WRITING 1000F 001 - THE WRITERS' STUDIO – 2021-2022

SECTION: 001
EMAIL: awenaus@uwo.ca
TIME: Wednesdays 2:30 PM - 5:30 PM
ROOM: UC-1220
OFFICE: UC 1421
PROFESSOR: Dr. Andrew C. Wenaus
OFFICE HOURS: Wednesday 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM
One “floating hour” via Zoom

**Break free of technology to become creative!**

To provide the best learning experience for you and to encourage your creativity, all in-class writing exercises will be created with pen and paper, both of which you should bring to each class. All class notes will be available to you via OWL; thus, there is no need to open your laptop in class, so please leave it closed and in your backpack.

**DESCRIPTION**

Students are introduced to the creative process of writing through in-class exercises, peer workshop, analysis of creative texts, journaling, essay writing, and a review of grammar, mechanics, and composition. Students learn strategies for idea generation in a variety of genres (poetry, fiction, nonfiction, screenwriting), composing a first draft, approaching revision, and effective editing and proofreading techniques.

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will have demonstrated the ability to
1. identify the fundamental elements of creative and essay writing;
2. generate ideas in a variety of genres: poetry, fiction, creative non-fiction, drama/screenwriting, and essay writing;
3. analyze and respond critically to published writing and the work of their peers;
4. identify and correct errors in composition, grammar, and mechanics; and
5. incorporate feedback into revisions.

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS**


**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method of Evaluation</th>
<th>Grade Value</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mid-term Portfolio</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>Week 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Narrative Assignment Proposal &amp; Presentation</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>Weeks 7 to 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Narrative Assignment (Final Draft with Revision Notes)</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>Week 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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**EXAM**
The exam will test the skills that you have developed over the course of the semester in terms of your writing ability (purpose, coherence, cohesion, style, and grammar) and your understanding of the fundamental elements of creative writing as discussed in class and in course readings.

**SUBMITTING ASSIGNMENTS**

*In this course you will be required to submit the final version of each of your assignments electronically, through OWL to turnitin.com and provide your instructor with a hard copy in class the day the assignment is due.*

Late assignments will receive a penalty of 5% per day. To qualify for an extension, you must have a valid reason and contact your instructor prior to the deadline. Please see the medical accommodation policy below.

If necessary, please submit essays to the Department of English and Writing Studies Drop Box in UC directly across from UC-2431, making sure you include your instructor's name and your section number. However, do not

- fax assignments
- e-mail assignments

Keep copies (electronic, paper, or both) of all assignments submitted.

**ATTENDANCE POLICIES**

Attendance at class is required to improve as a writer. Here is the Writing Studies attendance policy in this class:

- You may miss up to three hours (the equivalent of one week of class) of class meetings during the term without explanation. That means that the first three class hours you miss will be recorded as absences but *excused provided you don’t miss any more.*
- However, if you miss a total of four to nine class hours (the equivalent of up to three full weeks of class), your final grade will be reduced by 10% (e.g. an earned final grade of 80% will be reported as a final grade of 72).
- If you miss a total of more than nine hours of class meetings (the equivalent of more than three weeks of class meetings) your final grade will be reduced by 15% (e.g. an earned final grade of 80% will be reported as a final grade of 68).

This policy will only be waived for medical or compassionate reasons. If you have non-medical evidence that would support waiving an absence of one class meeting, provide it to your instructor within one week of that absence. In the case of a medical reason, please see the Medical Accommodation Policy set out below and in the document ‘Information for Students in a Writing Studies Course’ on this website, and either initiate a Self-Reported Absence or apply in person to the Academic Counselling or Undergraduate office of your home Faculty. If your absence is extended and prolonged (over one week of continuous non-attendance), then you should discuss it in person with the Academic Counselling or Undergraduate office of your home Faculty. Your advisor there may then contact all of your instructors.

**Attendance also extends to tardiness.** If you are more than 20 minutes late, you will be penalized an hour of attendance. Please make every effort to be on time as late entry can disrupt the flow of discussion in our class. Early departures from class, which have not been previously arranged with the instructor, will also be counted as an absence. If you leave during the break, you will be docked an hour of attendance.
Note: a class meeting missed in order to write a test, exam, or other form of ‘make-up class’ in another course will count as non-attendance, and will attract penalties as defined above if applicable. Instructors at the University of Western Ontario shall not require a student to write a make-up test or similar at times which conflict with that student’s other scheduled class times. If you are asked or ‘required’ to do this, you should immediately contact an academic counsellor in your Dean’s office. If you elect to miss a class in order to write such a test, that is your choice; your absence will not be excused.

