English 109
Introduction to Academic English
Department of English
University of Waterloo
Fall 2004

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Workshop Leader:
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Course Description:
This course aims to engage participants in some of the issues emerging in various academic disciplines. In the process of this engagement the course aims to provide students with an overview of the conventions and techniques that academic disciplines use to discuss and debate those issues. This course involves a good deal of practice in the art and craft of academic reading and writing. Most of the hands-on, practical work in the course takes place in the workshops.

Texts:
Catherine F. Schryer. *Reading and Writing Academically*. Fall 2004 Course book for English 109

Assessment:
Literal essay (15%)
Synthesis paper (30%)
Analysis paper (20%)
Reading/Activity file (15%)
Tests (10%)
Editing (10%)
Assignment Descriptions:

1. Literacy Essay (15%)

Write a brief essay (600 – 700 words) on the topic of literacy or education. In your essay you may use your own experience as evidence. However, you must refer to some of the academic sources in Chapter 4 or 5 by using long and short quotations as well as summaries. You must also include a bibliography or citation page. You may use either MLA or APA citation style. Your essay should have a main argument or point that you would like to make about literacy.

Here are some suggestions for this assignment:

*you could write a brief paper reacting to one of the academic sources in Chapters 4 or 5 (a formal essay)
* you could select a few key positions in your sources and react to those (a formal essay)
* you could compare your experience with some of the research findings in your sources (a personal essay)

2. Synthesis Paper or Report (30%)

**Synthesis Paper**
Write a 1,200 word paper on some issue related to the topic of gender, technology or ethnicity. Your paper must adopt a position on your issue and must reflect research that has been conducted in the field. Your paper must include at least 6 sources: two sources must derive from academic articles that you have located yourself; two must come from chapters 6, 7 or 8; your remaining sources can come either from chapters 6, 7 or 8 or other academic sources. You can, of course, include more sources if you wish.

You must use either the MLA or APA to format your references. Your paper should also have a title and be double-spaced, and you may use headings if you wish.

**Report**
Write a 1,200 word report that updates your instructor on one or more current ethical, political, social or medical problems associated with the Human Genome Project (HGP). Your report must follow report conventions and have a cover page, a table of contents, an abstract, an introduction, discussion, recommendations (optional), conclusion, appendices (optional), and works cited section. Be sure to include numbered headings.
3. Analysis Paper (20%)

Write an analytical paper of about 1,000 words in which you support or critique some issue pertaining to advertising. Your paper must include an analysis of the language and visual design of an ad that appears in a current publication or of an ad that we provide in workshop. Your paper must also include references to the reading material in Chapter 10.

4. Reading/Activity File (15%)

Each of the major assignments in this course has preparatory activities associated with it as well as some style exercises. Many of these activities and exercises will be completed in workshop. Some are due the day of workshop. By completing these activities on time students will automatically achieve 75% of this grade. The remaining 25% will be awarded for the quality of the file.

5. Tests (10%)
   Two style tests will occur during the term.

6. Editing (10%)
   This grade will be derived from the quality of your involvement in assisting other students in improving their papers.

Course Policies:

1. Late Drafts or Papers
Late drafts will be penalized up to 10% of the final grade of the paper. Late papers will be penalized 5% per day late. Sometimes, however, students do have legitimate reasons for late assignments. Attached to this course outline is a coupon that students can use once to justify a late final paper. Please note that all late drafts will be penalized.

2. Plagiarism¹

¹ The Arts Faculty Council requires the following note on all course outlines:
All students registered in the courses of the Faculty of Arts are expected to know what constitutes an academic offense, to avoid committing academic offenses, and to take responsibility for their academic actions. When the commission of an offense is established, disciplinary penalties will be imposed in accord with Policy #71 (Student Academic Discipline). For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students are directed to consult the Summary of Policy #71 (Student Academic Discipline) which is supplied in the Undergraduate Calendar (p1:11). If you need help in learning how to avoid offenses such as plagiarism, cheating, and double submission, or if you need clarification of the discipline policy, ask your course instructor for guidance. Other resources regarding the discipline policy are your academic advisor and the Undergraduate Associate Dean."
Plagiarism or copying other people’s style or ideas and claiming them as your own is a serious academic offense. Any incident of plagiarism will automatically cause a paper to fail, could cause you to fail the course, and will be reported to the Dean’s office.

