WR115  Intro to College Writing (Hybrid)
Linn-Benton Community College

CRN 22891; MW 2-3:50 PM  Fall 2008
Classroom: B 107

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To succeed in school and in life, people need excellent communication skills. We not only need to express ourselves well, we need to be able to “hear” the communication of others, understand it, and respond to it in a confident and responsible manner.

Intro to College Writing is a course designed to help students strengthen their writing skills as they enter college. At the completion of the course, a successful student should have acquired skills in the following areas:

* Paragraph and essay development using specific details
* Paragraph and essay organization including topic sentence or thesis, main and sub-points, and conclusion.
* Paragraph and essay writing process: invention/pre-writing, drafting, revision, and completion.
* Writing clarity and mechanics: Sentence structure, sentence combining, punctuation, and word usage.
* Writing strategies: narration, summary, description, compare/contrast, cause/effect, using examples and citations.

In order to achieve these skills, students will read and write weekly. Some writing will be informal in-class “free writes” on a focused topic, and some will be posted on the class “Blackboard.” Some will be more formally written paragraphs and essays written outside class with revisions and focused peer editing. We will also work on writing conventions (grammar, spelling, punctuation, etc.) using exercises and quizzes to help transfer those skills to the written work.

The final grade for the course is based on two parts. Seventy percent of the grade is based on assignments, quizzes, and activities (the course work); thirty percent of the grade is based on the English Department final exam given to all WR115 students at LBCC during finals week.

I’ve discovered that students who attend class regularly and complete assignments on time do well in their classes. Plan to be here each day. If you are ill or have an emergency and cannot attend class, it is your responsibility to get the information or make arrangements for make up testing. Often, material is covered in class that is not in the text book, and some in-class work cannot be made up.

This is a hybrid class. That means that part of the course content and activities will take place in a regular face-to-face mode... in this room each class day...while part of the content and activities will take place electronically– that is, on our class “Blackboard.” So part of our instruction will include using the Blackboard program.
In order to succeed in this course, students must attend face-to-face meetings AND participate in on-line activities.

Students will receive assignments and instructions for completing those tasks at the class meetings.

Additional Guidelines:

*Type or word-process drafts of paragraphs and essays to be peer edited and revised.
*Final drafts will be submitted electronically. Details to follow.
*Plan for all work to be done on time... this includes drafts and revisions.
*Plan to do your own work. You'll be learning how to give appropriate credit for information and/or quotations from others' work so that you will avoid plagiarism.
*When you do it yourself, you'll learn better!

Campus Resources:

+ Conferences with the instructor. I’ll have office hours each day that I’m on campus. If those hours do not work for you, we can meet by appointment. (Over for office and office hours)
+ Library (917-4638)
+ Writing helps: a cooperative writing service including ESOL, Writing Desk, Writing and Study Skills Labs and more.
+ Writing Center: Writing Desk Assistants and Writing Peer Tutors will provide assistance (not copy editing, not correcting) with specific paragraph and essay assignments. The Writing Center is located in the Learning Center.
+ Computer Labs: WH 213, Forum 202, Library, and NSH 108 (this one is generally reserved for classes).
+ Diversity Achievement Center
+ We have a new e-mail for students to use when needing counseling services. The e-mail is meant for students who want to get in contact with someone who can help with personal matters, career matters, or other concerns. This e-mail is counseling@linnbenton.edu

In addition, we have created an e-mail for advising as well. This e-mail is for students needing help with registering for classes, choosing courses for an upcoming term, etc. This e-mail is advising@linnbenton.edu

Disability Statement:

If you have emergency medical information for your instructor, need special arrangements to evacuate campus, or have a documented disability, please meet with your instructor, by appointment, no later than the first week of the term, to discuss your needs and present your ODS accommodation letter. If you have a documented disability that will impact you at college and you have yet to seek accommodations, contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS) for intake and to document your disability with LBCC. Only students who document a disability and present an accommodation letter to an instructor are entitled to academic accommodation. Each term, when you register for classes, and at least 2-3 weeks prior to the start of the term, submit your Request for Accommodations form to ODS. During Week 1, pick up the letter for your instructors and deliver in person to each instructor during office hours or by appointment. Instructors may need time to arrange your accommodations. ODS may be reached from any LBCC campus/center by email—ODS@linnbenton.edu or by calling 917-4789. Letter pickup is available at each LBCC campus/center. Additional instructional services beyond classroom instruction and instructor consultations are available for all students at the Learning Center and the Support Lab at HO-114