

TCORE 101
Dr. Robert
Fall 2016

TCORE 101 Introduction to Academic Writing

Instructor Dr. Robert

Office Hours M, W, F 9:30 am to 10:30 am and by appointment. Hours subject to change with notice.

Office is located in the Part-Time Lecturer's shared space: Keystone 202

Contact First, through Canvas. As a back-up, nrobert@uw.edu

Course Site <https://canvas.uw.edu/courses/1104003> You can also access this by logging into your UW Net ID at canvas.uw.edu. There you will see sites for all courses in which you are enrolled.

Course Description

This course is designed to build your skills in academic writing, in preparation for a successful college career. Each course pursues a unique topic as the foundation for shared writing exercises. This class will draw from texts about gender and sexuality as they operate within our lived experiences. We will consider how gender and sexuality are constructed as part of our social identities, how these concepts shape our world and how we are shaped by them. We will draw from feminist texts to introduce these concepts, using them as the foundation for our study of critical reading, analysis, research and academic writing.

Learning Objectives

All first year writing courses share the following learning objectives which can be viewed online at <https://www.tacoma.uw.edu/university-writing-program/common-curricular-elements>

- *Rhetorical Awareness*: you will learn to critically examine the texts we read, strengthening awareness of contextual factors
- *Research in Various Contexts*: you will learn to locate and evaluate sources
- *Using Sources Effectively*: you will integrate sources effectively into your own academic argument
- *Invention and Finding One's Position in Conversation*: you will learn to identify academic conversations and develop your own reasoned responses to the discourse
- *Reflective Writing Practices*: you will learn to reflect on your own and others' writings, engaging in a process of writing, reflecting and revising.
- *Problematizing One's Existential Writing Situation*: you will reflect and respond to feedback on your own writing, as well as provide feedback to your colleagues. In this process, you will develop your comprehension of the different influences, contexts and perspectives that shape and motivate academic writing.

Instructional Methods

Class instruction will include lectures, class discussion, in-class writing and presentations. Homework will include reading, writing and online responses.

Course Policies

Required Texts

A Writer's Reference (custom, 8th ed., 2015), Hacker & Sommers

Selected chapters from *Writing Spaces: Readings on Writing*. (<http://writingspaces.org/essays>).

This will be made available through the course website.

Additional readings unique to our course will be made available through the course website.

Email and Canvas

While I have made my email address available to you as a back up, please contact me through the course website in Canvas. Because Canvas is a secure system, we can discuss topics like course grades through the Canvas messaging system which we cannot discuss through email. You can send me a general message from the Canvas site or you can send me a message related to a specific assignment in the assignment itself.

Please allow at least 24 hours for a response during the week. Be sure to be specific about your question. Be aware that I will not respond as quickly on evenings and weekends and plan your questions accordingly.

I will send course related emails to you through Canvas. Make sure that you have set up alerts so that you are aware when you receive a Canvas message. **You are responsible for regularly checking this account.** Because canvas messages are sent through your UW student email account, you may wish to set up email forwarding.

Classroom Environment

In this class we will create a collaborative community of learners who respect and learn from one another. We will frequently deal with personally challenging material. You may find yourself in strong disagreement with your classmates. Thus it is important that we communicate respectfully and keep our minds and our ears open. It is important that you learn to really listen to your classmates.

To achieve this, it is vital that you attend class. Our class time is a unique space where you and your peers are able to discuss ideas and apply skills that will not only help you in your future studies but also expand your intellectual and personal world-views. The more you engage in this academic community, the more you will learn ... the more we will ALL learn. As with class attendance, it is important for you to participate in class discussions as thoroughly as possible.

Finally, please do not engage in activity that may be distracting to your classmates. Cellphones, tablets and laptops must be used only for class related purposes. If your behavior becomes too distracting to those around you, you will be asked to leave class and return when you are able to participate.

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Diverse backgrounds, embodiments and experiences are essential to the critical thinking endeavor at the heart of university education. In IAS and at UW Tacoma, students are expected to strive towards the following learning objectives:

- Understand the complexity of relations between groups, societies, cultures and natural environments; the history of these relations and the forces of social change;
- Gain a knowledge and appreciation of cultures other than their own while exploring the expression of cultural identity, thought and beliefs through literature and the other arts;

Students seeking support around these issues can find more information and resources at <https://www.tacoma.uw.edu/equity/center-equity-inclusion>

Illness

If you become ill with flu-like symptoms (high fever and cough or sore throat), please be respectful to yourself, your classmates, coworkers, and neighbors by staying at home or in your room. Public health authorities ask that you not return to work or classes until you have not had a fever for 24 hours without taking fever-lowering medication. **It is your responsibility to contact me as soon as possible if you are ill.** If I do not hear from you I will assume that you are choosing not to be in class so make sure to keep the lines of communication open. While I will be flexible with you, I may require documentation of your illness. You are still responsible for all missed work.