SCHOLASTIC OFFENCES, INCLUDING PLAGIARISM
The University Senate requires the following statements, and Web site references, to appear on course outlines:

“Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf”

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage of text from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see Scholastic Offence Policy as above).

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com http://www.turnitin.com.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION AND CONSIDERATION
Students with disabilities work with Accessible Education (formerly SSD) which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be found here: Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities.

Academic Consideration for Student Absence
Students will have up to two (2) opportunities during the regular academic year to use an on-line portal to self-report an absence during the term, provided the following conditions are met: the absence is no more than 48 hours in duration, and the assessment for which consideration is being sought is worth 30% or less of the student’s final grade. Students are expected to contact their instructors within 24 hours of the end of the period of the self-reported absence, unless noted on the syllabus. Students are not able to use the self-reporting option in the following circumstances:

- for exams scheduled by the Office of the Registrar (e.g., December and April exams)
- absence of a duration greater than 48 hours,
- assessments worth more than 30% of the student’s final grade,
- if a student has already used the self-reporting portal twice during the academic year

If the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence are not met, students will need to provide a Student Medical Certificate if the absence is medical, or provide appropriate documentation if there are
compassionate grounds for the absence in question. Students are encouraged to contact their
Faculty academic counselling office to obtain more information about the relevant documentation.
All requests for consideration for assessments worth more than 30% of a final grade must be
directed to the Academic Counselling office of a student’s Home Faculty.

In this course, all requests for academic consideration must be directed to the Academic
Counselling office of the student’s Home Faculty if a SRA will not be used.

Students should also note that individual instructors are not permitted to receive documentation
directly from a student, whether in support of an application for consideration on medical grounds,
or for other reasons. All documentation required for absences that are not covered by the Self-
Reported Absence Policy must be submitted to the Academic Counselling office of a student’s Home Faculty.

For Western University policy on Consideration for Student Absence, see
Policy on Academic Consideration for Student Absences - Undergraduate Students in First Entry
Programs and for the Student Medical Certificate (SMC), see:
http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf

Religious Accommodation
Students should consult the University’s list of recognized religious holidays, and should give
reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if
their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is
given in the Western Multicultural Calendar.

Special Requests (Special Examinations, Incomplete Standing, Aegrotat Standing)
Please refer to the “Information for All Students in a Writing Course” for more detailed information.
Briefly, remember that your instructor does not have the discretion to initiate, consider, or grant
(or not) such requests; you must go directly to the Dean’s office of your home faculty.

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Health and Wellness
http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/ for a complete list of options about how to
obtain help. Immediate help in the event of a crisis can be had by phoning 519.661.3030
(during class hours) or 519.433.2023 after class hours and on weekends.

Support Services
Registrarial Services http://www.registrar.uwo.ca
Student Support Services https://student.uwo.ca/psp/heprdweb/?cmd=login
Services provided by the USC http://westernusc.ca/services/
Academic Support and Engagement http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/

EMAIL POLICY

Please email me using Messages via OWL. This way, I can keep track of all Writing 1000 email
correspondences in one place. I will get back to you within 24-48 hours.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>MEETING FOCUS</th>
<th>READINGS (SUBJECT TO CHANGE – CHECK OWL)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WEEK 1</td>
<td>Introduction to course Images and writing through the senses</td>
<td>Pick up textbooks from the bookstore</td>
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<td>David Sedaris (audio), Recommended Readings (Links)</td>
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<td>WEEK 7</td>
<td>Story and Narrative In-class Writing Exercise</td>
<td>Textbook Readings: <em>Imaginative Writing:</em> “Fiction,” p. 259-294</td>
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<td>Online Short Films: “Grandma” and “Stop”</td>
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<td>WEEK 8</td>
<td>Drafts and Research Narrative Presentations (15%) In-class writing exercise</td>
<td>Textbook Readings: <em>Imaginative Writing:</em> “Developing a Draft to Research,” p. 195-202</td>
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<td>WEEK 9</td>
<td>Narrative Presentations (15%)</td>
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<td>WEEK 12</td>
<td>Narrative Assignment Final (35%) Writing Resources Exam Prep</td>
<td>Exam Template</td>
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