



## Course Syllabus

**Course Number - Name:** WRI123NT - College Writing I

**Course Credits:** 3

**Duration:** 8 weeks

### Course Description:

College Writing I will develop the student's skills as a writer. The course is formatted for asynchronous delivery with instructor-facilitated online discussion forums. This course will challenge the student to become a more flexible writer, capable of effectively communicating in various situations. The students will write seven different types of papers: narrative, description, definition, explanation, analysis and reflection, argument, and response.

### Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs):

#	CLOs	Bloom's*
1	Recognize the rhetorical modes – focusing on models including those in God's Word.	1
2	Employ expressive ways of thinking and analytical skills for looking at themselves and their world.	2
3	Describe the important steps of the writing process.	2
4	Explain the parts of a piece of writing and understand how they function.	3
5	Write developed, insightful, analytical prose that sounds natural.	6
6	Formulate and defend a persuasive argument.	6
6	Develop the skills to be proficient writers for the rest of the college career.	6

\*Indicates Bloom's Taxonomy cognitive domain level.

**Biblical Worldview Integration Plan:**

Each of the 8 weekly instruction videos will include a 30-second devotion consisting of a course-relevant Bible passage, application, and prayer. Students will write short personal Christian testimonies to “find their voices.” Since writing is God’s idea, we will briefly explore the genre of biblical books, including narrative, poetry, epistles, and prophecy, discovering how the medium shapes the message. Brief excerpts and essays from Christian writers will provide examples of descriptive, evaluative, persuasive, and responsive rhetoric. Excerpts from Marilyn McEntyre’s *Caring for Words* will encourage students to become stewards of the language to advance the kingdom of God as Christ’s ambassadors.

**Required to Purchase Media:**

n/a

**Grading Grid:**

<b>Assessments (# in parentheses)- # pts. each if &gt; 1</b>	<b>Total Points</b>
Discussions (8) - 25 pts. each	<b>200</b>
Grammar and Punctuation Self-Tests (10) - 5 pts. each	<b>50</b>
Narrative Paper: Your Personal Testimony – 25 pts.	<b>25</b>
The Descriptive Paper – 25 pts.	<b>75</b>
The Definition Paper – 75 pts.	<b>75</b>
The Explanation Paper – 75 pts.	<b>75</b>
The Analysis and Evaluation Paper – 100 pts.	<b>100</b>
The Argument Paper – 100 pts.	<b>100</b>
The Response Paper – 100 pts.	<b>100</b>
Checkpoints (5) – 20 pts. each	<b>100</b>
Assessment and Reflections (5) – 20 pts. each	<b>100</b>
<b>Total Points:</b>	<b>1,000</b>

## **Course Schedule:**

### **Week 1**

#### Media:

1. Week One Instructor Lesson: Introduction video
2. Marilyn McEntyre, "Love Words" PDF
3. Oxford English Dictionary (OED) webpage
4. How to Use the OED online video
5. Thesaurus webpage
6. Luis Rodriguez and the Gift of Words video
7. Parts of speech webpage
8. Test your knowledge webpage
9. APA Formatting Checklist webpage
10. Acts 3 (ESV), Acts 3 (The Message), and Revelation 12:7-11 (ESV) webpages
11. Writing Your Personal Testimony PDF

#### Assignments:

1. Assignment 1-1 Narrative Paper: Writing Your Personal Testimony - See Instructions in the course
2. Assignment 1-2 Assessment and Reflection - See Instructions in the course
3. Wk1 Discussion - See Instructions in the course

### **Week 2**

#### Media:

1. Week Two Instructor Lesson: Description and lesson plan video
2. Don Robinson, "As the Sun Rose" excerpt from *Peace Child* and Bible passages PDF
3. Cruz Medina, "Rhetorical Situation" video
4. Martin Luther King, Jr., "I Have a Dream" video
5. Freewriting PDF (includes optional exercises)
6. William Strunk, Jr., *Elementary Rules of Usage* webpage
7. Active vs. Passive Voice PDF
8. The Top Twenty Writing Mistakes PDF
9. NIU Grammar and Punctuation Tutorials and Self-Tests webpage

#### Assignments:

1. Assignment 2-1 Description Paper - See Instructions in the course
2. Assignment 2-2 NIU Grammar Self-Tests (10) - See Instructions in the course
3. Assignment 2-3 Checklist
4. Wk2 Discussion - See Instructions in the course

