

## **Syllabus – GSW 1120: Varieties of Writing Fall 2010**

M/W/F 7:20-8:14 or  
10:00-10:50

\*\*Office Hours Tuesday/Thursday

Instructor: Brooke E. Kukay  
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### **Required Course Texts and Materials**

A Writer's Resource 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, Maimon et al.

Writing and Reading Across the Curriculum, Behrens & Rosen

Folders with pocket inserts (5)

Binder for hand-outs, etc.

USB drive

### **Course Focus**

“Varieties of Writing” is the last in the series of General Studies Writing (GSW) courses offered at BGSU Firelands. In this course we concentrate on three varieties of writing that are especially prominent in academic settings: the critique, the multiple source synthesis essays, and the synthesized, researched essay. The emphasis in GSW 1120 is on developing critical and analytical skills in reading, thinking, and writing. The research paper that is required for all GSW 1120 students is expected to be fully and correctly documented using MLA style. All papers/assignments must be typed in order to receive credit.

### **Grading**

GSW 1120 is graded on an A-B-C, no record basis. In order to pass this course, you **must complete all assignments, attend class regularly, and average a grade of C- or better on all your written work.** You cannot pass the course without earning a passing grade on your research paper, regardless of the grades you earn on other writing assignments. See additional hand-out for grading standards.

### **Assignments**

All reading and writing assignments are due the day they appear on the syllabus. **Three points will be deducted for every day a paper is late. Anything more than one week late not be counted.**

### **Attendance and Participation**

Students are permitted two excused absences during the semester. After the second absence, one point will be deducted from the overall total points earned for the semester for every additional day missed. There will be no exceptions to this. You must be present to fully participate in this course. You will be graded for participation during each class. We will have a total of 45 contact hours (and 45 participation points possible) and you must come to class prepared and participate in class discussions in order to receive one point per class. Any in-class assignments/exercises will be included in participation points.

\*\*No food or drink near computers.

\*\*Do not use computer during class instruction/discussion unless otherwise instructed.

### **Grade Record**

Essay One

25

Essay Two	25
Essay Three	25
Essay Five	25
Essay Four/Research Paper	75
Participation	45
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>/220</b>

**Cell Phone Policy**

Cell phones and pagers must be silent during class. If you absolutely must be accessible (for reasons of work, childcare, or family emergency only), your phone/pager must be on a silent setting. If you are called, you must leave the room before responding to the caller. Text messaging during class is rude, disruptive, and immature. If you are caught texting during class, you will be asked to leave the class and will be considered absent for that day.

**Plagiarism and Academic Honesty**

All students are expected to be familiar with and to follow the University Academic Honesty Code. Be aware that plagiarism is a serious offense and has serious consequences. Passing off any work that is not your own is dishonest. If you have any questions/concerns regarding plagiarism or the academic honesty code, please consult the student handbook or confer with me. Additionally, understand that all written assignments for this course must follow MLA citation style. If you are not familiar with the format, see me or a tutor in the writing lab which is located in the back corner of the library.

**Learning Disabilities/Special Needs**

Any student who has been identified as having a learning disability or special needs should have contacted Ms. Penny Nemitz in The Teaching and Learning Center. Ms. Nemitz will then notify instructors of the student's needs and accommodations. The student is responsible for seeking out each instructor to arrange appropriate accommodations. If you have had accommodations in the past and you haven't signed a new release of information form for this semester, you need to do that.

**Conferences**

Conferences must be called by the student and attended by the student. Parents may attend the conference at the discretion of the instructor.

### **Essay One: Literary Analysis**

For this essay, you will write a critical analysis of one of the stories/essays distributed in class. After reading all the material in that packet, you will select one upon which you will write an analysis. Your work can be an analysis of a writing style, the language use, the development of detail, theme... You are not simply retelling the essay nor are you stating whether you liked or disliked the essay. Rather, you are exploring one aspect of the writing by expressing an assessment and then referring to specific examples from the essay to demonstrate how you came to that assessment.

This paper is to be 4-6 pages. You will use MLA style citation and in-text citation in this paper.

**Due: Sept. 13<sup>th</sup>**

### **Essay Two: Literary Analysis with Synthesis**

For this essay, you will write a response to two of the following three essays *Bliss* by Katherine Mansfield, *Cathedral* by Raymond Carver, and *The Astronomer's Wife* by Kay Boyle (all of which will be distributed in class). In this paper you will engage in a response to the readings that focuses on one common element such as: the types of relationships the characters share, the response of the characters to their situations, relationship dynamics, relationship intimacy or lack of, the strength or lack of strength of the husbands or wives... This paper is not a simple comparison/contrast. Rather, you must determine what you have learned from each of these readings regarding one common topic and then express what is shown to you by way of observation, direct reference/quotation, and discussion of those references/quotations.

This paper is to be 4-6 typed pages. You will use MLA style citation and in-text citations in this paper.

