

Pat Leverentz Syllabus

Pima County Community College
Northwest Campus

WRT 070 Course Syllabus Spring 2007

Course name and number: WRT 070 Developmental Writing
Section code: 30068
Class Meeting Days/Times: T,TH, 2:40 – 3:55 p.m.
Class Location: A318
Prerequisite: Placement Test
Instructor: Pat Leverentz
Office location: A308
Office hours/availability: Mondays and Wednesdays 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.
Tuesdays and Thursdays 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.
Other times by appointment.
Campus Phone/voicemail: 206-2160
Email address: patricia.leverentz@pima.edu
Add period: January 16 - 22, 2007
Drop/Refund/Audit date: January 29, 2007
College Withdrawal deadline: April 9, 2007
First day of class: January 16, 2007
Last day of class: May 10, 2007

Course Description: Development of fundamental writing skills. Includes sentence development and structure, writing processes, and written works.

Course Objectives: Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to do the following:

- Use skills in grammar and mechanics to express ideas in writing.
- Practice the writing processes.
- Write paragraphs and other assignments for 5,000 words total semester output.

Course Outline:

- Sentence Development and Structure
- Subjects and verbs
- Subject verb agreement
- Types of sentences
- Sentence fragments
- Run-ons and comma splices
- Commas and other punctuation
- Word choice

Writing Processes

- Prewriting

- Drafting
- Revising

Written Works

- Paragraphs
- Writing assignments
- 5,000 words total semester output

Instructional Materials: You will use a textbook for grammar review and practice and *Newsweek* for readings, writings, and class discussions.

- *The Writer's Grammar*, by Patricia Silber. Pearson Longman: New York, 2004. This textbook can be purchased at the campus bookstore.
- *Newsweek in Education*. Each of you will buy your own subscription at a cost of approximately \$8.00 for a weekly issue. The instructor will distribute the magazines to you and give instructions for paying for your subscription.

Class Preparation:

- You must attend class regularly if you expect to pass this course. However, you will not pass by merely attending. You will be expected to do considerable work outside of class regularly to prepare for class writing and discussions and work independently on your Individual Progress Plan.
- The course calendar attached to the syllabus outlines the plans for each class meeting. Activities indicated to be done before class are considered homework assignments and must be done before the start of the class period indicated.
- Students must have textbooks with them for each class and will not be able to share with other students. Textbook work is an integral part of the course, and students must have them available for individual use when needed. Students who do not bring their books to class may not be able to participate in some activities. Please see the instructor if this presents a problem for you.
- Much of the course work will be completed on computer, so you will need to have access to a computer outside of the classroom. You may use a home computer, a friend's computer, a computer at the Northwest Campus library, a computer at another library, etc.

WRT 070 Course Plans and Grading Policies

Below are the themes that will shape our writing this semester.

Unit I – Writing is Thinking

- Freedom of expression—how free is free?
- Bad habits that interfere with good thinking

Unit II – What I Want to be When I Grow Up

- My fantasy job
- How close can I get?

Unit III – It's Tough Being a Teen—Causes and Solutions

- Accidents
- Drugs
- Flunking out

Final Paper—**Searches and Seizures**—how free is free?

Individual Progress Plan: The Individual Progress Plan (IPP) allows each student to focus on specific areas of grammar, spelling, mechanics, and overall use of standard written English as identified by instructor from individual students' writing. This plan will be modified throughout the semester as a student improves in one or

more areas and moves on to new ones. Deadlines for completion of the PPP will be determined between the instructor and individual students. Your IPP work will be evaluated based on 3 criteria:

- Completion of all assigned readings and practice exercises, written and online.
- Application of skills in formal and informal writing assignments.
- Work in the tutoring center as assigned.

Failure to complete any IPP when it is due will result in a zero for that plan. If you are absent the day an IPP is due and you have not exceeded 3 absences, you may submit your IPP the first day you return to class. IPPs will not be accepted for credit late under any other circumstances.

Journals/Quizzes: Journals will be informal writing, some in and some out of class. Most will be based on *Newsweek* articles and may include responses to specific questions or more general writing. Journals may be assigned at any time and do not appear on the schedule. They will be graded based on substance (that is, thoroughness and thoughtfulness that reflect conscientious effort and a clear understanding). You will not lose points for presentation (grammar, mechanics, and spelling), although practicing good presentation will improve your skill as a writer and will make a better impression, not just in this course but in all courses.

