

Course: WRIT 101
Term: Fall 2023
Section: 107
Schedule: Tues/Thurs 4–5:15 pm
Room: Lamar 407

Instructor: Dr. Don Unger
E-mail: dunger@olemiss.edu
Office Hours: Tues./Thurs. 1:30-2:30 pm, or by appointment
Location: Lamar 221

WRIT 101: First-Year Writing 1

Course Purpose

The purpose of Writing 101 is to help provide and build on the foundations in composition, grammar, and reading in preparation for future academic writing and learning situations. Writing 101 is a three-credit hour core curriculum course that partially satisfies requirements for most degree programs. The student learning outcomes for Writing 101 are:

1. *Writing Process:* Students will demonstrate composing as a recursive process that includes brainstorming, planning, drafting, reviewing, revising, editing, and proofreading.
2. *Exploration and Argumentation:* Students will use writing and other modes to analyze texts, explore unfamiliar ideas, engage with thinking different from their own, develop sound arguments, and reflect.
3. *Purposes and Audience:* Students will write with a variety of academic purposes for a variety of audiences.
4. *Research:* Students will understand what constitutes credible evidence, how to incorporate evidence in their own writing, and how to use library databases to find sources of evidence.
5. *Conventions and Mechanics:* Students will produce writing that is free of grammatical and mechanical errors that inhibit or interfere with the reader's understanding. Students will follow conventions for documentation, formatting, and length requirements.

Course Description

Writing 101 will assist students in recognizing and understanding different audiences and rhetorical purposes for reaching those audiences. Throughout the course, students will be assigned readings and participate in class discussions that serve to illuminate potential rhetorical purposes. In addition, students will regularly utilize a writing process that nurtures ideas and develops texts over time. The semester features major assignments from five different genres including a Commonplace Book that serves as a reflective space. The assigned work in Writing 101 should prove simultaneously challenging and interesting, encouraging students to work with their peers and their instructor in better understanding how the written language functions academically, professionally, and privately. To that end, students will examine ideas (both their own and those of others) critically, engage in reflective practices, begin to interact with and document secondary source material in anticipation of Writing 102 or Liberal Arts 102, and learn to better understand and navigate the standard conventions of academic English.

Course Texts/Materials

Isay, Dave. *Callings: The Purpose and Passion of Work*. ISBN: 978-0143110071. (You should have received a copy during orientation this past summer)

Lumen Waymaker modules access (do not purchase prior to the first day of the course; instructions for purchasing will be provided in class)

Warner, John. *The Writer's Practice*. ISBN: 978-0143133155

Note: I will post any additional readings to Blackboard as .PDFs.

Major Assignments & Grading

		Grading Scale	
Blog & Homework	20%	A	93-100
Rhetorical Analysis Essay	20%	A-	90-92
Researched Argument Essay	20%	B+	87-89
Common Read Essay	20%	B	83-86
Multimodal Project	10%	B-	80-82
Course Reflection	10%	C+	77-79
		C	73-76
		C-	70-72
		D	65-69
		F	64-below

Important Dates

Aug. 22 – First day of our class
Aug. 25 – Deadline for late adds
Aug. 31 & Sept. 4 – Labor Day; no classes
Sept. 1 – Last day to withdraw with a refund
Sept. 11 – Mandatory drop date for non-attendance
Oct. 9 – Last day to withdraw without a refund
Oct. 12 – No class
Nov. 16-26 – Fall break
Nov. 30 – Last day of our class
Dec. 6 – Final assignments due during finals week; there is no final exam.

See the calendar overview at the end of this syllabus for major due dates. Keep in mind that this calendar shows only major assignments and general themes for each week. Each assignment sheet lists weekly due dates, which includes homework.

Late Work

All homework assignments are posted with accompanying due dates on Blackboard. I do not accept late homework. It is my policy to accept major work after the due date; however, there will be a significant penalty. For each major assignment, you will be required to submit a draft and a revised version for grading. If you do not have a draft on the peer review date, you will receive a 10% penalty on your overall assignment grade. Separately, you may turn in your revised essay after the due date, but you will receive a 10% penalty. This penalty affords you one week from the due date to turn in a final copy for grading. Therefore, if you do not have a draft on the peer review date and turn in your paper late, you will incur a penalty of 20% on your overall grade; in other words, the highest grade you could possibly receive would be a B-. If you are struggling with an assignment, email me, come to office hours, or seek support from the university writing center.