**Due: Oct. 4<sup>th</sup>**

### **Essay Three: Response to Article/Documentary**

For this essay you will focus on one resource that you will also be using in your research paper. You will write an informed response from the resource. You will not simply agree or disagree, or state that you like or dislike the resource. You must think about the content of that resource and what that offers toward your pursuit of your research paper.

This paper is to be 4-6 typed pages. You will use MLA style citation and in-text citation in this paper.

**Due: Oct 27<sup>th</sup>**

### **Essay Four: MLA Research Paper/Argument Synthesis**

A detailed hand-out will be distributed at a later date for this assignment.

**Due: Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>**

### **Essay Five: TBA**

Will be announced at a later date. Materials will be distributed in class.

**Due: Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>**

**\*All dates are tentative and subject to change.**

**Assigned reading from textbooks will be identified as:**

A Writer's Resource: AWR

Writing and Reading Across the Curriculum: WRAC

\*\*Not all assigned reading will be discussed in class, but you must keep up with the reading assignments in order to fully comprehend the course and assignments. Do not fall behind in assigned reading and manage your time well in order to stay on task with each assignment.

**Week One:**

Introduction to GSW 1120: Introductory Analysis Activity  
Discussion of parts of a paper, purpose and audience, focus, content, point of view, organization  
Read: AWR 563-602 Basic Grammar Review  
Read: AWR 21-37 Reading, Writing, and Thinking Critically  
Read: AWR 3-47 Summary, Paraphrase, and Quotation  
Read: WRAC 182-186 What is an Analysis?  
Read: Assigned Short Stories  
Group Work

**Week Two:**

**Essay #1: 1<sup>st</sup> draft due—Sept. 1 collected at the beginning of class**  
Discuss Short Stories  
Read: AWR 37-54 Planning/Shaping-How to Approach Assignments  
Read: AWR 57-72 Drafting  
Read: WRAC 72-90 Introductions, Theses, and Conclusions  
Read: WRAC 192-201 How to Write Analyses  
Revision Workshop  
Discussion of short stories/drafting

**Week Three:**

**Essay #1: final draft due—Sept. 13 collected at the beginning of class**  
Read: AWR 73-94 Revising and Editing  
Revision Workshop/Conferencing—1<sup>st</sup> draft returned Monday

**Week Four:**

Read: Assigned Short Stories  
Read: WRAC 91-99 Explanatory Synthesis  
What is a Synthesis, Explanatory Synthesis, How to Write Syntheses  
Discussion/Drafting

**Week Five:**

**Essay#2: 1<sup>st</sup> draft due—Sept. 22 collected at the end of class**  
MLA in-text citations, MLA works cited, MLA paper format  
Read: AWR 275-323 MLA

**Week Six:**

Revision Workshop/Conferencing  
Drafting/Editing  
Synthesis Clarification

**Week Seven:**

**Essay #2: final draft due—Oct. 4 collected at the beginning of class**  
Discuss Reaction/Response Essay  
Explain Hand-outs

**Week Eight:**

View Documentary for Essay #3

**Week Nine:**

**Essay #3: 1<sup>st</sup> draft due—Oct. 20 collected at the end of class**

Discuss Constructing and Evaluating Reasonable Arguments

**Week Ten:**

Revision Workshop/Conferencing

**Essay #3: final draft due—Oct. 27 collected at the end of class**

**Week Eleven:**

**Begin Research Paper/Synthesis Argument (Essay #4)**

Read: WRAC 132-140 What is Argument Synthesis?

In-class Exercises 5.1-5.4

Read: WRAC 155-173 Developing an Argument Synthesis

Model A.S., Developing and Organizing the Support for Your Arguments

Topic Choice

**Week Twelve:**

Research/Pre-writing

Read: AWR 197-203 Understanding and Planning the Research Paper

Read: AWR 204-213 Finding Sources: Popular vs. Scholarly (how to properly manage sources)

Read: AWR 226-234 Evaluating Sources (Checklist 233-234) Credible, Accurate, Reasonable, Supported

Read: AWR 265-269 Writing the Paper (Plan, Draft, Revise, Evaluate Sources)

**Week Thirteen:**

**Essay #4: 1<sup>st</sup> draft due—Nov. 17 collected at the end of class**

Drafting

Read: AWR 241-247 Plagiarism

Read: AWR 248-260 Working w/ Sources to Avoid Plagiarism, Taking Notes on Your Sources

Read: AWR 261-264 Integrating Quotations, Paraphrases, and Summaries

**Week Fourteen:**

Continue Developing Research Paper

Revision Workshop

**Week Fifteen:**

**Essay #4: final draft due—Dec. 1 collected at the end of class**

Conferencing—mandatory

**Week Sixteen:**

**Essay #5 Announced/Assignment Distributed**

**Essay#5: due—Dec. 8 collected at the end of class**

Course Wrap-up