Check out the latest information online from the Student Health Services site:

http://www.tacoma.uw.edu/studentaffairs/SHW/shs_healthservices_about.cfm.html

Be sure and find an in-class email buddy that you can contact for notes and class materials.

Academic integrity

See <http://www.uwb.edu/student-services/academicconduct> for crucial information regarding academic integrity. The library also has an extremely useful website with resources at <http://libguides.uwb.edu/ai>. You are responsible for knowing what constitutes a violation of the University of Washington Student Code, and you will be held responsible for any such violations whether they were intentional

Accommodations

Please let me know as soon as possible if you require accommodations of any sort. I can work with the UW Disability Resources for Students (DRS) to provide what you require. I am very willing to take suggestions specific to this class to meet your needs. The DRS can be contacted at drs@uwb.edu or by phone at 425-352-5307/V, TDD: 425-352-5303. This syllabus is available in large print, as are other class materials—just ask! More information on support at UW may be found on the DRS website at http://www.tacoma.uw.edu/studentaffairs/SHW/dss_about.cfm/

Plagiarism

Plagiarism, or academic dishonesty, is presenting someone else's ideas or writing as your own. In your writing for this class, you are encouraged to refer to other people's thoughts and writing—as long as you cite them. When you draw on other texts for your papers, you must carefully distinguish your work and thoughts from the work and thoughts you are referencing by properly quoting and citing sources.

Plagiarism includes:

- Failure to cite sources of ideas
- Failure to cite sources of paraphrased material
- Failure to cite sources of specific language and/or passages
- Submitting someone else's work as one's own
- Submitting one's own work produced for another class (double-dipping)

If I become aware of a case of deliberate plagiarism (an attempt to pass-off someone else's work as your own) I will be forced to immediately report it to the Dean's office. It is your responsibility to become familiar with citation methods and use them correctly. When in doubt, ask.

Style Guides for this Class

All papers in this class must consistently format citations according to the Modern Language Association (MLA) style guide. Detailed information about how to do this is available in the required text by Diana Hacker. Citation machines are inconsistent and cannot appropriately format unusual sources. Inconsistent or incomplete citations will result in loss of points and may lead to plagiarism.

Inclement Weather

Please check if the campus may be closed due to weather. Information on suspension of operations will be made public and available through the media. Students can learn of campus operations status from the website at <https://www.tacoma.uw.edu/node/38897> or by calling the Campus Information Hotline **253-383-4636** or **866-897-4636** (toll-free). You may also sign up with an alert system that will contact you via email or text message if classes are cancelled.

Given that your Professor is commuting from over an hour away, our class may be cancelled even if campus is open. Watch your course email for updates. Class activities will be rescheduled as needed.

Adjunct Faculty

There are different kinds of professors at the University of Washington and these types impact the access you have to those professors. Adjunct Professors are hired on a class-by-class or contract basis, share office space, are not eligible to sponsor clubs and may not be on campus outside of regularly scheduled office hours. While we are talented, passionate and qualified educators, we may not be able to do the things students expect of a traditional professor. Please communicate your needs and be flexible to work within the constraints of your Adjunct Faculty.

Grading

Papers will be graded based on a grading rubric which you will receive with each paper assignment. You will be graded on how effectively you construct your arguments, not on your opinion. While we deal with many challenging topics in this class, no student is expected to adhere to a particular point of view. All students are expected to develop skills of critical reflection and be able to construct an effective analysis.

Major Dates

Paper Sequence 1: Distributed 10/10; Final Draft due 10/31

Paper Sequence 2: Distributed 10/31; Final Draft due 11/18

Paper Sequence 3: Distributed 11/18; Final Draft due 12/9

Portfolio and Reflection: Due 12/13

25% In-Class Reflections and Activities. Participation requires you to actively engage in class discussions, group work, and peer reviews. Throughout the course, you will be asked to engage in a variety of in-class activities. Individual writing reflections and group worksheets will be submitted for credit. These assignments are designed to help you engage in class discussions and support your progress as an academic writer. All in-class activities will be graded on a credit/no credit system. Missed work cannot be made up. However, submission of 90% of the work will result in 100% credit, based on the following standard:

- Participation in 90% of random days will result in 100% participation credit.
- Participation in 80% of random days will result in 90% participation credit.
- Participation in 70% of random days will result in 80% participation credit.
- Participation in 60% of random days will result in 70% participation credit.
- Participation in 50% of random days will result in 60% participation credit
- Participation in less than 50% of random days will result in participation credit that correlates to participation days. For example, 45%=45%
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20% Homework Assignments. These will be a series of readings, shorter writings and exercises designed to help you develop the skills necessary for good writing. This includes critical reading, critical personal reflection, how to review and revise, and some of the building blocks of effective analytical essays. Your participation in online course activities will count towards your Homework grade. Homework assignments will be graded as Check Plus, Check or Check Minus. A grade of Check Plus indicates that you *exceeded* the minimum expectations of the assignment and includes extra points. A grade of Check indicates that you *met* the expectations of the assignment and includes full points for the assignment. A grade of Check Minus indicates that you made an effort but *did not meet* the minimum requirements of the assignment.

