

English 120 Section 506: Composition III

Instructor: Dr. Julie Williams

Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:45-1:15 and by appointment

Email: juliew@unm.edu

Course Description

Welcome to English 120! This class will help you to become more comfortable with college level research and writing. English 120 emphasizes academic writing, research, and argumentation. You will design and research a project of your own and will summarize, synthesize, evaluate, and integrate secondary sources to support your own argument. You will also analyze the writing and research approaches (e.g., quantitative v. qualitative v. textual) of various academic disciplines.

You will build on the rhetorical approach introduced in English 110, 111/112 or 113 by continuing to analyze rhetorical situations in terms of audience, contexts, purpose, mediums, and technologies and apply this knowledge to your reading and writing. You will also extend your understanding of how writing and other modes of communication (such as visual and audio elements) work together for rhetorical purposes.

You will conduct research using primary sources (e.g., observations, surveys, or interviews). And you will write in multiple genres, making rhetorical choices according to the purpose of the writing and your audience.

Required Texts and Materials

- *Practical Argument*, Second Edition, Eds. Laurie G. Kirszner and Stephen R. Mandell. ISBN-13: 978-1457683886; ISBN-10: 1357683881
- *The Pocket Style Manual, Sixth Edition* (another edition is fine), Diana Hacker.
- UNM Email address and access to UNM Blackboard Learn
- Access to internet and Microsoft Office (Available on UNMVC computers)

Course Goals

Throughout the semester in English 120, you will progress toward the following student learning outcomes:

Rhetorical Situation and Genre

- A. analyze, compose, and reflect on arguments in a variety of genres, considering the strategies, claims, evidence, and various mediums and technologies that are appropriate to the rhetorical situation

Writing as a Social Act

- B. describe the social nature of composing, particularly the role of discourse communities at the local, national, and international level

Writing as a Process

- C. use multiple approaches for planning, researching, prewriting, composing, assessing, revising, editing, proofreading, collaborating, and incorporating feedback in order to make your compositions stronger in various mediums and using multiple technologies

Grammar and Usage

- D. improve your fluency in the dialect of Standardized Written American English at the level of the sentence, paragraph, and document
- E. analyze and describe the value of incorporating various languages, dialects and registers in your own and others' texts

Reflection

- F. evaluate your development as a writer over the course of the semester and describe how composing in multiple genres and mediums using various technologies can be applied in other contexts to advance your goals

Research

- G. use writing and research as a means of discovery, to examine your personal beliefs in the context of multiple perspectives and to explore focused research questions through various mediums and technologies
- H. integrate others' positions and perspectives into your writing ethically, appropriately, and effectively in various mediums and technologies
- I. compose a research-based academic argument in one of various mediums and technologies by identifying, analyzing, evaluating, and synthesizing sources, which must include secondary sources
- J. analyze and describe the writing and research conventions of an academic field in order to understand the different ways of creating and communicating knowledge

Library Literacy Outcomes

1. Students will access Libros and find a book relevant to the writing project.
2. Students will learn how to skim that book and find quotations that are both relevant and appropriate for the paper.
3. Students will be able to identify what type of database source they have found, e.g. magazine, journal, newspaper, or website.
4. Students will write a correctly formatted Works Cited page.

Tutoring

Free tutoring is available at the Learning Center (505) 925-8907 <http://www.unm.edu/~tutor/>. Writing Lab tutoring sessions are scheduled weekly for all English classes. Students may receive up to 30 points (5 points each session) for attending tutoring sessions or Writing Labs.

Attendance Policy

Attendance is taken at the beginning of class. Missing class is not an excuse for being unprepared; if you are absent, it is your responsibility to keep up with reading, get notes from a fellow student, and see me during office hours if you have questions about the material. Do not email me to ask if you missed anything. **Students who miss the first week of class will be dropped. Students who miss more than 4 classes will be dropped. Arriving more than 10 minutes late or leaving early counts as an absence.**

Excused absences include documented hospitalization or other documented unexpected emergencies. If excessive absenteeism that falls into the realm of “excused absences” continues, I reserve the right to drop students from the course. Please note: doctor’s appointments, child care, court dates, and job scheduling conflicts do not count as excused absences.

