

**Syllabus**  
**WRTG 111X:**  
**Writing Across Contexts**  
**Summer 2021**  
**Nancy James, Ph.D.**

**Catalog Description of Class:** Written academic essays will be prepare students for the academic writing required in university classes. Strategies of audience analysis, visual images of graphs, and literary devices will help complete the understanding of the clear presentation of academic papers.

**Course Name:** Becoming a successful writer and communicator is the class goal. To achieve this, students will read and critique successful articles, as well as work on critical thinking skills. A study of rhetorical devices and strategies will assist students in creating, conducting, and communicating a research project. This project will then be communicated in an oral presentation.

Strategies of audience analysis, visual images of graphs, and literary devices will help complete the understanding of the clear presentation of narratives and research.

This class will be conducted with both synchronous meeting and asynchronous work. Online classes will be on Mondays and Wednesdays while face-to-face class meetings will happen on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

**Term and Year: Summer 2021**

**Full Name of Instructor: Nancy Carol James, PhD**

**Office Phone and UAF Email Address:** Office is 8<sup>th</sup> Floor Gruening.

Email [ncjames2@alaska.edu](mailto:ncjames2@alaska.edu)

Also, feel free to text my cell phone 571-236-8038

**Office Hours, Building, and Location:** Office hours on Tuesdays from 3:30-4:00 PM and by appointment or before and after class times. Gruening 8<sup>th</sup> Floor, English Department.

**Class Meeting Time and Location:** The class will have synchronous meetings everyday from 4:00-5:50. On Mondays and Wednesdays the classes will be in Blackboard Collaborate. On Tuesdays and Thursday we meet on the UAF campus.

**Educational Philosophy:** My philosophy of education is that learning is one of our greatest joys. To understand a new idea is to have a new perception and vista upon knowledge as well as upon ourselves. Every idea we have changes our mind and gives us the opportunity for greater freedom and achievement. My value in the classroom that we all experience joy and creativity while together we increase our knowledge and understanding.

**Required Textbook and Resources:** Textbooks can be ordered through UAF bookstore or book service of your choice. Several free versions of this textbook are also available online. Student may choose their translation.

Aristotle *The Art of Rhetoric*, Penguin Classics.  
ISBN 0-14-044510-2

**Recommended textbook.**

*Easy Writer* 7<sup>th</sup> Edition 7th edition by Andrea A. Lunsford, Bedford/St Martins. ISBN  
9781319152413

**Course Outcome Competencies:** Upon the conclusion of this course, students actively engaged in learning will be able to:

1. Write in a consistent academic and readable writing style that connects one discipline with another.
2. Utilize printed library reference materials, proprietary databases, and Internet resources to locate source material;
3. Use borrowed information in a manner that complies with standard academic conventions pertaining to quotation, paraphrase, and summary;
4. Analyze, evaluate, organize, and manage the assertions of more than one source or author in order to support your own main point;
5. Develop and focus a research topic; and
6. Write a research question/proposal, a review of the literature, an abstract, an outline, a summary, a synthesis, and a unified, coherent, complete research paper in proper writing style such as APA, MLA, or Turabian.
7. Present an Oral Presentation of Research Material.

The more the student puts into the course, the higher the student's outcome competencies will be.

**Disability Statement:** The Office of Disabilities Services implements the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and insures that UAF students have equal access to the campus and course materials. Your instructor will work with the Office of Disabilities Services (208 WHIT, 474-5455) to provide reasonable accommodation to students with disabilities.

**Course Requirements and Grading Criteria:** A student who believes that he or she has not been held to realistic academic standards, just evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course by using the student grade appeal process described in the Academic Catalog. Appeals are limited to the final course grade, which may be upheld, raised, or lowered at any stage of the appeal process.

**Course Requirements: Grading Assignments and Points**

a. **Annotated Bibliography:** In that regard, student will write a 4 to 6 item annotated bibliography that relates to your selected research topic of interest. Some examples of the research topics and annotated bibliography will be discussed in the class. Your selected topic must be approved by the course Instructor. **Total point value 50. .**

b. **Topic Selection and Survey:** Each student is required to select a research topic based on his or her interest in this course related to our subject of writing in the sciences. Each student will develop a selected research topic related survey instrument and conduct, as a minimum, a survey

of 5 people and then writes, as a minimum, a two-page report that interprets the survey results. **Total point value of 50.**

c. **Research Project:** Write a minimum of 4-6 pages of research paper excluding the title page and reference page. The paper should be about 800 words. A rubric is posted in Blackboard in class for this paper. **Total point value of 200 points.**

d. **Two Reader's Response papers.** Students will take the assigned readings and write a one-page response to the readings. **Total point value of 100 points.**

e. **Discussion:** Participating in discussions is important for maximum learning. To get full credit for discussions, students should offer ideas regularly in the class discussions. **Total point value of 100 points.**

f. **Oral Presentation.** The research project will be presented to the class in the form of an oral presentation. There is a rubric on Blackboard. **Total point value of 200 points.**

g. **Journal.** Write two journal paragraphs as a way to finding a possible research paper topic. . **Total Point Value of 50 points.**

h. **Narrative Essay.** Write an experience that student has had in the form of a narrative or story. **Total point value of 50 points.**

i. **Draft Argumentative Essay.** Following the rubric in Blackboard, write a draft argumentative essay. **Total point value of 50 points.**

j. **Final Argumentative essay.** Following the rubric in Blackboard, write the final argumentative essay making necessary changes. **Total point value of 100 points.**

k. **Draft Research Project:** Write a minimum of 4-6 pages of research paper excluding the title page and reference page. The paper should be about 800 words. A rubric is posted in Blackboard in class for this paper. **Total point value of 50 points.**