Note: Homework is not arbitrarily assigned. This work feeds into the larger assignments; failure to keep up with the homework may result in less understanding of, or practice working with, the concepts that can lead to more successful larger papers/projects. In a remote or online course, keeping up with the homework means being more organized and self-motivated than in face-to-face courses. Please be aware of this as we begin the semester. Your homework is worth 20% of your overall grade. Don't let it sink your overall grade for the course.

Attendance Policy

Students are expected to attend all class meetings held unless otherwise noted in the calendar, or in the case of an emergency, in an email from the instructor. Improving writing skills takes time and is a process unlike

learning content alone. In acknowledgment of the fact that students may experience some circumstances that prevent complete attendance, the following policy is in effect:

- 4 sessions missed: final course grade lowered by one letter grade
- 5 sessions missed: final course grade lowered by two letter grades
- 6 sessions missed: final course grade lowered by three letter grades
- 7 days missed: failure

If something happens that prevents you from missing more than a session or two, contact me as soon as you are able. I realize that we are all subject to extreme situations in these times. This policy is meant to keep you on track and to ensure that you participate. It is not meant to punish people who become seriously ill, for example.

Scholarship Clause

If a student is attending UM with a scholarship requiring course absences (e.g., athletics, band), the following exception applies: students will not be penalized for required absences alone, as long as the student presents to the instructor by the end of the course drop/add period an official letter from the scholarship-issuing program declaring the required absences for the entire semester. If a scholarship student accrues absences beyond those designated by the letter, he or she will incur the penalty listed above. Students whose scholarship-issuing programs cannot produce such a letter, or determine a schedule in advance, should take the course during another semester. Letters cannot be amended.

Students suffering traumatic hardships (hospitalization, emergency service, etc.) should promptly consult section VI of the M-Book for procedures on contacting the Dean of Students. The Dean's office will contact all of your instructors for you.

If a student is absent from a class, he or she must seek permission from the course instructor as to whether or not the missed work can be submitted for a grade. In general, students who notify an instructor of an absence in advance will be afforded the ability to submit their coursework.

Tardiness

Please make every attempt to be on time. If you cannot make it on time for some reason, arriving late is preferable to not arriving at all. It is, however, a distraction to the class when a student enters late. As a precaution against tardiness, I am including a clause that may impact your grade if it is a chronic problem. The first instance of tardiness will be overlooked; a second instance will result in a meeting with me outside of class, and further instances may result in reductions to grades based upon what we agree to in our meeting. In other words, make all possible efforts to be in class on time, and notify me very early in the semester if you think you might be late for an important reason; I am happy to work with you in those cases. If you arrive more than twenty minutes late, you have missed a significant portion of the session and will be marked absent, though you are welcomed to join in the day's work.

Disabilities/UM Student Disability Services

If you have a documented disability as described by the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (P.L. 933- 112 Section 504) or the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and would like to request academic and/or physical accommodations please contact Student Disability Services at 234 Martindale Center, 662-915-7128. Course requirements will not be waived but reasonable accommodations may be provided as appropriate. Please consult the [SDS website](#) for more information on student disability services.

Academic Honesty

According to the University of Mississippi Academic Conduct and Discipline policy, "[t]he University is conducted on a basis of common honesty. Dishonesty, cheating, or plagiarism, or knowingly furnishing false

information to the University are regarded as particularly serious offenses.” The following language should clarify what academic dishonesty and plagiarism mean in the context of WRIT or LIBA courses. All work that you submit under your name for credit in Department of Writing and Rhetoric courses should be your original work. If you would like to use your original work in multiple courses, you must have permission from your writing course instructor before proceeding. Similarly, you may not turn in work previously submitted for credit, even if it is in the same course number, without first receiving permission.

Plagiarism is using others’ words and/or ideas without properly crediting them. Instructors may ask you to incorporate outside source material in your composing, and you must credit others’ work when you use it. In your written assignments there are only three methods for properly importing the work of others: quotation, paraphrase, and summary, including proper attribution of outside sources.

The penalty for academic misconduct or plagiarism in any WRIT or LIBA class may include an “F” on the assignment, an “F” in the course, suspension or expulsion from the university, and/or other sanctions determined by the UM Academic Discipline Committee.

Upon determining academic misconduct or plagiarism, the instructor will notify the student and the Chair of the Department of Writing and Rhetoric in writing as part of the process of opening an Academic Discipline Case. The instructor will also make a recommendation for the penalty he/she finds most appropriate for the offense. Students may appeal this finding and/or penalty by notifying the UM Academic Discipline Committee within 14 days of the instructor’s decision. The applicable full UM policy is ACA.AR.600.001 and should be consulted by any student concerned with academic misconduct or plagiarism. In most cases, academic misconduct and/or plagiarism should be completely avoidable: if you are ever uncertain whether or not you are committing academic misconduct or plagiarism, ask your instructor before submitting work for grading.

