



Nanchang University ENG 22: College English Writing

Credit: 4

Contact Hours

This course is composed of 24 lecture sessions, 3 tutorial sessions and 9 office contact hours. Each lecture session takes 2 contact hours in length; each tutorial session takes 3 contact hours in length; There will be a Q-A review session (3 contact hours) and Final Exam (3 contact hours) at the end of this term. This course has 72 contact hours in total.

Course Description

In this course, you will be asked to write at home and in class every week of the term, and it's very important that you do not fall behind. Many students who have performed well in English course throughout high school are surprised by how challenging the writing assignments in this seminar can be and by the high Standard set for achievement. The readings you will be assigned are similarly difficult, and you will need to read them more than once in order to grapple with their complexity. In other words, you should be prepared for a course that will require sustained effort, no matter what your previous record as writer and reader.

Inquiries

After most of the assigned readings you do this term, you will be asked to write an "inquiry" (of at least 30 words) in response to them. The aim here is for you to begin to inquire into the potential value of, or problems with, the text you've read. Rather than immediately declaring your position what you've read, the idea here is to take some time to examine the text in detail and consider various possibilities. What has the writer done (not just said) with this text through his or her approach to the material? How has the text challenged or affirmed your own prior views on its subject? What more might you need to know or research in order to take your inquiry into this subject or text further? These are just a few of the questions you might consider as you launch your inquiry. (All inquiries should be posted to the Discussion Board by 9:00 pm on the night before the class in which they will be discussed.)

Exercise

You will often be asked to do writing exercise intended to help you develop your facility with style and syntax—that is, with the way sentences are put together to create different meanings and effects. These exercise will also help you develop a deeper awareness of the conventions of edited written English and the reasons why it can be useful to flow or challenge them. (All



exercise should be emailed to me by 9:00 pm on the night before the class in which they will be discussed.)

Essays

Students sometimes assume that the essays they write for Seminar in Composition should be similar to those they've written in high school—with an Intro/Body/Conclusion format; a thesis statement supported by three examples; and a voice that sounds like that of a detached journalist or scholar. But you will not be expected to adhere to such a formula in this course. To the contrary, this course is about giving you options for composing your papers and then studying the results of the choices you make.

While some enjoyment may come from being free of the high school formula, You're also likely to find the lack of restrictions a challenge. After all, a formula simplifies things by structuring your essay for you: all you need to do is plug in the pieces. It can be considerably more difficult to have your choices expanded, with no clear-cut answer as to which path will work best. Attempting various approaches, seeing what happens as a result, then making a fresh attempt through revision—this the way you will be encouraged to work on your essays in this course.

Each essay should contain a minimum of 1,200 words (roughly four typed pages of 12-pt font). You're encouraged to go beyond the minimum, while keeping in mind that long paper is not automatically a good one. At the beginning of the term, you will be placed in a Writing Group with three or four other students, and you should bring enough copies of essay to class for your group when its due, so that group members can share and comment on each other's work. Professor will also regularly choose student essays to discuss in class, and you will be assigned to evaluate your own essays after you write them, as this will contribute to your development as writer.

Reading

The readings chosen for this course are intended to be challenging rather than easily accessible. These readings, along with others professor has selected, will provide you with opportunities to discuss various ways that writers explore their subjects and how you might pursue critical inquiry in your own writing for this course.

Required Textbook

Ways of Reading: Anthology for Writers (9th edition) by David Bartholomae and Anthony Petrosky.

Boston: Bedford Books, 2011, shown as (WoR)

Rules of Thumb (8th edition) by Jay Silverman, Elaine Hughes, and Diana Roberts Wienbroer.
New York: McGraw-Hill, 2009.

Grading



- Participation 10%
- Exercises 15%
- Inquiries 15%
- Essay 20%
- Midterm Writing 20%
- Final Exam Paper 20%

A+ 96-100	A 90-95	A- 85-89
B+ 82-84	B 78-81	B- 75-77
C+ 71-74	C 66-70	C- 62-65
D 60-61	F < 60	

Course Schedule

The course has 24 class sessions in total. All sessions are 2 hours and 15 minutes in length.
 Note: the course outline and required readings are subject to change.

Class 1:

Introduction, discussion of the class assignment and polices, diagnostic essay

Class 2:

Discussion of diagnostic essays; WoR intro (1-5), Inquiry 1

Class 3:

Writing exercise in class, WoR (70-71), Inquiry 1 due, Assignment of Essay 1

Class 4:

Writing exercise in class, WoR (TBA)

Class 5:

Essay 1 workshop, Inquiry 2, Assignment of Essay 2

Class 6:

Writing exercise in class, Inquiry 2 due

Class 7:

Discussion of Essay 2 and Inquiry 2

Class 8:

Writing exercise in class, Inquiry 3, Assignment, WoR text (TBA)

Class 9:

Essay 2 workshop

Class 10:



Writing exercise in class, Inquiry 3 due, Assignment of Essay 3

Class 11:

Review of progress / issues, working on Essay 3

Midterm Writing

Class 12:

Review and discussion of the issues/problems (mid-term review), working on Essay 3, Assignment of Inquiry 4

Class 13:

Essay 3 workshop

Class 14:

Evaluation of Essay 3, Inquiry 4 due, Assignment of Essay 4

Class 15:

Writing exercise in class, WoR text (TBA)

Class 16:

Working on Essay 4, Assignment of Inquiry 5

Class 17:

Writing exercise in class

Class 18:

Working on Essay 4, Inquiry 5 due,

Class 19:

Essay 4 workshop, Assignment of Essay 5

Class 20:

Writing exercise in class

Class 21:

Working on Essay 5

Class 22:

Working on Essay 5 (Cont.)

Class 23:

Essay 5 workshop

Class 24:



Essay 1-5 problem review

Attending Policy

Regular and prompt attendance is required. Under ordinary circumstances, you may miss two times without penalty. Each absence over this number will lower your course grade by a third of a letter and missing more than five classes may lead to a failing grade in the course. Arriving late and/or leaving before the end of the class period are equivalent to absences.

Policy on "Late Withdrawals"

In accordance with university policy, appeals for late withdrawal will be approved **ONLY** in case of medical emergency and similar crises.

Academic Honesty

Nanchang University expects all students to do their own work. Instructors will fail assignments that show evidence of plagiarism or other forms of cheating, and will also report the student's name to the University administration. A student reported to the University for cheating is placed on disciplinary probation; a student reported twice is suspended or expelled.

General Expectations:

Students are expected to:

- Attend all classes and be responsible for all materials covered in class and otherwise assigned;
- Complete the day's required reading and assignments before class;
- Review the previous day's notes before class and make notes about questions you have about the previous class or the day's reading;
- Participate in class discussions and complete required written work on time;
- Refrain from texting, phoning or engaging in computer activities unrelated to class during the class period;
- While class participation is welcome, even required, you are expected to refrain from private conversations during the class period.

Special Needs or Assistance

Please contact the Administrative Office immediately if you have a learning disability, a medical issue, or any other type of problem that prevents professors from seeing you have learned the course material. Our goal is to help you learn, not to penalize you for issues which mask your learning.