

## RESEARCH WRITING

Spring 2014, Section B

M/W/F 10:00-10:50

Memorial 046

Instructor: Hannah Murphy

Email: [HK-Murphy@wiu.edu](mailto:HK-Murphy@wiu.edu)

Office: Tilman 301D

Office Hours: 1:00-3:00, Tuesday & Thursday; 12:00pm – 2:00pm, Wednesday, or by appointment

UP website: <http://wesl14sp.weebly.com/>

### Textbooks

1. *The College Student's Guide to Writing a Great Research Paper*, by Erika Eby.  
ISBN 13: 978-1-601-38605-2
2. *A Pocket Style Manual* (6<sup>th</sup> Edition), by Diana Hacker and Nancy Sommers.  
ISBN 13: 978-1-4576-0239-9

### Other materials:

- > Standard size lined notebook paper for taking notes and completing assignments
- > A standard size folder to hold class work and handouts, etc.

**\*\*Cell phones are strictly forbidden in class unless used for a dictionary function\*\***

### Course Description

Research Writing is an introduction to research and academic writing. The scope of this course is to facilitate a semester-long research project, supplemented by shorter assignments to develop practical research and academic writing skills. The writing focus of this course is in three academic modes: summary, evaluation and argumentation. Projects in this course will develop skills in research, critical thinking, documentation, textual analysis, evaluation, and information technology.

### Student Learning Outcomes:

Students will:

- Read and deconstruct a sample APA research paper.
- Understand plagiarism and WIU academic integrity policy.
  - Summarize and paraphrase information from a variety of authentic and academic resources, including at least one journal article.
- Locate books, peer-reviewed scholarly journals, newspapers, periodicals, databases in the WIU library.
- Evaluate the strength of support to be referenced in research writing.
  - Evaluate one journal article
  - Evaluate online sources (CRAAP Test)
- Submit two drafts and a final research paper.
  - Write a research paper of 6-10 pages in APA documentation style. The paper may be related thematically to the session content and must be structured as an argumentative essay.
    - Use citations correctly throughout the paper.
    - Use quotations, paraphrases and summaries.
    - Include a reference page.
    - Include at least five of the following sources: book, scholarly journal, newspaper, website, periodicals, television, interview, library database

### Grading

WESL Institute grading scale:

A = 90%-100%

B = 80%-89%

C = 79%-75%\*

U = Less than 75%

### Course Assessments

Writing Assignments	20%
1 article summary	
1 article evaluation	
1 quotation sampler	
Homework/ Class work	10%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam	20%
Final Research Paper	30%
2 drafts of research paper	
1 final research paper (see rubric for criteria)	

**\*Students must have a 75% to exit Research Writing.**

## MAJOR ASSIGNMENTS

### *Article Summaries*

This assignment will present a concise summary of an article. Students will restate the ideas of an author in their own words, using paraphrase and summary, and appropriate APA citation.

### *Article Evaluation*

This paper will review an article to examine and determine the accuracy, objectivity, and logical soundness of the author's argument or point of view. Students will employ critical thinking skills to analyze and evaluate the author's argument, while identifying any logical fallacies or misrepresentation if present in the author's work.

### *Quotation Sampler*

A quotation sampler is a document that demonstrates different methods of quoting authors in APA format from each source used for a larger research paper. The purpose of this document is to prepare students for integrating research, and for students to demonstrate their understanding of the sources they will use in their paper.

### *Research Paper*

The final project for the course, this paper will present an argument based on the following:

- Problem/Solution format
- Issues surrounding stereotyping and/or disabilities as they will be discussed in depth at the beginning of the course

All final research papers must present an argument that is **the student's unique point of view**, supported by sources. This paper will present a researched argument that includes at least 5 documented sources (APA format) and must be at least 6-10 pages long. This paper will present a debatable thesis, as well as argument, counterargument, and rebuttal structures.

This paper must follow APA format with a References page that includes at least 5 of the following sources: book, scholarly journal, newspaper, internet, periodicals, television, and interview. **All topics must have instructor approval.** Any paper submitted that has a topic not approved by the instructor will receive a 0.0 score. This includes well-established arguments and moral issues.

## IMPORTANT POLICIES & PROCEDURES

### **Attendance:**

Daily class attendance is **required**. Attend each class and complete all class activities and homework on time. If you do miss class, students should report all absences using the OARS system. Training in the OARS system will be provided in class. If you are sick, you usually will be able to make up the quiz or test you missed. However, missing class because you overslept or had a headache is *not* excusable. To be excused from class, you need to show me a paper that proves you saw a doctor. If you don't tell me why you missed class, then the absence will be marked as "unexcused." *I will determine if your absence should be excused or not.*

If you have an unavoidable situation and you cannot attend class the day of a test, talk to me or email me **before the class you will miss** so that we can arrange to have you make-up the test. If I don't receive notification before class, you may not be able to make up the work. Students are expected to take the Midterm Exam and Final Exam on their scheduled dates.

### **Late Work:**

No late work will be accepted. Most if not all class work will be completed during class time, and students are responsible for submitting it in a timely fashion. **I will not accept major papers or drafts late**. Many of our assignments will be submitted to Western Online, with a deadline. It is your responsibility to submit major assignments on time. Technical errors can happen at the worst time, so please submit your assignments early so you can be sure they are received on time.