Class Decorum

The classroom is a place of learning; others are paying to be here too. Please make sure not to distract others from learning and to respect the opinions of others. From time to time we will review each other’s writing, either in peer review sessions or by workshoping an essay. Please follow the guideline of being a “critical friend” in all of your reviewing of classmates’ work.

Students who cannot adhere to these behavioral expectations are subject to discipline in accordance with the procedures described in the M-Book.

Policies Subject to Change

All information in this syllabus is subject to change at any time, especially during the first weeks of the semester. I will announce changes to our schedule during class time and also via Blackboard. You are responsible for changes to the schedule as they arise, regardless of whether or not you attend class.

Resources

Writing Center

Aside from one-on-one meetings with teachers during office hours, the best way to improve your writing is to work with writing consultants at one of the University's Writing Centers. On the Oxford campus, the writing center is on the 3rd floor of Lamar Hall and online. Writing consultants will work with any student writer working on any project in any discipline. To learn more about Writing Center locations, hours, scheduling and services, check out the [Writing Center website](#).

Make contact with a Writing Center consultant early and often. Working with a writing consultant is easy, and you have access to face-to-face and online sessions. You may also upload a draft of your paper once you have made the reservation for a session. If you want to see how an online session works, a how-to video is available for students.

Many successful students begin going to the Writing Center with their first essay and continue working with the writing center over the course of a semester, making appointments with writing consultants for each essay they write. The goal of the Writing Center is to help students become better, independent writers, so the writing consultants don't "proofread" or merely "correct" errors. Instead, they do something better - they will help you to brainstorm, talk about research and explore resources, and help you improve your editing strategies. Remember, online appointments are available. If you have questions about the writing center, use the LiveChat tool on the website to talk with someone in the writing center, call us at 662-915-7689, or send email to cwrwc@go.olemiss.edu.

Speaking Center

The University of Mississippi Speaking Center offers free public speaking consultation services for UM students. Their highly trained peer consultants work alongside UM students on projects in all disciplines. They provide free access to one-on-one consultations, group workshops, and other speech communication-focused resources. If you need to create a presentation for a class or for a university-related activity, you can get feedback and advice from consultants in the Speaking Center. Their services are delivered face-to-face and online. Their goal is to cultivate individualized strategies with UM students to help them become independent, effective, and confident speakers.

To learn more about the Speaking Center, [check out their website](#). Or, use [this link schedule an appointment for a consultation](#). This link will prompt you to complete a registration form before scheduling your appointment.

Career Center

The Career Center offers drop-in or email appointments for resume review, workshops for interviewing, resume writing, career development, and many other resources and events throughout the semester. Even as a freshman, the career center can help to guide you through and set up a plan for you to determine career options and set you up with internships, and even network to help you find your future employment after graduation. Visit [the Career Center website](#) for more information.

UMatter Office

If you have concerns about a friend or classmate: [UMatter](#) serves the University of Mississippi community by coordinating support efforts both on and off campus to assist students who face challenges to their personal and academic success.

A person of concern can be a member of any UM constituency (faculty, staff or student) dealing with an emotional, psychological or physical crisis that may interfere with his or her ability to continue attending classes or working at the University of Mississippi.

Situations individuals face that may be cause for concern include:

- Ongoing alcohol and/or drug use
- Financial hardship
- Hospitalization for physical or mental health reasons
- Injury or accident affecting physical and/or mental ability to do course work
- Potential threat to themselves or others

Signs of a person of concern may include but are not limited to:

- Physical health issues
- Current or emerging mental health issues
- Challenges with academic schedule
- Social adjustment
- Family matters
- Policy violations

Making a Referral

The referral process begins by making a report. Once a referral is made about a student of concern, a staff member from the university's Behavioral Intervention Team (BIT) will review the information and may contact you for additional information about the student.

Anonymity

Please know that anonymity cannot be guaranteed, although staff uses discretion when discussing a concern with an individual. A report may be completed without including a reporter's name; however, you are strongly encouraged to provide your name and contact information to allow staff members to call or email you with additional questions about your report.

Helping Persons of Concern

Once a person is reported, outreach will begin. Staff members will gather more information about the person of concern and may reach out to that individual by phone call or, in some cases, by a series of meetings.