There will be regular quizzes over assigned readings, and these may not be announced in advance. These will be short, quick quizzes and will assess whether you are completing and understanding the assigned work and attending and participating in class. **No journals or quizzes may be made up or turned in late; at the end of the semester, your 3 lowest journal grades will be dropped from your final grade average.**

Drafts: You will do drafts of most papers and then revise after feedback from the instructor and/or peers. Drafts will be graded, including grammar and mechanics. However, an improved grammar and mechanics grade on a revised paper will replace the draft grade for grammar and mechanics. **In general, drafts cannot be made up or turned in late; if you have not missed 3 classes and were absent when a draft was due, you may ask your instructor for a make-up opportunity.**

Peer Responses: Students will be reading and responding to other students' papers throughout the semester. The grade for this activity will be incorporated into the grade for your drafts.

Revised Writing: Will be graded based on substance and presentation (that is, correctness and polish). You will lose points for errors in grammar, mechanics, and spelling, which could lower your grade one or more letter grades. **In general, revised papers cannot be made up or turned in late; if you have not missed 3 classes and were absent when a draft was due, you may ask your instructor for a make-up opportunity.**


Final Writing: This in-class assignment **cannot be made up**, regardless of the reason.

GRADE CALCULATION

Journals/Quizzes	10%	90-100% A
Drafts	10%	80-89% B
Revised Writing	50%	70-79% C
Individual Progress Plans	20%	60-69% D
Final In-Class Writing	10%	below 60%
TOTAL	100%	

WRT 070 COURSE CALENDAR Spring 2007

Leverentz

		Out of Class	In Class
Tuesday	1/16		Writing is Thinking: Freedom of Expression Write practice paragraph. Pick up syllabus, discuss selected policies and MyPima
Thursday	1/18	Read syllabus and calendar and	Go through syllabus

		activate MyPima	View Freedom of Speech video Write journal Discuss practice paragraphs (return to instructor)
Tuesday	1/23	Buy textbook, read pp. 1-6 and be prepared to write about it Reply to instructor's email through MyPima	Discuss assigned reading and write about it Continue discussion of writing as thinking Discuss <i>mywritinglab.com</i>
Thursday	1/25	Register for <i>mywritinglab.com</i> Bring in song lyrics to share with class	Meet in groups to share song lyrics Discuss different writing for different contexts
Tuesday	1/30	Complete Part 1, The Writing Process (all parts) in <i>mywritinglab.com</i>	Discuss MSOLP Do prewriting for Paragraph #1 using <i>mywritinglab.com</i> — Writing is Thinking: Freedom of Expression
Thursday	2/1	Read assigned <i>Newsweek</i> article about a topic in the news and be prepared to write about it View MSOLP PowerPoint in MyPima files and be prepared to write about it	Write about <i>Newsweek</i> and MSOLP Work on topic sentences using <i>mywritinglab.com</i> Look at next assignment and topic sentence vs. thesis Draft Paragraph #1 (see assignment in MyPima news)
Tuesday	2/6	Read pp. 75-76; 108-109; and 126 in textbook Revise Paragraph #1 and be prepared to share with other students (bring in along with 1 st draft).	Read peers' drafts Discuss revision using <i>mywritinglab.com</i> Review grading rubric and editing checklist Revise Paragraph #1
Thursday	2/8	Read article about habits that interfere with thinking posted as news in MyPima Participate in MyPima Message Board	Discuss graded Paragraph #1 and revision Discuss proofreading and spelling, using graded paragraphs Prewrite Paragraph #2— Writing is Thinking: Habits that Hinder Thinking
Tuesday	2/13	Read assigned <i>Newsweek</i> article and be prepared to write Revise Paragraph #1 and bring in with drafts and prewriting.	Write about <i>Newsweek</i> Read paragraph without punctuation Discuss sentence construction Write draft Paragraph #2 (ask for volunteer to share draft/see assignment in MyPima news))
Thursday	2/15	Do Part 2 <i>mywritinglab.com</i> , Complete Sentences, Subjects and Verbs Read pp 5-22 in text and do exercises	Discuss graded Paragraph #1 and 1 st IPP Review MSOLP Respond to volunteer draft Revise Paragraph #2
Tuesday	2/20	IPP #1 due Read assigned <i>Newsweek</i> article and be prepared to write	Discuss graded Paragraph #2 and revision Write about <i>Newsweek</i> Discuss fragments and clauses
Thursday	2/22	NO Class	Rodeo Days Holiday
Tuesday	2/27	Do Part 2, Fragments (Watch and best of 4 or 80% Apply and Recall) <i>mywritinglab.com</i> Participate in My Pima Message Board	Prewrite Paragraph #3 What I Want to be When I Grow Up – My Fantasy Job Draft Paragraph #3 (ask for volunteer to share draft/be prepared to do peer reviews/see assignment in MyPima news))

