

Writing 111 Fall 2016

Dr. David Swerdlow

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Office Hours: MWF10:30-11:30, and by Appt.

Objective

To write well, one must think well—but not immediately. Through the process of writing and rewriting, one clarifies one's observations, feelings, and ideas. Accordingly, the objective of this course is to give students the opportunity to understand, experiment and gain confidence with the writing process so that they may become good writers.

Method

Each student will write four essays for this course. While writing these essays, we will consider a variety of concerns; including grammar, mechanics, style, organization, logic, argumentation, and creativity. When a student submits an essay, I will comment on it extensively. Also, I will give the essay a provisional grade. At the end of the term (by which time we will have considered all of the material one needs to know to write a good essay), each student will resubmit all of his or her essays together in an electronic portfolio. I hope these essays will have improved since their first submission. Once I read the portfolio, I will assign it a grade. Conceivably, the portfolio grade could be lower than the average of the four provisional grades. In that case, the student would receive the average of the four provisional grades.

In addition to the portfolio, each student will receive grades on several other small writing assignments that will demonstrate his or her understanding of organization, grammar, mechanics and other writing principles.

Policies

Paper Format: All work is to be typed, double-spaced, and submitted to me via email. All work must conform to the MLA's rules for format and citation. The best online reference guide is Owl, Purdue University's online writing lab, which can be found at <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>. We will be using the website extensively.

Late papers will not be accepted. If you fail to hand in a draft on time, you may not submit that paper in your portfolio.

Attendance: You must attend class. More than three unexcused absences will result in the lowering of your grade by at least one full step.

Tardiness: Come to class on time. Consistent tardiness will be counted as unexcused absences.

Academic Integrity: Giving the impression that someone else's ideas or language are your own is unacceptable. If you plagiarize knowingly, you will fail this course. Furthermore, your case will be referred to the Dean of Academic Affairs with the hope that you will be expelled.

Cell Phones: Do not use cell phones in class unless you have my permission. If you use a cell phone during class without my permission, you will be counted absent for one day.

Grades

Your final grade will be based on the following percentages:

Portfolio	75%
Short Assignments	15%
Participation	10%

Schedule

Please read all links in advance of the class session for which they scheduled. A more detailed schedule for the dates after September 22 will be provided.

Aug 30	Introduction
Sep 1	https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/598/1/ https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/606/01/
Sep 6	https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/607/1/ https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/692/1/ Paper 1 Assigned
Sep 8	Introductory Paragraphs/Thesis https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/595/1/
Sep 13	https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/572/1/ https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/572/02/ https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/572/03/ https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/572/04/
Sep 15	Organization/Logic/Conclusions
Sep 20	No Class Meeting Paper 1 Due, email to me by 11:59 pm

Sep 22 <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/563/01/>
<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/02/>
<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/12/>

Oct 11 Paper 2 Due, Paper 3 Assigned

Nov 8 Paper 3 Due, Paper 4 Assigned

Dec 1 Paper 4 due

Date of Final: Portfolio Due