



DEPARTMENT OF ARTS & EDUCATION

COURSE OUTLINE – Fall 2021

EN1201 (D2): Composition and Rhetoric – 6(3-0-0) 45 Hours for 15 Weeks

Grande Prairie Regional College respectfully acknowledges that we are located on Treaty 8 territory, the traditional homeland and gathering place for many diverse Indigenous peoples. We are honoured to be on the ancestral lands of the Cree, Dene/Beaver and Métis, whose histories, languages, and cultures continue to influence our vibrant community. We are grateful to have the opportunity to work, learn, and live on this land.

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Craig Smith **PHONE:** 780-539-2894
OFFICE: C308 **E-MAIL:** crsmith@
OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday 2:15-3:30 or by appointment via Zoom

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION: This course will help students become more sophisticated users and producers of written texts. Instruction will include basic academic essay writing skills and the various rhetorical approaches used when addressing specific audiences. The main goals of the course are to help students integrate reading and writing and to become familiar with the conventions of college- (and university-) level writing. This includes producing coherent, logical texts that are relatively free of surface errors. To achieve these goals, the course encourages students to think critically, to read closely and analytically, and to compose responses to a variety of texts, both written and visual.

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE: none

REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS: All required class readings will be available on MyClass (D2L); it is *your* responsibility to ensure that you are able to access and read these documents well in advance of the class in which they will be discussed.

DELIVERY MODE(S): The course work includes lecture, class discussion, in-class tests, and written assignments

COURSE OBJECTIVES: The aims of this course are to enable students to become more technically and rhetorically proficient writers. Students taking this course will not only gain a greater understanding of the fundamentals of grammar and style but will also have the chance to read and analyze a range of texts that will provide students with the tools to recognize and utilize persuasive rhetoric in a variety of forms. The goal of this course is to provide students with an understanding of the ways in which critical reading and effective writing go hand-in-hand.

LEARNING OUTCOMES: After taking this course, the successfully participating students will demonstrate the following:

- The ability to identify and to employ a range of sentence structures
- The ability to compose grammatically correct sentences
- The ability to punctuate writing proficiently and to recognize improperly punctuated material
- The ability to recognize varied rhetorical strategies in a range of texts as well as the ability to employ a variety of rhetorically persuasive techniques in students' own writing
- The ability to produce coherent, unified, and well-structured essays
- The ability to consider factors such as the occasion, purpose, and audience for a piece of writing
- An ability to identify different paragraph structures and patterns and to recreate them
- Knowledge of different models of thesis statements and topic sentences and a corresponding ability to craft different types of thesis statements and topic sentences
- An ability to perform close readings of texts and to write clearly and informatively about them

TRANSFERABILITY:

Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check to ensure the transferability of this course at the Alberta Transfer Guide main page <http://www.transferalberta.ca>.

**** Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability**

EVALUATIONS:

Participation – 10%

Unit tests (two in total) – 20%

Short written assignments (two in total) – 20%

Applied Knowledge Tasks (four in total) – 20%

Final Paper (in lieu of a formal exam) – 30%

GRADING CRITERIA: (The following criteria may be changed to suite the particular course/instructor)

Please note that most universities will not accept your course for transfer credit **IF** your grade is **less than C-**.

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines	Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines
A+	4.0	90-100	C+	2.3	67-69
A	4.0	85-89	C	2.0	63-66
A-	3.7	80-84	C-	1.7	60-62

B+	3.3	77-79		D+	1.3	55-59
B	3.0	73-76		D	1.0	50-54
B-	2.7	70-72		F	0.0	00-49

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

Weeks 1-5: Considering Occasion, Purpose, and Audience
Grammar, Syntax, Sentence Structure
Writing Patterns I
Fundamentals of research and documentation

Weeks 6-11: Writing patterns II
Rhetoric
Critical reading practices
Paragraph structure

Weeks 12-15: Writing patterns III
Effective editing

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Written assignments, applied knowledge tasks, and the final paper are to be uploaded to MyClass (D2L). Students must accept the Turnitin agreement to submit written work.
2. Assignments are to be submitted *on time*. Late assignments will incur a penalty of 5% per day, with weekends counting as two days.
3. Extensions will not be granted for written assignments or tasks except in extenuating circumstances. Documentation will be required.
4. We are currently living through a pandemic, so your first priorities should be to look after your own health and the health of the people around you. My expectation is that students who are healthy will attend all classes, either in person or via Zoom. Students who exhibit symptoms should contact me to let me know they're ill and will be absent because of it. Excused absences will have no impact on a student's grade. However, unexcused absences will negatively affect the participation component of a student's grade and could result in a failing grade for that component of a student's final mark.
5. Students are required to check MyClass before each class to stay informed concerning the schedule of readings as well as course updates and announcements.
6. Students wishing to see me during office hours **must** wear a mask. Students who do not want to wear masks have the option of meeting with me via Zoom.

7. Cellphones should be out of sight during class time. Students who are repeatedly on their cellphones during class will receive failing grades for participation.

8. Students should feel free to email me with questions or concerns at any point during the semester. Although I will do my best to respond to your emails as quickly as possible, students should anticipate a 24-48 hour delay (depending on which day, the time of the day, what stage of the semester we're in, etc.).

9. This is a high-flex class, so students are free to attend class in person or remotely. **However, ALL unit tests must be written in person.**

10. Students in this high-flex course should feel free to attend in person or remotely. Students attending remotely must have their cameras on to be counted as present.

11. Because students will write a final paper in lieu of a final exam, the due date of the final paper for this class will be determined by the registrar and will be some time in December. There will be **no** extensions except in extenuating circumstances. I will require documentation to consider any extensions.

Refer to the College Policy on Student Rights and Responsibilities at www.gprc.ab.ca/d/STUDENTRIGHTSRESPONSIBILITIES

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and there will be penalties. For a more precise definition of plagiarism and its consequences, refer to the Student Conduct section of the College Calendar at <http://www.gprc.ab.ca/programs/calendar/> or the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at <https://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies>

**Note: all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.