

FYW 110 - Fall 2020

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Class Meeting : T/R 9:15 – 10:35

Office Hours : Monday 1:30 – 2:30; Wednesday 2 – 4; Thursday 11 – 1; and by appointment

Course description

This is a preparation course for FYW 150, and will focus on the fundamentals of various modes of written expression. Instruction will cover critical elements of writing, such as sentence structure and understanding the importance of audience, and also introduce students to the importance of revision and editing. Readings are selected from both non-fiction and fiction.

First-Year Writing Student Learning Outcomes

Contexts and Purposes

Students will:

- write in ways appropriate to the audiences and occasions of each assignment
- write effectively in or about multiple discourses by distinguishing among and responding to rhetorical contexts

Content

Students will:

- apply relevant and compelling content, based on strong understandings of assigned subjects, in order to write effectively across multiple types of discourse

Sources and Evidence

Students will:

- use credible sources to develop ideas and arguments that are effective within assigned disciplines and discourses
- cite sources accurately according to conventions of the topic and discipline

Mechanics

Students will:

- write clearly and fluently, with few errors in syntax and grammar

Requirements

- **Classroom etiquette:** Please be respectful and open-minded to peer comments. Please do not interrupt someone if they are talking,

- Using a **dictionary** will be essential to your success in this class. Please have one at hand during every class period.
- **Papers** must be written in your best language – please leave time for revision and editing. Due at the beginning of class. Late or emailed papers are not accepted under any circumstances.
- You will be required to write several **short essay** papers throughout the semester (2 - 3 pages each) and **1 final comparative analysis paper** (5 – 6 pages).
- **Peer review** sessions will be conducted every time a paper is due. You cannot miss or opt-out of peer review: completing peer review is a required part of your grade for that paper.
- **Oral presentations** are an integral part of your grade. Each student must sign up for two oral **presentations**
 - Short Presentation is conducted on a day for which you will introduce the topic of the day and lead a brief class discussion (5 – 7 mins).
 - Longer Presentation (20 mins, end-of-semester and in groups of two or three). This will take the form of seminar-style presentation in which your group “teaches” the class about your topic of study. Presentation must be followed by a class discussion generated by the presenters. (Guidelines forthcoming).
- **All papers must be** typed & double-spaced in 12-point font with 1 inch margins. **Any additional resource** you use for your papers must be properly cited in a bibliography. Failure to do this will result in a F on the paper and/or permanent dismissal from the course.
- **Attendance** is essential to doing well in this class. Every student is allowed 2 unexcused absences. Following this, every subsequent absence will negatively impact your grade. Please see me if you have specific concerns.
- **Being present** means actively demonstrating your engagement with the text by contributing to class discussion. Your **grade for attendance** depends on this and on taking and doing well on impromptu in-class writing assignments. You *do not* get a full grade for attendance by simply sitting in your seat.
- **All grades** are final and non-negotiable.
- **Academic Integrity & Plagiarism** is a serious offense. Each case is reported to the Dean’s Office and you will get an automatic F for the course. All work in this class must be your own. At any time, if you rely on or borrow from some other writer, or even anonymous source online, you must acknowledge that intellectual debt by giving clear credit. Moreover, it is to your own benefit to explicitly demonstrate, through footnoting or a works cited / bibliography page, the lengths you have taken towards doing outside research.

USD Zoom rules: All our classes will be taught synchronously, which means that you must make every effort to come to class at the scheduled time. Please keep your cameras on so that we can all see each other and have robust discussions. Please stay on mute unless you are speaking. Class sessions may not be recorded in any form, and our zoom links should not be shared under any circumstances. All course material is protected and may not be shared with anyone outside of this class.

Texts

Jhumpa Lahiri, “Interpreter of maladies” and “Teach Yourself Italian”
 Carr, “Is google making us stupid?”
 Jessner, “Multilingualism with English”
 Sherman Alexie, *Absolute true diary of a part-time Indian*
 Webster’s English Dictionary

Grading

Oral presentations : 20% (short 5%; long 15%)
 Papers : 50% (includes peer reviews and revision)
 Class participation : 20% (includes attendance)
 Final paper : 10%

Reading Outline

Tues Aug 18	Introduction to course
<i>Language and multilingualism</i>	
Thurs Aug 20	Jhumpa Lahiri, “Teach Yourself Italian”
Tues Aug 25	cont.
Thurs Aug 27	Lahiri, “Interpreter of Maladies”
Tues Sep 1	cont.
Thurs Sept 3	cont.
Tues Sept 8	cont.
Thurs Sept 10	Jessner, “Multilingualism with English”
Tues Sept 15	cont.
Tues Sept 22	cont.
Thurs Sept 24	cont.
Tues Sept 29	cont.
<i>Reading</i>	
Thurs Oct 1	Carr, “Is google making us stupid?”
Tues Oct 6	cont.
Thurs Oct 8	cont.
Tues Oct 13	cont.
Thurs Oct 15	cont.
<i>Between two worlds</i>	
Tues Oct 20	Sherman Alexie, <i>Absolute true diary</i>
Thurs Oct 22	cont.
Tues Oct 27	cont.

Thurs Oct 29 cont.
Tues Nov 3 cont.
Thurs Nov 5 cont.

Tues Nov 10 Presentations
Thurs Nov 12 Presentations