[Make a referral here.](#)

Counseling Center

The University Counseling Center is a professional facility offered by the University of Mississippi to assist students, faculty, and staff with many types of life stressors that interrupt day-to-day functioning, including the stressors associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. They offer individual counseling, couple's counseling, group counseling, stress management, crisis intervention, assessments and referrals, outreach programs, consultations, and substance abuse services. There is no fee for currently enrolled University students and everything you say to your counselor is confidential. You can contact the Counseling Center for information about mental health issues [through their website](#) or by emailing counslg@olemiss.edu, or by calling 662-915-3784, 320 Lester Hall. You can schedule an appointment or get information about appointments by calling the UCC at 662-915-3784.

Title IX Compliance

The University of Mississippi is committed to protecting students from sexual discrimination, sexual assault, stalking, sexual harassment, and relationship violence. If you are affected by any of these issues, please reach out to the Title IX Coordinator at 662-915-7045. The university may be able to offer services and assistance. Also, the Title IX Coordinator may contact you if you write about or report any of these concerns to any faculty or staff members. (Faculty and Staff are required by law to report sexual discrimination, but

you are not required to follow up on the report.) If you are dealing with any other issue involving unlawful discrimination, please contact the Office of Equal Opportunity and Regulatory Compliance at 662-915-7735.

Violence Prevention Program

Confidential and safe place for students affected by any type of sexual assault, relationship violence, or stalking. You are encouraged to reach out with any concerns, and you may be eligible for academic accommodations and other services. Contact Shelli Poole at 662-915-1059 or email at sapoole@olemiss.edu for more information.

Grove Grocery

Grove Grocery seeks to end campus hunger and alleviate poverty by discreetly providing nutritious food products and hygiene products free of charge to students and employees in the Ole Miss community. Grove Grocery is located in 213 Kinard Hall on Rebel Drive. Email grovegrocery@go.olemiss.edu with any questions or concerns.

Craft Your **MESSAGE**

rhetoric.olemiss.edu/major | rhetoric.olemiss.edu/minor

Enjoying this course? Consider the **Rhetoric Major** or **Professional Writing Minor**! Rhetoric majors take 11 writing, speech, and rhetorical theory courses. They learn how language and other symbols shape meaning, experience, identity, and point of view, and they become powerful speakers and writers. Professional writing minors take six professional communication courses that build the writing, speaking, teamwork, and project management skills employers are seeking. For more information contact: Karen Forgett, Rhetoric Major Advisor, kforgett@olemiss.edu; or Dr. Karla Lyles, Professional Writing Minor Coordinator, kmlyles@olemiss.edu.

WRIT 101-107 Fall 2023 Calendar Overview

Assignment		Dates	Content	Major Due Dates	
Blog & UM RhetLab Modules	Rhetorical Analysis Essay	Week 1 8/22 & 8/24	Introduction to the Writer's Practice		
		Week 2 8/29	Defining Analytical Writing	No class 8/31	
		Week 3 9/5 & 9/7	Writing a Rhetorical Analysis		
		Week 4 9/12 & 9/14	Revising Your Rhetorical Analysis	Analysis Essay Draft Due 9/12	
	Researched Argument Essay	Week 5 9/19 & 9/21	Defining a Researched Argument		
		Week 6 9/26 & 9/28	Choosing Your Topic & Conducting Research	Revised Analysis Essay Due 9/26	
		Week 7 10/3 & 10/5	Prewriting for Researched Arguments: Using Sources		
		Week 8 10/10	Drafting a Researched Argument: Structure & Citing Sources	No class 10/12	
		Week 9 10/17 & 10/19	Revising Your Researched Argument	Argument Essay Draft Due 10/19	
	Common Reading Essay	Week 10 10/24 & 10/26	Common Reading Essay Introduction		
		Week 11 10/31 & 11/2	Responding to Essay Prompts	Revised Argument Essay Due 11/2	
		Week 12 11/7 & 11/9	Reading Discussion Activities		
		Week 13: 11/14 & 11/16	Revising Your Common Read Essay & Multimodal Project Intro	Common Reading Essay Draft Due 11/16	
	Multimodal Project & Course Reflection	Week 14 11/22 & 11/24	Fall Break: no class		
		Week 15 11/28 & 11/30	Course Reflection Intro & Course Recap	Revised Common Reading Essay Due 11/30	
Course Reflection	Finals Week 12/5	Multimodal Project Due 12/5 Reflection Due 12/5			