When referring to a source, it is very tempting to rephrase the original document. Resist the temptation! You must reformulate the information in your own words. If this is too complicated, use quotation marks if you lift three or more words from the original. If you plagiarize, you earn a zero on the assignment.

Please read the college policy in the Student Handbook.

Schedule:

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<th>Week of</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Text</th>
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<td>Aug. 29</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>Tutorials 1, 2 &amp; 4</td>
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<td>The Writing Process</td>
<td>Part I, Chapters 1-4</td>
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<td>Document Design</td>
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<td>Business Letter</td>
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<td>Summer Reflections</td>
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<td>Pronunciation: accent…Bolivar</td>
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<td>Sept. 5</td>
<td>Clear Sentences</td>
<td>Part III, Chapters 8-15</td>
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<td>Word Choice</td>
<td>Part IV, Chapters 16-18</td>
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<td>Stars of David</td>
<td>Sports Illustrated, Aug. 29</td>
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<td>Sept. 12</td>
<td>Grammatical Sentences</td>
<td>Part V, Chapters 19-28</td>
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<td>Punctuation</td>
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Politics and the English Language

Sept. 19
Mechanics
Critical Thinking
The Great Gatsby

Part VIII, Chapters 40-45
Part IX, Chapters 46-48

Sept. 26
Researched Writing
The Great Gatsby
Finding a research topic

Part X, Chapters 49-58

Oct. 3
Grammar Basics*
Great Gatsby

Part XI, Chapters 61-64

Oct. 10
Fall Recess
Review*

Oct. 17
Coke II
Visit Princeton?

Oct. 24
Interviewing Amrhein Investment Club

Oct. 31
Judgment at Nurnberg
Google and Film

Nov. 7
D-Day

Nov. 14
Gettysburg

Nov. 21
Thanksgiving Essay
(1 class)

Nov. 28
Review Parts I-V
Christmas Essay

Dec. 5
Review Parts VII-XI

Dec 12
FINALS WEEK

* HOLIDAY class to be rescheduled

The syllabus is subject to change.