Class Participation

Participation in class discussions is required. I understand that everyone has varying levels of comfortability with speaking in front of groups, but expect to participate in class discussions, small groups, and with group presentations. Just showing up is not considered participation.

Late and Missing Work

For every day a short writing assignment (SWA) or major writing assignment (MWA) is late, one letter grade will be subtracted. After one week, no credit will be awarded. In the event of emergencies, exceptions can be made on a case-by-case basis.

Public nature of the classroom

Please consider all writing for this class to be “public.” Part of becoming an effective writer is learning to appreciate the ideas and criticisms of others; in this course our purpose is to come together as a writing community. Remember that students will often be expected to share writing with others. Avoid writing about topics that you may not be prepared to subject to public scrutiny or that you feel so strongly about that you are unwilling to listen to perspectives other than your own. Additionally, the feedback that is provided is intended to help improve your writing; be open to the suggestions from other writers.

Student Behavior

UNM students and instructors are bound by the terms of the Student Code of Conduct. I expect you to enter class ready to learn and participate and with a positive and respectful attitude.

- If you disagree with someone or something, I expect you to handle it in a mature manner.
- Any behavior inappropriate in a collegiate atmosphere will result in your dismissal.
- While I support academic freedom, I expect respectful behavior; therefore, students may not use offensive language in any forum of our class. Obscene language will not be tolerated.
- Sexual harassment will not be tolerated.
- Behavior that threatens the safety of any class member or the instructor will not be tolerated. Intoxication, physical assault, battery, violence, stalking, or threats fall into this category.
- Students must not threaten the instructor concerning their grades. This type of behavior is considered harassment and/or verbal assault.

- Students may discuss complaints about the course with their instructor; however, the students must do so in the proper environment, such as the instructor's office.
- Refrain from using computers during class time for entertainment, social networking, or personal emailing. The same rules apply for cell phones. No texting or phone calls allowed. You will be asked to leave if caught violating these technology policies.
- The instructor may withdraw a student from the course when the student's behavior disrupts the educational process under these rules and regulations.

Students violating any of these policies will be asked to leave class for the day. If you ever feel unsafe on campus, please call security at (505) 925-8570.

Etiquette

This course encourages different perspectives related to such factors as gender, race, nationality, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, ability, and other relevant cultural identities. The course seeks to foster understanding and inclusiveness related to such diverse perspectives and ways of communicating. *Any remarks that are disrespectful on such factors will not be allowed and could result in dismissal from this class.*

Equal access

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodations of their disabilities. If you have a qualified disability that requires some form of accommodation to ensure your equal access to learning in this class, please contact me as soon as possible so that we can work together to address your needs. UNM Valencia Campus Accessibility Services is there to help you with this process; they are located in Advisement and Counseling Services Student Services Building, 280 La Entrada Rd., Los Lunas, NM 87031, (505) 925-8560. <http://www.unm.edu/~vcadvise/equalaccess.htm> Information about your disability is confidential.

Sexual Violence and Sexual Misconduct

As Title IX ("Title Nine") makes clear, violence and harassment based on sex and gender are Civil Rights offenses subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, etc. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can find the appropriate resources from the UNM Sexual Assault Response Team here: Phone: (505) 277-3716 (Women's Resource Center); <http://sart.unm.edu/index.html>.

There are several resources available outside UNM that may help as well, such as:

Know your IX: <http://knowyourix.org/>

Not Alone: <https://www.notalone.gov/>

Clery Center for Campus Security: <http://clerycenter.org/>

Counselors at the Student Health and Counseling (SHAC) office can have confidential discussions with you, so we encourage you to reach out to them if you would like to have a confidential conversation. You can contact SHAC by calling 505-277-3136, or visiting them in their building north of Johnson Center and across the mall from (east of) the Student Union Building.

