
LTCY 199-001: Reading: Evidence and Argument
MW 1:50 – 3:10
GRH 2003
January 17 – May 4, 2023

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Communicating with me

Please feel free to call my office, send an email, or drop by during office hours. I *want* to talk to you. Please don't hesitate to reach out for any reason. I will do my best to respond to missed phone calls and/or emails within 24 business hours.

Office Hours

M 10:30 – 1:30
T 8 – 10
W 10:30 – 1:30
R 8 - 10

F *By appointment*

Course Adjustments

The instructor reserves the right to modify the course requirements, schedule, and syllabus. The syllabus and schedule for this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances. No change will occur, however, *unless* proper and prior notice is given to students.

Point Scale

900-1000	A
800-899	B
700-799	C
600-699	D
Below 600	F

Course Overview

Literacy is not just reading – it is much more. For students to successfully navigate the rigors of college-level work, they must be proficient in their ability to read, write, listen and speak. This class provides students with the knowledge and skillsets necessary to handle the workload they will be given at WKU. Establishing new and positive academic and behavioral habits, as well as rectifying the ineffective and inefficient practices often espoused by students new to the college landscape is the primary focus of the course, with particular emphasis on these changes as they relate to reading.

Course Description

Prepares students to successfully meet the rigorous reading and other literacy requirements of college. Emphasis on refining skills necessary to extract factual evidence from text and make sound arguments through various modes of literacy.

Academic Objectives

1. Read college-level print for sense and meaning.
2. Gather sound and relevant evidence to analyze an issue.
3. Analyze/synthesize evidence to articulate an argument.
4. Develop/refine speaking proficiency in college classrooms.
5. Learn to learn.

Affective Objectives

6. Develop/refine personal responsibility.
7. Develop/refine productive work ethic.
8. Recognize and adjust habits.

Texts:

Collins, S. (2008). *The hunger games*. Scholastic Press.
Collins, S. (2009). *Catching fire*. Scholastic Press.
Collins, S. (2010). *Mockingjay*. Scholastic Press.
Duhigg, C. (2012). *The power of habit: Why we do what we do in life and business*. Random House.

SUMMARY OF COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION

Core Academic Skills and In-Class Experiences – 560 points (56% of final grade)

Daily attendance and participation is expected. Most classes will include in-class activities or assignments where your participation and task accomplishment will earn points. These are interactive, in-class experiences and cannot be made up. Many of these points will come from the successful completion of the Evidence Guides and the use of those Evidence Guides in class. The message is simple: miss class, miss your opportunity to earn the points. Some points will come from out-of-class assignments that are used within the next class meeting, some will come from notes and reading assignments, and some will come from applying reading/learning strategies from in-class reading/experiences. Daily quizzes will also be incorporated in this class.

Argument Paper – 150 points (15% of final grade)

You will be responsible for extracting evidence, analyzing information, and producing college-level argument writing. Additional information will be provided in Blackboard and in class.

Evidence and Argument (E&A) Colloquia – 240 points (24% of final grade)

Throughout the course of the semester, you will be responsible for reading a number of assignments from books/articles and will participate in weekly class discussions. Each student is responsible for contributing thoughtful and reflective commentary every meeting. Points will be assigned for comments evidencing understanding of the course material. All points associated with this category can only be earned in class. If you are absent from class, you cannot make up these points.

Class Attendance and Late Work

Each student is expected to be present, prepared, participatory, and polite. Assignments completed outside of class are due by midnight on the due date. It is expected that ALL assignments will be submitted on their due dates. Late assignments will be accepted for up to one week (7 consecutive days) after the original due date to receive any credit. Late assignments will be penalized at a rate of 10% the first day and then 15% per day (up to 6 additional days) after that. After one week, no credit will be awarded. Some assignments will NOT be accepted late for any credit. In addition, extra credit will not be given if students fail to complete the major assignments (tests, papers, and presentations).

Written Assignments

All written assignment submissions should be typed and follow APA 7th edition formatting style.

Plagiarism (Important)

To represent ideas or interpretations taken from another source as one's own is plagiarism. Plagiarism is a serious offense. The academic work of students must be their own. Students must give the author(s) credit for any source material used. To lift content directly from a source without giving credit is a flagrant act. To present a borrowed passage after having changed a few words, even if the source is cited, is also plagiarism.

Additional Services

The WKU Center for Literacy is located in Gary A. Ransdell Hall 1037. At the Center for Literacy, students can receive assistance in developing strategies to help reading/studying to learn and writing for evidence and argument. More information about the WKU Center for Literacy can be found on the website:
<http://www.wku.edu/literacycenter/>

Professionalism – 50 points (5% of final grade)

Each student is expected to be present, prepared, participatory, and polite. This primarily indicates that you are expected to behave in a way that ensures an appropriate learning environment for all students.

Student Policies

The following three sections are taken from the WKU Student Handbook available here:
https://www.wku.edu/handbook/documents/student_handbook_revision.docx

Cheating

No student shall receive or give assistance not authorized by the instructor in taking an examination or in the preparation of an essay, laboratory report, problem assignment, or other project that is submitted for purposes of grade determination.

Disposition of Offenses

Students who commit any act of academic dishonesty may receive from the instructor a failing grade in that portion of the course work in which the act is detected or a failing grade in the course without possibility of withdrawal. The faculty member may also present the case to the University Disciplinary Committee through the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs for disciplinary sanctions.

Other Types of Academic Dishonesty

Other types of academic offenses, such as the theft or sale of tests, should be reported to the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs for disciplinary action.

ADA Accommodation Statement

In compliance with University policy, students with disabilities who require academic and/or auxiliary accommodations for this course must contact the Student Accessibility Resource Center located in Downing Student Union, 1074. SARC can be reached by phone number at 270-745-5004 [270-745-3030 TTY] or via email at sarc.connect@wku.edu. Please do not request accommodations directly from the professor or instructor without a faculty notification letter (FNL) from The Student Accessibility Resource Center.

Title IX Misconduct/Assault Statement

Western Kentucky University (WKU) is committed to supporting faculty, staff and students by upholding WKU's Title IX Sexual Misconduct/Assault Policy (#0.2070) at <https://wku.edu/eoo/documents/titleix/wkutitleixpolicyandgrievanceprocedure.pdf> and Discrimination and Harassment Policy (#0.2040) at https://wku.edu/policies/hr_policies/2040_discrimination_harassment_policy.pdf.

Under these policies, discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct based on sex/gender are prohibited. If you experience an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator, Andrea Anderson, 270-745-5398 or Title IX Investigators, Michael Crowe, 270-745-5429 or Joshua Hayes, 270-745-5121.

Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a faculty member, WKU faculty are "Responsible Employees" of the University and MUST report what you share to WKU's Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Investigator. If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, you may contact WKU's Counseling and Testing Center at 270-745-3159.