School of Liberal Arts



ENGL 100 Academic Writing & Critical Thinking

Fall 2025

3 Credits

Course Outline

INSTRUCTOR	Alison Perrin	OFFICE HOURS	Mon 10-12; Wed 1-3; by appt.
OFFICE	NR32 (YukonU Research Centre)	CLASSROOM	A2712
E-MAIL	aperrin@yukonu.ca	CLASS TIME	Mondays 1:00 – 3:50 pm
TELEPHONE	867-332-7136	CRN	10064
Liberal Arts office: Ayamdigut Campus A2501, liberalarts@yukonu.ca, 867-668-8770			

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course introduces students to critical reading, critical thinking, and academic writing through the study and application of the principles of university-level discourse. English 100 focuses on expository writing. Students examine methods for discovering and arranging ideas and consider ways in which audience determines style.

PREREQUISITES

One of English 12 (min. 65%) **OR** ENGL 090 (min. B-) **OR** ENGL 060 (min. B-) **OR** EAP 060 (min. B-) **OR** ENGL 101 (min. D) or permission of the Chair.

EQUIVALENCY OR TRANSFERABILITY

Find course transfer at https://www.bctransferguide.ca

Students are reminded that it is always the receiving institution that determines whether a course is acceptable as an applicable, equivalent course or if it may be transferred to their program for credit. Find further information at: https://www.yukonu.ca/admissions/transfer-credit

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to perform critical analysis of texts by identifying, evaluating, and debating authors' controlling and supporting ideas, dominant rhetorical patterns, tone, context, and features of style.

In addition, students will be able to:

- Understand and apply a university-level writing process involving pre-writing, planning, drafting, conferring, revising, editing, and proofreading
- Develop and defend a thesis, using appropriate language, rhetorical patterns, and evidence

- Write in a prose style appropriate to the genre of the academic essay
- Analyze, synthesize, interpret, and evaluate source material
- Apply APA-style documentation and formatting to a document

COURSE FORMAT

Delivery format

This course is delivered in person on the Ayamdigut campus, with some online classes as may be required. Students are expected to attend class and may be required to complete assignments and/or activities online or individually.

Workload

It is expected that this course will require 3 hours/week of instructional time including online learning and classroom activities, and approximately 2 hours/week of homework and additional reading. It is important to note that the time required for successful course completion will vary by individual.

EVALUATION

There will be a series of five shorter writing assignments throughout the term, comprising 50% of your final grade (10% each). These will include both in-class and take-home writing assignments between 400-800 words. These will 'scaffold' into a larger final essay project – which is the overarching goal of this course and worth 30% of your final grade. There will also be in-class discussion and activities that will be awarded 10% based on satisfactory participation. To complete this course each student must select a topic of interest, construct a thesis, essay plan, research and write a full, polished, university-level term paper. Feedback will be given at each step of the way during the course.

The philosophy behind these short writing tasks is to simply keep us thinking and writing in a short, structured, and frequent way. You will receive quick feedback on these short assignments that you should incorporate into your work.

There will be a short in-class final test (10%).

A note on grading for this course:

Written assignments will be graded based on a rubric provided with the assignment. However, this course operates on the premise that grading is not the most important part of academic writing and critical thinking. If you demonstrate engagement in the course, a consistent effort in the assignments, and growth throughout the term, you will do well in the class. Please ask for help if you are struggling with the material or assignments.

Evaluation

Class and online discussions	10%
Final research essay	30%
Short writing assignments (10% each)	50%
Final exam	10%
Total	100%

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*Note on submitting assignments and late assignments:

Assignments are due by 11:59pm of the due dates provided in class and on the Moodle course site. Submissions must be uploaded to Moodle. Be certain to click the submit button and accept the submission statement. After the due date, assignments will be considered late and will be deducted 5% daily. After 5 days grace period, assignments will no longer be accepted.

An extension to the deadline may be negotiated if necessary but must be done before the existing due date, not after.

COURSE WITHDRAWAL INFORMATION

Students may officially withdraw from a course or program without academic penalty up until two-thirds of the course contact hours have been completed. Specific withdrawal dates vary, and students should become familiar with the withdrawal dates of their program. See withdrawal information at www.yukonu.ca/admissions/money-matters

Refer to the YukonU website for important dates: www.yukonu.ca/admissions/important-dates

Refunds may be available. See the Refund policy and procedures at www.yukonu.ca/admissions/money-matters

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students are expected to contribute toward a positive and supportive environment and are required to conduct themselves in a responsible manner. Academic misconduct includes all forms of academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, fraud, deceit, using the work of others without their permission, aiding other students in committing academic offences, misrepresenting academic assignments prepared by others as one's own, or any other forms of academic dishonesty including falsification of any information on any Yukon University document.

Please refer to Academic Regulations & Procedures (updated bi-annually) for further details about academic standing, and student rights and responsibilities: www.yukonu.ca/policies/academic-regulations.

ACCESSIBILITY AND ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

Yukon University is committed to providing a positive, supportive, and barrier-free academic environment for all its students. Students experiencing barriers to full participation due to a visible or hidden disability (including hearing, vision, mobility, learning disability, mental health, chronic or temporary medical condition), should contact Accessibility Services for resources or to arrange academic accommodations: access@yukonu.ca.

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TOPIC OUTLINE

Readings and assignments will be posted on Moodle

Date	Topic	
Sep 8/25	Introduction to academic writing	
Sep 15/25	Language, culture, and writing * In-class writing assignment	
Sep 22/25	Elements of an essay: questions, thesis statements, and audience	
Sep 29/25	Finding and evaluating sources of information	
Oct 6/25	Including other voices in your writing * Writing assignment #1 due Oct 10/25	
Oct 13/25	READING WEEK	
Oct 20/25	Methodologies, epistemologies, ontologies	
Nov 3/25	Finding your voice: understanding bias and positionality * In-class writing assignment	
Nov 10/25	* Writing assignment #2 due Nov14/25	
Nov 17/25	Writing a good essay: structure and flow	
Nov 24/25	Crafting conclusions * In-class writing assignment	
Dec 1/25	Critical evaluation: editing for style and content	
Dec 8/25	Review & final in-class quiz * Final paper due Dec 12/25	

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