### **Tardiness:**

You are expected to be on time. Four (4) times late will count as an **unexcused absence**. If you have a reason for being late that you think may be excusable, please talk to me **AFTER** that class hour, not when you arrive late.

### **WESL Attendance Policy**

If a student's unexcused absences reach 8 hours in a class (4 hours for summer term), s/he will receive a written notice from the instructor. If a student's unexcused absences reach 16 hours in a class (8 for summer term), the instructor will send a notice to the WIU Immigration Advisor and the WESL Director. The student s/he will be out of status as a full-time ESL student according to U.S. immigration requirements and be placed on Academic Probation.

After 16 hours (8 for summer term) of unexcused absences in a class, a student will be informed that s/he is on academic probation for the remainder of the semester. While on probation, the student must attend classes regularly and make progress. If the Director and the student's instructors determine that the student is not seriously interested in studying English at WESL Institute, he/she may be refused further enrollment in WESL.

### **Plagiarism & Academic Honesty:**

No form of academic dishonesty will be accepted at WIU. Students may not either give or take answers from anyone during any test or assessment. Cheating and plagiarism are **UNACCEPTABLE** and have serious consequences.

What is plagiarism? Plagiarism is presenting the work of another as one's own. Plagiarism occurs whenever:

1. one quotes another person's actual words or replicates all or part of another's product without acknowledgment. This includes all information gleaned from any source, including the Internet.
2. one uses another person's ideas, opinions, work, data, or theories, even if they are completely paraphrased in one's own words without acknowledgment.
3. one uses facts, statistics, or other illustrative materials without acknowledgment.
4. one fails to acknowledge with a citation any close and/or extended paraphrasing of another.
5. one fails to use quotation marks when quoting directly from another, whether it is a few words, a sentence, or a paragraph.

Typical Examples include: Submitting, as one's own, the work of another writer or commercial writing service; knowingly buying or otherwise acquiring and submitting, as one's own work, any research paper or other writing assignment; submitting, as one's own, work in which portions were produced by someone acting as tutor or editor; collaborating with others on papers or projects without authorization of the instructor.

In addition to oral or written work, plagiarism may also involve using, without permission and/or acknowledgment, computer programs or files, research designs, ideas and images, charts and graphs, photographs, creative works, and other types of information that belong to another.

### **Cheating:**

Cheating will not be tolerated in this class. If you are caught cheating, you will receive a zero for the assignment or exam. This can greatly affect your grade and, depending on the assignment or exam, a zero may keep you from passing the class.

What is cheating? Cheating is using or attempting to use materials, information, notes, study aids, or other devices in any academic exercise, test, or quiz that are not allowed by the instructor. This includes talking during exams or exercises when you are supposed to be working alone. Cheating includes:

Typical examples include: Copying from another student's paper during a quiz, test or examination; using books & notes when these are not allowed; and copying from other students.

### **Students with Special Needs:**

*"In accordance with University policy and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), academic accommodations may be made for any student who notifies the instructor of the need for an accommodation. For the instructor to provide the proper accommodation(s) you must obtain documentation of the need for an accommodation through Disability Resource Center (DRC) and provide it to the instructor. It is imperative that you take the initiative to bring such needs to the instructor's attention, as he/she is not legally permitted to inquire about such particular needs of students. Students who may require special assistance in emergency evacuations (i.e. fire, tornado, etc.) should contact the instructor as to the most appropriate procedures to follow in such an emergency. Contact Disability Resource Center (DRC) at 298-2512 for additional services."*

In addition, there are web pages you need to know about:

- Student rights and responsibilities (<http://www.wiu.edu/provost/students.php>)
- Academic Integrity Policy (<http://www.wiu.edu/policies/acintegrity.php>)

## CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

It is important that every student has the best opportunity to learn and be successful in class. The environment of the classroom depends a lot on the students in the class. Therefore, I have several classroom rules that all students are expected to follow every day.

### Be Respectful

- Treat every member of this class with respect
- Don't talk when your teacher or other students are talking
- Listen attentively to what others are saying and respect that sometimes our opinions differ

### Be Responsible

- Be on time
- Bring everything with you each day
- Do your homework & be prepared for class
- Check your WIU email, WesternOnline & our class website often
- Cell phones may be used for English dictionary apps or other related activities while in the classroom. Please limit translating while in class. **Always** look up the word first, and if you have questions, please ask.

### Be Productive

- Participate in all classroom activities & discussions
- If you ever have a question, ask! This will not only help you understand your questions, but is good practice for asking questions at the university level.
- Use **English** in this classroom (and outside of the classroom!). This means all discussions/conversations should be in English. All note taking should be in English as well.
- Try your best & keep your attitude positive

If you do not follow the rules...

You will receive, at most, two warnings about poor behavior. After one or two warnings, I may ask you to leave the classroom. You may **receive a 0** for the assignment that day, and you will need to talk to a classmate to get the homework information and class notes. You also may be counted **absent** that day.

**Study hard, do your best, let's have some fun!**