

WRIT 1700 9.0A Writing: Process and Practice Blended

Tentative Syllabus

Term: F/W 2019-20

Course Moodle Site:

WRIT1700 9.0: Writing: Process and Practice <http://moodle.yorku.ca/moodle>

The course Moodle site will open September 11, 2018

This 9-credit course has been approved in the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies for General Education credit.

For all your Moodle courses, check here for [Recommended Browser Settings](#)

1700 A is a *blended* course. Lectures are held on campus and tutorials are accessed through the course Moodle site. Lectures are a required component of this course.

When you log into Moodle via Passport York once classes begin, you will see the course site.

Important Note: Online and blended courses are somewhat more flexible in terms of scheduling, but they require dedication and strong time-management skills precisely because students work more independently. Students must actively and consistently participate in online discussions and writing activities.

Please also find the link to the [Moodle Quick Start Guide](#) under Related Resources or on the Moodle login page

Course Director: Kerry Doyle kdoyle@yorku.ca

Office: 357 South Ross

Office Hours: Thursdays 10-11 and by appointment (please let me know if you are coming to Thursday office hours as there may be Thursdays when I must attend administrative meetings)

Lectures: Tuesdays 8:30-10:30

Lecture Location: Vari Hall (VH) C (Keele Campus)

Course Moodle site. Tutorial discussions and weekly activities will be opened following each lecture.

Course Description

This 9-credit course has been approved in the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies for General Education credit.

Course Objectives:

The course considers a wide range of written expression including arguments, speeches, essays, and fiction; the course places emphasis on writing theories and practices.

Students will work to develop critical reading, writing and thinking skills through a close and thoughtful consideration of assigned readings, lecture material, and individual writing. We will consider in particular the rhetorical approaches and devices that lend themselves to clear and persuasive writing.

Participation in weekly discussion forums and writing activities is essential to a successful completion of this course. Writing often and in ways we are not necessarily familiar with strengthens our writing skills in general. By becoming more aware of how and why different texts are written, we become more aware of our own writing practices and of what is needed to improve them. An important aim of the course is to help students develop greater confidence when writing in different contexts, whether academic, professional or personal.

Further course information, including the weekly reading schedule and assignments, will be posted on the course Moodle site on the first day of our class.

Learning Objectives:

Students will work to develop skills and knowledge in order to—

- Apply critical thinking skills in a variety of contexts
- Recognize and explain how rhetorical strategies and generic conventions and counter-conventions shape the interpretation of texts
- Develop persuasive argumentation skills
- Critically consider the relationship between language use and power
- Practice a range of critical and creative writing activities
- Produce work appropriate to the genre and context of writing assignments, with a special emphasis on writing clearly and persuasively
- Explain and support their analyses of textual practices

- Collaborate in peer-review activities to further strengthen their writing skills
- Constructively and critically examine and discuss peers' writing
- Be cognizant of their own writing strategies and critical expertise

Organization of Course:

This is a 9-credit blended course.

Lecture: 1700A lectures are “live” or “face-to-face” lectures at York’s Keele campus. **Any assigned readings should be completed before lectures** so that the connections between readings and lecture material are clear. Lectures and readings will form the basis of tutorial forum discussions, writing activities, assignments and the final test, so it is important to attend lectures just as you would in a fully face-to-face course and to take part in the weekly online tutorial.

Tutorials: Tutorials will provide a space for students and instructors to discuss course readings and lecture materials or to practice a variety of writing styles. Each week students will participate in online “in-class” activities, such as group discussions and free-writing exercises. Although there is definitely some flexibility regarding when you contribute and participate, time limits will ensure that each week’s activities are completed within a week. The due date by which you need to complete a specific online activity will be provided.

Major assignments will have a specific due date which can be found in the syllabus and Weekly Schedule. Be sure to check the schedule regularly.

Active participation in tutorial forums is required and some of the assignments require collaboration. Participation and collaboration are excellent ways to develop critical skills, practice writing strategies, and explore concrete and creative methods of writing.

Required Reading --There are weekly readings throughout the year

- ***The Inconvenient Indian* Illustrated Edition, by Thomas King**
- **All other, weekly readings will be available on or via the course Moodle site and will be listed in the Weekly Reading Schedule and on the “Course Readings” page under Course Information and Assignments**
- **Specific SPARK modules will also be part of assigned reading. SPARK: Student Papers & Academic Research Kit @ <http://www.yorku.ca/spark/index.html>**

Assignment Breakdown

There is no final exam in this course, but there is a final test during the last lecture period on April 2, 2019

Important: Active participation and weekly writing activities are required and allotted a significant portion of your final grade. The grade value acknowledges that it often takes more effort and time to write a contribution to an asynchronous discussion forum than to speak out briefly in a face-to-face discussion. The discussion and writing activities are also opportunities to practice writing and the grade value reflects the important role of such practice in honing your skills.

Tentative Assignments

Discussion Forum Participation	15%
Writing Activities	10%
Peer-Review Activities (2 X 2.5%)	5%
Sentence Portfolio	15%
Midterm Test	10%
Argument Assignment	15%
Personal Essay	20%
Final Test	10%

Grading and Assignment Submission

Grading: The grading scheme for the course conforms to the 9-point grading system used in undergraduate programs at York (e.g., A+ = 9, A = 8, B+ = 7, C+ = 5, etc.). Assignments will bear either a letter grade designation or a corresponding number grade (e.g. A+ = 90 to 100, A = 80 to 90, B+ = 75 to 79, etc.)

Lateness Penalty: 1% will be deducted for each day an assignment is late. Assignments more than one week late may not be excepted. If there is a reason why you cannot submit an assignment on-time, please let you TA know as soon as possible. In some cases and/or with documentation, late assignments will not be docked grades.

For a full description of York grading system see the York University Undergraduate Calendar - <http://calendars.registrar.yorku.ca/2015-2016/academic/grades/index.htm>

Further Related Resources

Moodle Quick Start

Guide: https://moodle.yorku.ca/students/documentation/quickstart_guide.html

Writing Centre: the Writing Centre offers individual writing tutoring for students wishing to improve their critical thinking, reading, and writing abilities. To enrol, go to:

<http://writing-centre.writ.laps.yorku.ca/>

ESL Open Learning Centre: offering language support for ESL and international students

<http://eslclc.laps.yorku.ca/>

The Learning Commons Main Page:

<http://www.library.yorku.ca/cms/learning-commons/>

SPARK: Student Papers & Academic Research Kit

@ <http://www.yorku.ca/spark/index.html>