10% Paper 1: The details of this paper, along with a timeline, will be handed out in class.

15% Paper 2: The details of this paper, along with a timeline, will be handed out in class.

20% Final Paper: The details of this paper, along with a timeline, will be handed out in class.

10% Portfolio: The portfolio will represent both an accumulation of your work and thoughtful reflection about the progress you have made from the start to the end of the term. This will include 10-12 pages of revised, polished writing from this course as well as an explanation of how these pages reflect your writing development. Details of this assignment will be provided. This paper will be due Tuesday December 13, 2016 at 5:00 pm in Canvas. **Grades will be posted in Canvas.**

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Late Work Papers are due at the stated date and time either in Canvas or, if indicated, in class. I do not accept papers via email. Late homework will not be accepted for credit. Late drafts and final versions of papers will be subject to a -0.5 penalty for each day it is late (weekends included) and a -0.3 penalty for same-day late papers. After 48 hours I reserve the right to refuse to accept late papers. Any exceptions must be arranged in advance or be the result of a documented emergency. PLEASE communicate with me as soon as possible so I can help you determine your options.

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UW Grading Policy: UW policy on grades can viewed

here: <http://www.tacoma.uw.edu/node/37545>. Percent scores will be transformed to point scores as follows, where the minimum passing score is 0.7 (58%), and 99% or above is a 4.0, listed below:

100	4.0	89	3.4	78	2.6	67	1.7
99	4.0	88	3.3	77	2.5	66	1.6
98	3.9	87	3.3	76	2.4	65	1.5
97	3.8	86	3.2	75	2.3	64	1.4
96	3.8	85	3.2	74	2.2	63	1.3
95	3.7	84	3.1	73	2.1	62	1.2
94	3.7	83	3.0	72	2.1	61	1.1
93	3.6	82	2.9	71	2.	60	0.9
92	3.6	81	2.8	70	2.0	59	0.8
91	3.5	80	2.8	69	1.9	58	0.7
90	3.5	79	2.7	68	1.8		

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Academic and Life Balance Resources

OWL (Purdue's Online Writing Lab) <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/>

Writing Center on campus <https://www.tacoma.uw.edu/university-writing-program/writing-center>

Teaching and Learning Center <https://www.tacoma.uw.edu/teaching-learning-center/teaching-learning-center>

UW Tacoma Library Gender Studies Research Guide <http://guides.lib.uw.edu/tacoma/gender>

UW Tacoma Library Writing Studies Research Guide

<http://guides.lib.uw.edu/tacoma/writingstudies>

UW Library Citation Guides and Tools: <http://guides.lib.washington.edu/citations>

Disability Resources for

Students http://www.tacoma.uw.edu/studentaffairs/SHW/dss_about.cfm/

Student Success Center <http://www.tacoma.uw.edu/studentaffairs/SHW/index.cfm.html>

Student Counseling Center http://www.tacoma.uw.edu/studentaffairs/SHW/scc_about.cfm.html

Veteran and Military <https://www.tacoma.uw.edu/node/40351>

Childcare and Family Support Services <https://www.tacoma.uw.edu/childcare-family-support-services/parent-resources>

Campus Safety and Security 206-692-4416

Title IX Coordinator Amanda Paye 206-616-2028

UW Police Department Victim Advocate 206-543-9337 police.uw.edu/sexualassault

YMCA of Pierce County 24 Hour Crisis Line: 253-383-2593

Rebuilding Hope Sexual Assault Center for Pierce County 24 Hour Crisis, Information and Referral line: 800-756-7273 or 253-474-7273 sexualassaultcenter.com/advocacy

Rainbow Center of Tacoma for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and allied community <http://www.rainbowcntr.org/> Crime Victim Service Center 24-Hour Hotline: 800-346-7555

Oasis Youth Center: a safe place for queer youth. <http://www.oasisyouthcenter.org/>

Gender Alliance of the South Sound <http://www.southsoundgender.com/>

Transgender Crisis Center: Trans Life Line 877-565-8860

Information for Undocumented Students at UW Tacoma:

<https://www.tacoma.uw.edu/admissions/undocumented-studentshb-1079>