Narrative Essay. 50 Points. Due 9-4-20

Two Journal Paragraphs. 50 Points. Due 9-8-20

First Reader's Response. 50 Points. Due 9-15-20

Topic Selection and survey. 50 Points. Due 9-24-20

Second Reader's Response. 50 Points. Due 9-29-20

Annotated Bibliography. 50 Points. Due 10-8-20

Draft Argumentative Essay. 50 Points. Due 10-13-20

Argumentative Essay. 100 Points. Due 10-20-20

Draft Research Paper. 50 Points. Due 11-3-20

Research Paper. 200 Points. Due 11-17-20

Oral Presentation 200 Points. Due 11-24-20

Discussion. 100 points. Due 11-24-20.

### **18. Grading Schema/Scale:**

A = 90-100%,	D = 60-69%
B = 80-89%,	F = 59 and below
C = 70-79%,	I = Incomplete

**20. ADDITIONAL COURSE REQUIREMENTS:** Readings: Assigned readings are to be completed prior to the class session for which they are assigned.

**CLASSROOM COURTESY:** Exhibit courtesy to everyone in your class by being on time and staying for the entire class time. Limit your discussions to course content.

**21. POLICY ON ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:** The University adheres to high standards of intellectual, moral, and ethical values. Academic dishonesty, including cheating and plagiarism, may be grounds for disciplinary action and at a minimum will result in a grade of zero /F on that project.

### **22. Format of Course deliverables**

All course assignment must be submitted in the course assignment link in a Word document. All course deliverables must be constructed in Times New Roman, 12pt font, double spaced, and submitted in Microsoft Word format. The use of APA format prescribed in the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association 6th Edition is encouraged. The use of MLA is also acceptable formatting styles.

### **Tentative Schedule**

Welcome to the class! The key to success is your attentive class participation. Here is our planned schedule, though we may change this as the needs of the class change.

### **DELETE BELOW**

May 17 The art of readable writing with its clear communication techniques. Connecting with readers through rhetoric. Wordiness exercises. Discussion of class expectations. Introduction to Aristotle's *Rhetoric*.

Assignment: Blackboard discussion questions.

Write a 200-300 word narrative essay on an experience that you had.

May 19 Narrative Essay Due. In-class: Assignments explained. Peter Elbow Freewriting. Writing in active voice. Discuss Aristotle *Rhetoric* Book 1, Chapter 1.5 Eudaimonia

Assignment: Blackboard discussion questions on possible writing topics. Readable writing by using active voice.

Write two journal paragraphs about a subject of your choice.

May 24. Journal entries due. Readable writing with sentence variety. What different perspective exists on your thesis or main topic? Study different types of formatting such as APA, MLA, and Turabian. What is the difference in inductive and deductive writing? Why is it important? Other topics covered include critical thinking and author's perspective, annotation, and journaling.

Assignment: Blackboard discussion questions.

Aristotle *Rhetoric* Book 1, Chapter 1, Write First Reader's Response.

May 26. First Reader's Response Due. Possible topic selection Due. Use journal ideas with ideas on your topic and create our own individual research. Work in class with peers to share our writing and ideas.

Assignment: Blackboard discussion questions.

Aristotle *Rhetoric* Book 1, Chapter 1.2-1.3, pg. 74-82. Write Second Reader's Response.

June 1. Second Reader's Response due. Work on thesis statements and complications to a thesis and see what ideas or solutions present themselves. In-class survey.

Assignment: Blackboard discussion questions.

Write out three possible thesis statements for argumentative essays.

June 3. Thesis statements Due. Looking at persuasive techniques in writing. Working on quoting, paraphrasing, and summarizing.

Assignment: Blackboard discussion questions.

Write draft of argumentative essay and bring to class.

June 8 Draft Argumentative Essays Due. Peer Review of essays. Critical thinking skills activities.

Assignment: Blackboard discussion questions.

Revise draft argumentative essays after professor and peer review.

June 10. Argumentative essay Due. Readable writing with sentence variety. What different perspective exists on your thesis or main topic? Choose final writing thesis that will guide the research. We will create a survey and an interview on the research topic.

Assignment: Blackboard discussion questions. Write draft research paper.

June 15 Bring draft research paper to class for peer review. We will add graphics and pictures. We will start putting the components of the paper together. Work in-class.

Assignment: Blackboard discussion questions.

June 17 . Research essay due.

June 22 Oral Presentations due.

June 24 All class work due.

