

ACADEMIC WRITING WORKSHOP

Dr. Sonia Weiner

Fall & Spring Semester

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Office Hours: Webb 503, By Appointment

Short description

The Academic Writing Workshop introduces the student to conventions of academic writing. Students will practice writing as an academic venture based on the spirit of inquiry and curiosity enhanced by critical writing techniques. Additional emphasis will be placed on acquiring academic research skills and proper citation methods.

The course work will be based on a novel which will be read in installments over the first few weeks of the semester. The critical and theoretical readings, as well as your writing assignments, will be related to the novel.

Topics:

Learn how to write a position paper and a research paper:

Compose a strong thesis statement.

Organize an essay into a well-written introduction, body (claims), and conclusion.

Build well-constructed paragraphs (topic sentence, explanatory supporting sentences and evidence). Understand what constitutes evidence (sources) and how to integrate it flawlessly into the essay (examples, paraphrase, summarize, quote).

Identify and avoid logical fallacies.

Revise and edit all aspects of an essay.

Engage in critical close reading of texts and learn how to:

Distinguish between different kinds of sources and modes of address.

Identify arguments and organize ideas.

Identify how the text uses evidence.

Situate the author within a discourse, dialogue, discipline.

Develop skills in research methods and techniques, which include:

An in-depth introduction to the library and its databases.

Learning how to judge the validity and reliability of various reading materials.

Correctly use the MLA style of citing.

Summarize, paraphrase and quote – how to avoid plagiarizing.

Course Requirements

3 Critical Responses to Articles = 8% per essay (total 24%)
In Class Presentation of Article = 6%
Outline for Research Paper = Mandatory (not graded)
Draft of Research Paper = 20%
Student Conference to discuss draft and revisions = Mandatory (not graded)
Final Research Paper = 50%

All assignments must be completed.
Late submissions of assignments will be penalized.

Attendance

Attendance is mandatory. Students are permitted a maximum of three unexcused absences without penalty. Any additional absences will affect the final grade and may result in failure of the course.

Academic conduct

Plagiarism is taken extremely seriously. Any instance of academic misconduct which includes: submitting someone else's work as your own; failure to accurately cite sources; taking words from another source without using quotation marks; submission of work for which you have previously received credit; working in a group for individual assignments; using unauthorized materials in an exam and sharing your work with other students, will result in failure of the assignment and will likely lead to further disciplinary measures.