



LAPS/WRIT 1700 9.0

Writing: Process and Practice *Blended*

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This 9-credit course has been approved in the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies for the Humanities General Education credit.

1700 A is a *blended* course. Lectures are held on campus and tutorials are accessed through the course Moodle sites. There is one main Moodle site for assignment postings and one site for each tutorial section – the tutorial sites are where students will participate in a variety of writing exercises and discussions. When you log into Moodle via Passport York once classes begin, you will see the lecture site and your individual tutorial site.

Online and blended courses are somewhat more flexible in terms of scheduling, but they require dedication and strong time-management skills precisely because students work more independently. Students must actively and consistently participate fully in online discussions and writing activities.

Course Description

The course considers a wide range of written expression including fiction, nonfiction, poetry, arguments, speeches and social media, with an emphasis on the theory and practice of writing.

This is not a technical writing course; the focus is on developing critical reading, writing and thinking skills through a close and thoughtful consideration of readings and other resources. Students will explore and practice a variety of writing methods, such as how to write persuasively for different audiences and how to write

collaboratively. Students will also read and practice different forms and genres of writing, such as argument, personal essay, journals and short (no-pressure) writing experiments.

Writing in ways we are not necessarily familiar with strengthens writing skills in general. By becoming more aware of how and why different texts are written, we become more aware of our own writing practices and of what is needed to improve such practices. **An important aim of the course is to help students develop greater confidence when writing in different contexts, whether academic, professional or personal.**

Learning Objectives:

Students will work to develop skills and knowledge in order to—

- Apply critical thinking skills in a variety of contexts
- Critically examine theories of writing and composition
- Recognize and explain how rhetorical strategies and generic conventions and counter-conventions effect their interpretation of texts
- Develop persuasive argumentation skills
- Critically consider the relationship between language use and power
- Practice a range of critical and creative writing activities, such as academic writing, “life writing,” writing for social media
- Produce work appropriate to the genre and context of writing assignments, with a special emphasis on writing clearly and persuasively
- Explain and support their analyses of textual practices
- Collaborate online with peers in a variety of ways in order to draft, develop and produce various written texts
- Constructively and critically examine and discuss peers’ writing
- Be cognizant of their own writing strategies and critical expertise