



Research Writing 7-9 Syllabus

Course Goals

1 Understanding Rhetoric

Students learn how to identify and adapt to a variety of rhetorical situations.

2 Understanding the Writing Process

Students develop a deep understanding of various steps of the writing process and how to best use them.

3 Utilizing Research

Students learn to conduct, evaluate, and integrate outside research into their papers.

4 Crafting Arguments

Students learn how to evaluate and incorporate argumentation and counterarguments into their writing.

5 Learning to Revise Effectively

Students learn and practice effective revision techniques.

Course Schedule

Day 1

Intro to Course

Students get an overview of the course goals, objectives, and expectations.

Intro to Rhetorical Considerations

Students learn about the importance of rhetorical considerations in writing.

Intro to the Writing Process

Students learn about various steps in the writing process, with an emphasis on it being flexible and recursive.

Intro to Atlases

Students begin their first essay while familiarizing themselves with the atlases published by National Geographic.

Day 2

Structure

Students learn about the five-paragraph essay, its utility, and how to move past it into more complex essay structures.

Research Questions and Brainstorming

Students learn how to craft research questions and brainstorm topics for an essay.

Evaluating Sources

Students learn how to evaluate sources for legitimacy.

Using Sources

Students learn how to properly integrate outside sources into their work with a focus on when to paraphrase, summarize, and

quote.

Day 3

Intro to MLA

Students learn how to cite sources using MLA format.

Avoiding Plagiarism

Students learn when they must cite sources and how to avoid plagiarizing.

Thesis Statements

Students learn how to craft effective thesis statements.

Continue Researching and Drafting

Students continue to research and begin drafting their essays.

Day 4

Revision Strategies

Students learn why revision is important and gain exposure to a few different methods.

Drafting Continuation

Students continue working on their first essay.

Finish Drafting

Students complete the first draft of their Atlas essay.

Day 5

Conferences

Students have individual conferences with the instructor as they work on their essays.

Final Draft

Students revise, edit, and finalize their essays.

Day 6

Introduction to Assignment 2

Students look over the second essay prompt, then learn about the three rhetorical appeals.

Logical Fallacies

Students learn about different logical fallacies.

Counterargument

Students learn why counterarguments are important and how to utilize them in their writing.

Preliminary Research

Students begin their research and craft their research questions.

Day 7

Gathering Research

Students continue researching their second essay.

Day 8

Drafting

Students write drafts of their second essay.

Day 9

Conferences

Students have individual conferences with the instructor as they work on their essays.

Essay 2 Revisions

Students revise their essays based off of instructor feedback.

Day 10

Conferences

Students have individual conferences with the instructor as they work on their essays.

Finalize Essay 2

Students revise, edit, and polish their second essay.

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