Semester Assignments

Point Distribution		Grading Rubric	
Assignment	Points	Grade:	Total Points:
Essay 1	100	A	970-1000
Essay 2	100	A	930 – 970
Essay 3	100	A-	900 – 929
Peer Review (3 rounds at 25 points each)	75	B+	870 – 899
Grammar group presentation	50	B	830 – 869
Final grammar examination	100	B-	800 – 829
Writing workshops	75	C+	770 – 799
Participation (in-class and on Blackboard Learn)	200	C	730 – 769
Portfolio	200	C-	650 – 729
Total Points	1000	D	600-649
		F	Below 600

A grade of “C” or hight (74% or 740 points) is needed to pass English 120. A C- or below is considered a failing grade.

Essays

You are required to turn in 3 formal 4-5 page esays (not including the Works Cited page). Each essay requires at least one credible source to be incorporated in text and in the Works Cited page. **Wikipedia does not count.** Students have the option to revise if they receive a grade of “D” or below.

Grammar Presentation

In groups, students will be responsible for delivering one multimodal presentation on grammar and mechanics. PowerPoints, Podcasts, blogs, collages, video or audio essays, comic strips, and storyboards all full under the category of multimodal composition. The topics include: **1) fragments, 2) comma splices/run-ons, 3) parts of speech, 4) pronouns, 5) dangling and misplaced modifiers, 6) commas, 7) passive voice, 8) parallelism.** Students should deliver a professional presentation to the class (no longer than 10 minutes) that defines their assigned term(s), explains key concepts, and provides examples that will prepare the class for a short quiz on Learn.

Presentations cannot be made up; if you or a member of your group is absent, the absentee will not receive the points for the assignment. Make sure that everyone has copies of the presentation so that you can still present if one group member is absent.

Blackboard Learn

Students are responsible for posting responses to discussion questions/prompts that I have posted on our UNM Blackboard Learn site. These questions are designed to generate class discussion, promote further inquiry into our topics, and scaffold the higher stakes essays. Learn posts are due before we meet as a class on the assigned due date; students may not turn in late posts.

Writing Workshops and Peer Reviews

Built into our schedule are writing workshops intended to give you a jumpstart on your essays, as well as help you get used to constructively evaluating your peers' work through brainstorming, questioning, group discussions, and other class exercises. To receive credit for a workshop or peer review, students must be present, actively participating, and producing work.

Grammar Examination

In week 14, I will give a comprehensive grammar examination over the grammatical terms that we've covered throughout the semester. This grade counts as 10% of your final grade.

Portfolio

The portfolio is a collection of your work and contains one original and graded essay from the semester, a revision of this essay, and a cover letter. Portfolios receive a pass/fail and a letter grade. A team of instructors will determine the effectiveness of students' overall expository writing ability. Portfolios will be evaluated using the learning outcomes.

Plagiarism policies and procedures

“Plagiarism” is a type of academic dishonesty. It occurs when writers deliberately use another person's language, ideas, or materials and present them as their own without acknowledging the source. Plagiarism can include any of the following:

- Failing to quote material taken from another source.
- Failing to cite material taken from another source.
- Submitting writing that was written by another person or for another class.
- Submitting writing that was substantially edited by another person.

Possible consequences. The instructor decides the academic consequence to be imposed, depending on the seriousness of the violation. Sanctions include the following:

- Adequately redo or revise the assignment in question;
- Fail the assignment in question;
- Be dropped from the class with a W or fail the class.
- Be subject to more severe sanctions imposed by the Dean of Students.

Student Privacy

Student privacy is strongly protected at UNM-VC. The federal FERPA strictly prohibits the instructor or administrators from talking to anyone but the student about his/her progress. If a student has questions about a grade on an assignment or about the final grade for the course, FERPA dictates that the student is the only one who may speak to the instructor regarding their grades. All other outside requests for information release must be sent to and approved by the UNM-VC registrar: (505) 925-8580 <http://www.unm.edu/~unmvc/Admissions/admiss.htm>

Technical Support

If you have questions about computer-related problems, call 277-5757 (M-F 8am-noon and 1-5pm). If you do not know how to use Blackboard Learn, tutorials are available at <http://online.unm.edu/help/learn/students/>.