### **Week 3**

#### Media:

1. Week Three Instructor Lesson: Definition and lesson plan video
2. Purdue Online Writing Lab: Writing Definitions webpage
3. How to Write an Extended Definition webpage
4. Extended Definition video
5. Excelsior Online Writing Lab: Definition Essay webpage
6. Types of Definition PDF
7. Avenir: The Desire to See Memories in Advance video
8. Bible Examples of Definition PDF

#### Assignments:

1. Assignment 3-1 Definition Paper - See Instructions in the course
2. Assignment 3-2 Assessment and Reflection - See Instructions in the course
3. Assignment 3-3 Checklist
4. Wk3 Discussion - See Instructions in the course

### **Week 4**

#### Media:

1. Week Four Instructor Lesson: Explanation and lesson plan video
2. Shaping What Comes: Six Ways to Explain webpage
3. Thomas Sowell, "The Geography of Africa" excerpt PDF
4. "Franklin Delano Roosevelt, "Declaration of WWII" PDF
5. Paul Explains Faith and the Law PDF
6. Developing a Thesis and Supporting Arguments webpage
7. Tip Sheet for Writing a Process Paper webpage
8. Process Essay webpage
9. Sentence Structure webpage
10. How to Write a Process Essay (both directional and informational) video
11. Process Paragraph and Process Essay video

#### Assignments:

1. Assignment 4-1 Explanation Paper - See Instructions in the course
2. Assignment 4-2 Assessment and Reflection - See Instructions in the course
3. Assignment 4-3 Checklist
4. Wk4 Discussion - See Instructions in the course

## **Week 5**

### Media:

1. Week Five Instructor Talk video
2. Analysis and Evaluation Paper PDF
3. Karen Palmer, "Five Characteristics of an Evaluative Essay" webpage
4. HJennifer Herrity, "How To Write a Good Analytical Essay in 7 Steps" webpage
5. Evaluation Essays webpage
6. David Taylor, "How to Write a Critique Essay: Examples" from the Effective Writing Center video
7. C.S. Lewis, "Essay on Forgiveness" PDF
8. Learn the Language of Logic PDF
9. Toulmin Argument webpage
10. David Petrie, "Toulmin Model of Argumentation" video
11. The WHY method PDF
12. Conclusions webpage
13. Example Analysis-Evaluation Essays from Central Oregon Community College webpage

### Assignments:

1. Assignment 5-1 Analysis and Evaluation Paper - See Instructions in the course
2. Assignment 5-2 Assessment and Reflection - See Instructions in the course
3. Assignment 5-3 Checklist
4. Wk5 Discussion - See Instructions in the course

## **Week 6**

### Media:

1. Week Six Instructor Lesson Talk video
2. Marilyn McEntyre, "Play" PDF
3. Christian Music Lyrics PDF
4. Imagine PDF
5. Paul Brand and Philip Yancey, "Nightmares of Painlessness" webpage
6. C. S. Lewis, "Heaven" PDF
7. Chelsea Seburn, How to Choose a GOOD Research Topic video
8. Chelsea Seburn, How to write an effective thesis statement for your research paper video
9. Life in the Information Age video
10. Guide to Google webpage
11. How to Use Google Scholar video
12. Introduction to Corbansearch video

### Assignments:

1. Assignment 6-1 Assessment and Reflection - See Instructions in the course
2. Wk6 Discussion - See Instructions in the course

## **Week 7**

### Media:

1. Week Seven Instructor Talk video
2. The Argument Paper PDF
3. Justin Jory, "The Rhetorical Situation" webpage
4. David Wright, Using the Rhetorical Triangle & Rhetorical Appeals video
5. Common Rhetorical Devices (7) video
6. Lincoln's Gettysburg Address PDF
7. Revision Strategies video
8. Preview of Argument Paper PDF

### Assignments:

1. Wk7 Discussion - See Instructions in the course
2. Assignment 7-1 Final Argument Paper - See Instructions in the course

## **Week 8**

### Media:

1. Week Eight Instructor Talk video
2. How to Write a Critical Response webpage
3. Formula for Refutation and Rebuttal PDF
4. Fallacy Playlist webpage
5. The Anti-Hate Group that is a Hate Group PDF
6. Beginnings Before Genesis 1:1? PDF
7. The Principle of Charity video
8. Speaking the Truth in Love video

### Assignments:

1. Assignment 8-1 Response Paper - See Instructions in the course
2. Assignment 8-2 Checklist
3. Wk8 Discussion - See Instructions in the course