

Course number and section: ENGL 112.113

Course Topic: Studies in Composition

Credits: 3 credits

Term: Winter T2, 2020 (Jan.-April, 2021)

Instructor: Shirley McDonald

Course Description:

ENGL 112 is designed to help you develop reading and writing skills for use throughout your university career. The objective of the course is to introduce you to the ways in which scholars think about, undertake, and communicate the results of their research. The course is structured to cover the essay-writing process through reading strategies, summary, analysis, persuasion, research methods, revision, and documentation. It will also include grammar and editing exercises designed to assist you in constructing sentences appropriate for university-level research writing. While this course is not discipline specific, its aim is to make you aware of scholarly conventions in general and empower you to write and research successfully within whichever discipline you choose to pursue.

ENGL 112.108 requires you to engage in active student-based learning to develop your skills in reading comprehension, critical thinking, and writing. We will discuss fiction, semi-fictional prose, academic and personal essays, and film. We will work through these texts employing “close reading tools” to foster your development of the critical thinking skills that are essential to good writing. You will engage in close readings of course texts in a variety of activities and in the practices of revision and research as essential components of the writing process.

Method of Course Delivery:

This course will run online with the exclusive use of self-guided (asynchronous) materials. For a fuller description of asynchronous and synchronous, see below.

Tentative Reading List:

Custom Courseware with selections from Samuel Scudder (memoir), Peter Singer (academic essay/animal rights), E.B. White (short story), Bernard E. Rollin (research/animal husbandry), Greg Garrard (research/animal rights), James P. Sterba (ethical philosophy), Margaret Laurence (short story), Sarah Carter (post-colonial history), Daniel Francis (post-colonial history), Robert Asher (historical theory), George Manuel & Michael Posluns (Indigenous history), and Arthur Manuel (Indigenous rights/life writing).

Other: Students should expect to engage in short, informal writing exercises and formal assignments such as essays.

Synchronous: Some or all of the scheduled class hours are spent in a real-time, online virtual classroom, with the instructor and registered students in attendance; these class hours may be devoted to lecture, discussion, group work, or other real-time virtual learning activities. Consult your instructor for specifics.

Asynchronous: Refers to course instruction delivered in the form of materials that can be accessed and worked through at the student’s own pace; these materials might include recorded lectures or power point demonstrations, required readings, etc. Consult your instructor for specifics.