3. Attendance
Attendance at the workshops is particularly important. Much of the actual work of the course, including the Reading/Activity File, will be conducted in the workshops. Always bring your course book Reading and Writing Academically to both lectures and workshops because often we will be doing the exercises and activities together.

4. Drafts
Current research in writing suggests that preparing and revising drafts promotes effective writing. Consequently, drafts are integral to this course. We urge you to prepare good first drafts so that we can really help you with your academic writing skills. All students should know, however, that they alone are responsible for their writing. If the instructor misses commenting on some problem in a draft (and we can never see everything), the writer is still responsible for that problem.

5. Grading
Workshop instructors will provide more commentary on the drafts of your papers in order to help you improve your writing. Final copies will receive less commentary.

6. Consultation
We urge you to come and see us during our office hours if you wish assistance with your writing.

7. Problems
If you are experiencing problems with the course or with the marking, you should first discuss your difficulties with your workshop instructor. If your problem persists, then you should contact the course director, Dr. C. Schryer.

8. Handing in Your Papers
All tests, drafts and papers should be handed in to your workshop instructor, usually in your workshop. Sometimes we will ask you to hand papers in at the drop off box near the English Department mail room. The mail room is located at HH 229.

109 Course Schedule

**Week 1** Introduction
Activities 1 and 2 to be completed in workshop

*Sept 14-16*

**Week 2** Reading Academically
Prep. Schryer, Chapt. 1

*Sept 21-23*
Due: Activity 3
Activity 5—to be completed in workshop

**Week 3**
Prep. Schryer, Chapt 1
Hult et al. Chapt 11 and 13

Due: Activity 4 and 6
Activity 7 to be completed in workshop
Thesis for Literacy or Education paper due

**Week 4  Writing Academically**
Prep. Schryer Chapts. 2 and 3
Hult et al. Chapt 6

Due: Activity 8, 9
**Literacy Paper due (15%)**
Activity 1 for Synthesis or Report assignment in workshop

**Week 5**
Prep. Schryer, Chapts 2 and 3
Hult et al. Chapt 7, and Part 6 and 7

Activity 2 in workshop

**Week 6**
Prep. Schryer, Chapters 2 and 3
Hult et al Chapts 8, 9,10

Due: Activity 3, Activity 4—in workshop

**Week 7**
Prep. Schryer, Chapters 2 and 3
Hult et al. Chapt 12, Part 8

Due: Activities 6 and 7

Activity 8 to be completed in workshop
Test 1 (5%)

**Week 8**
Due: Draft of Synthesis Paper or Report (30%)
Editing workshop (5%)
Week 9  Nov 9-11
Consultation with section instructor regarding *Synthesis* Paper or *Report*

Week 10  Nov 16-18
Prep. Schryer Chapter 3 and 10
   Read either Fowles or Kilbourne in Chapter 10
   Hult et al. Part 9 and 10
Due: Activity one

Activity 2 in workshop

**Final of Synthesis or Report Due**

Week 11  Nov 23-25
Prep. Schryer Chapters 3 and 8
Due: Activity 3
Activity 4 in workshop

Week 12  Nov 30- Dec 1
**Draft of Analysis/ Advertising Paper due**
**Editing workshop (5%)**
**Test 2 (5%)**

Final Draft of Analysis Paper due December 10 before 4pm in English Department drop off box.
Free late paper coupon. Not to be used for drafts.

Name:

New due date: