

Department of Humanities and Social Sciences

COURSE OUTLINE – Winter 2023

EN1201 (B3): Composition and Rhetoric – 3 (3-0-0) 45 Hours for 15 Weeks

Northwestern Polytechnic acknowledges that our campuses are located on Treaty 8 territory, the ancestral and present-day home to many diverse First Nations, Metis, and Inuit people. We are grateful to work, live and learn on the traditional territory of Duncan's First Nation, Horse Lake First Nation and Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation, who are the original caretakers of this land.

We acknowledge the history of this land and we are thankful for the opportunity to walk together in friendship, where we will encourage and promote positive change for present and future generations.

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Craig Smith **PHONE:** 780-539-2894
OFFICE: C308 **E-MAIL:** crsmith@nwpolytech.ca
OFFICE HOURS: Mondays 10:30-11:30, Wednesdays 1:00-1:45, or by appointment

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION: This course will help students become more sophisticated users and producers of written texts. Instruction will include basic academic essay writing skills and the various rhetorical approaches used when addressing specific audiences. The main goals of the course are to help students integrate reading and writing and to become familiar with the conventions of college- (and university-) level writing. This includes producing coherent, logical texts that are relatively free of surface errors. To achieve these goals, the course encourages students to think critically, to read closely and analytically, and to compose responses to a variety of texts, both written and visual.

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE: English 30-1, EN0130, or equivalent

REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS: All required class readings will be available on MyClass (D2L); it is *your* responsibility to ensure that you are able to access and read these documents well in advance of the class in which they will be discussed.

DELIVERY MODE(S): This course is delivered remotely. There are no face-to-face or onsite requirements. Students must have a computer with a webcam and reliable internet connection. The course work includes lecture, class discussion, in-class quizzes, and written assignments

COURSE OBJECTIVES: The aims of this course are to enable students to become more technically and rhetorically proficient writers. Students taking this course will not only gain a greater understanding of the fundamentals of grammar and style but will also have the chance to read and analyze a range of texts

that will provide students with the tools to recognize and utilize persuasive rhetoric in a variety of forms. The goal of this course is to provide students with an understanding of the ways in which critical reading and effective writing go hand-in-hand.

LEARNING OUTCOMES: After taking this course, the successfully participating students will demonstrate the following:

- The ability to identify and to employ a range of sentence structures
- The ability to compose grammatically correct sentences
- The ability to punctuate writing proficiently and to recognize improperly punctuated material
- The ability to recognize varied rhetorical strategies in a range of texts as well as the ability to employ a variety of rhetorically persuasive techniques in students' own writing
- The ability to produce coherent, unified, and well-structured essays
- The ability to identify factors such as the occasion, purpose, and audience in assigned pieces of writing
- The ability to write in different genres and for varied audiences
- The ability to identify different paragraph structures and patterns and to recreate them
- Knowledge of different models of thesis statements and topic sentences and a corresponding ability to craft different types of thesis statements and topic sentences
- An ability to perform close readings of texts and to write clearly and informatively about them

TRANSFERABILITY:

Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check to ensure the transferability of this course at the Alberta Transfer Guide main page <http://www.transferalberta.ca>.

** Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. **Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability**

EVALUATIONS:

Participation – 5%

Applied Knowledge Tasks – 30%

Midterm – 15%

Writing Assignment: Writing for different audiences – 20%

Final project (in lieu of a final exam) – 30%

GRADING CRITERIA: (The following criteria may be changed to suite the particular course/instructor)

Please note that most universities will not accept your course for transfer credit **IF** your grade is **less than C-**.

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines	Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines
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A+	4.0	90-100		C+	2.3	67-69
A	4.0	85-89		C	2.0	63-66
A-	3.7	80-84		C-	1.7	60-62
B+	3.3	77-79		D+	1.3	55-59
B	3.0	73-76		D	1.0	50-54
B-	2.7	70-72		F	0.0	00-49

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

Weeks 1-5: Illustration
 Pre-writing Strategies
 Format/Citation
 Academic Integrity
 Occasion/Purpose/Audience

Weeks 5-10: Critical Reading Practices
 Grammar, Syntax, Sentence Structure
 Paragraph Essay Structure
 Writing Development Patterns: Definition, Classification

Weeks 10-14: Research and Documentation
 Rhetoric
 Effective Editing

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. This remote class is not asynchronous. My expectation is that students will attend **all** classes. Students who are ill or need to be absent for other legitimate reasons should contact and inform me. Excused absences will have no impact on a student’s grade; however, unexcused absences will negatively affect the participation component of a student’s grade and could result in a failing grade for that component of a student’s final mark.
2. All written work be uploaded to MyClass (D2L). Students must accept the Turnitin agreement to submit written work.
3. Written assignments are to be submitted *on time*. Late assignments will incur a penalty of **5%** per day, with weekends counting as two.

4. Extensions will not be granted for written assignments except in extenuating circumstances. Documentation will be required.
5. Students are required to check MyClass before each class to stay informed concerning the schedule of readings as well as course updates and announcements.
6. Students do not need to make appointments to meet with me during my office hours. Anyone who wants to meet with me outside of my scheduled hours may contact me to arrange an alternate meeting time. Students wishing to meet via Zoom rather than in my office may request a virtual appointment. Please note that I will not meet with you outside of regular working hours.
7. The date for the midterm can be found on the more detailed schedule of readings and assignments available on the myClass page for this course. The midterm **will not** be rescheduled except in extenuating circumstances. Documentation **will be required** for any student wishing to write the midterm on an alternate date. **YOU MUST HAVE A WORKING WEBCAM IN ORDER TO WRITE THE MIDTERM.**
8. Students should feel free to email me with questions or concerns at any point during the semester. I will do my best to respond to your emails as quickly as possible, but emails sent outside of regular working hours will not receive immediate replies.

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and there will be penalties. For a more precise definition of plagiarism and its consequences, refer to the Student Conduct section of the Northwestern Polytechnic Calendar at <https://www.nwpolytech.ca/programs/calendar/> or the Student Rights and Responsibilities policy which can be found at <https://www.nwpolytech.ca/about/administration/policies/index.html>.

**Note: all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.