Thursday	3/1	Revise Paragraph #2 and bring in with draft and prewriting.	Discuss graded Paragraph #2 and IPP #2 Do group peer review Do individual peer reviews Revise Paragraph #3
Tuesday	3/6	IPP #2 due Read pp. 175-186 in text and do exercises Read <i>Newsweek</i> article and be prepared to write	Write about <i>Newsweek</i> Discuss graded Paragraph #3 and revision Work on Connecting Ideas (Run-Ons and Comma Splices) using <i>mywritinglab.com</i> and handouts
Thursday	3/8	Revised Paragraph #3 due Do <i>mywritinglab.com</i> Part 4 Run-Ons, Watch and best of 4 or 80% Recall	Do research and prewrite Paragraph #4, What I Want to be When I Grow Up: What I really want in a career--and how close to fantasy can I get?
Tuesday	3/13	NO CLASS	SPRING BREAK
Thursday	3/15	NO CLASS	SPRING BREAK
Tuesday	3/20	Read <i>Newsweek</i> article and be prepared to write	Write about <i>Newsweek</i> . Discuss graded Paragraph #3 and IPP #3 Draft Paragraph #4 (ask for volunteer to share/see assignment in MyPima news)
Thursday	3/22	IPP #3 due Do <i>mywritinglab.com</i> Part 4 Run-Ons, Watch and best of 4 or 80% Apply	Do group peer response Do individual peer responses Revise Paragraph #4
Tuesday	3/27	TBA	TBA
Thursday	3/29	TBA	TBA
Tuesday	4/3	Read from <i>Newsweek</i> and be prepared to write. Read pp. 59-62; 67-74 in text and do exercises	Discuss graded Paragraph #4. (optional revision due Tues. 4/24) Discuss IPP #4 Work on plurals and possessive and apostrophes using <i>mywritinglab.com</i>
Thursday	4/5	IPP #4 due Do <i>mywritinglab.com</i> Part 7 Apostrophes, Watch and best of 4 or 80% Recall	Work more on apostrophes Discuss longer papers Prewrite Paper #5 It's Tough to be a Teen: Accidents, Drugs, and Flunking out –Causes
Tuesday	4/10	<i>Note: Withdrawal deadline is Mon. 4/9</i> Read articles linked to MyPima (accidents, drugs, flunking out) Participate in MyPima Message Board	Discuss articles Draft Paper #5 Causes (ask for volunteer to share draft/see assignment in MyPima news)
Thursday	4/12	Read from <i>Newsweek</i> and be prepared to write Do <i>mywritinglab.com</i> Part 7 Apostrophes, Watch and best of 4 or 80% Apply	Write about <i>Newsweek</i> Do group peer response Do individual peer responses
Tuesday	4/17	Revise Paper #5	Proofread, proofread, proofread Make editing changes to Paper #5
Thursday	4/19	Prewrite Paper #6 It's Tough to be a Teen: Accidents, Drugs, and Flunking out—Solutions (see assignment in MyPima news)	Discuss graded Paper #5 (optional draft due Tues 4/24) and IPP #5 Share ideas Paper #6 Research Write thesis and plan
Tuesday	4/24	Optional Revisions Papers 4 and 5 IPP #5 due	Proofread, proofread, proofread Draft Paper #6 (ask for volunteer to

			share)
Thursday	4/26	Read from <i>Newsweek</i> and be prepared to write	Write about <i>Newsweek</i> Do group peer response Do individual peer responses
Tuesday	5/1	Revise Paper #7	Proofread, proofread, proofread Read from <i>Newsweek</i> and meet in groups to do journal
Thursday	5/3	Read article link in MyPima regarding Searches and Seizures Participate in MyPima Message Board	Discuss graded Paragraph #7 and IPP #7 Discuss searches and seizures
Tuesday	5/8	IPP #7 due Review all graded papers and be prepared to write about them	Write self-reflection journal. Prewrite final paper.
Thursday	5/10	Look over rubrics and IPPs for all papers and review MSOLP in preparation for final paper.	Write final paper.

Note: Calendar plans may change depending on our progress this semester. It is the student's responsibility to attend regularly and keep up with actual course progress.