

ENGLISH 3105, RESEARCH METHODS WORKSHOP (CRN 19431)

Fall 2014

3:00-3:50 pm Monday, Irby 304

Dr. Mike Schaefer
Office: Irby 408
e-mail: schaefer@uca.edu

Office phone: 450-5119
Home phone: 329-0538

Office Hours: 10:00 am-12:00 pm MWF, 11:00 am-1 pm TTh, and by appointment

TEXT:

Writing Essays About Literature, ninth edition, by Kelley Griffith

COURSE DESCRIPTION/OBJECTIVES: As described in the Undergraduate Bulletin, this course, a requirement for English majors and minors, to be taken in the same semester as their first upper-division course(s) in English, “is designed to introduce students to the use of research in writing papers for literature courses. Students will use techniques and protocols learned in the course to complete a research assignment drawn from a concurrent upper-division course.”

What those “techniques and protocols” comprise are the elements of effective researched literary analysis that Prof. Griffith covers in chapters 6-11 of our textbook: an informed grasp of literary-critical approaches; a well-focused and significant topic; a logically valid, coherently presented, stylistically accomplished, and appropriately researched examination of that topic; and correct documentation of all primary and secondary sources according to the prescriptions of the Modern Language Association (MLA). You’ll demonstrate the extent of your mastery of those objectives by handing in two rough drafts and a final version of a research paper of at least four pages (not counting the works-cited page) that you’re also submitting for an upper-division English class that you’re taking this semester. (If you aren’t currently enrolled in an upper-division class with such a research-paper requirement, you may substitute a research paper from an upper-division or survey class that you took in a previous semester.)

This much being said, **please note two important qualifications:**

- 1) This is not a course in basic composition mechanics—spelling, punctuation, grammar, syntax, and the like. As advanced English majors and minors, **you are expected to have largely mastered these areas already.**
- 2) Although, as stated above, we will spend time discussing effective analytical and argumentative techniques, the final judgment as to the quality of your paper’s argument belongs to the instructor who assigned your specific research paper; your essay’s grade in our class will be based primarily on the effectiveness of your handling of integrating primary and secondary sources and of formatting your citations of those sources.

READING SCHEDULE:

Aug. 25	Introduction to course
Sept. 8	Chapter 6—Approaches to Interpreting Literature
Sept. 15	Chapters 7-8—Writing about Literature, Choosing Topics
Sept. 22	Chapters 7-8 continued
Sept. 29	Chapter 9—Drafting the Essay
Oct. 6	Chapter 10—Revising and Editing
Oct. 13	Chapter 10 continued
Oct. 20	Chapter 11—Documentation and Research, pp. 307-25

Oct. 27	Chapter 11, pp. 325-47 Research topic and preliminary thesis statement due
Nov. 3	Chapter 11, pp. 347-68
Nov. 10	Workshop: Late-Stage Draft of Research Paper
Nov. 17	Workshop: Tentative Final Draft of Research Paper Workshop-marked version and revised version of tentative final draft due Friday, Nov. 21, by 4 p.m.
Nov. 24	Instructor-marked drafts returned and discussed
Dec. 1	Instructor-marked version of tentative final draft and final version of paper due in class

Note: If this due-date schedule is not compatible with the due dates of the other class for which you're writing this paper, please let me know and we'll make arrangements to accommodate your needs. Also note: There's no final exam in this class.

ATTENDANCE: Given that this is a weekly class, with only fourteen meetings, and that much of our work in class will consist of exercises and workshops requiring your active participation, you may only miss up to two class periods for any reason (I recommend, of course, that you not miss any classes). Students who exceed that limit will be dropped from the course.

GRADES: Your final grade in this course will come from the following percentages:

Attendance/Participation	10%
Submission of late-stage draft	10%
Participation in draft workshop 1	10%
Submission of tentative final draft	10%
Performance in draft workshop 2	10%
Final version of research paper	50%

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: Knowingly presenting someone else's work as your own, whether in an exam, journal, or any other format, constitutes plagiarism. Plagiarism carries serious penalties, from failure on a particular assignment to failure for the course. If you ever have any questions on this subject, please feel free to ask me about them, without fear of embarrassment, and/or consult this page and its links for more information:

<http://uca.edu/integrity/>

Here is UCA's official policy statement regarding academic integrity: The University of Central Arkansas affirms its commitment to academic integrity and expects all members of the university community to accept shared responsibility for maintaining academic integrity. Students in this course are subject to the provisions of the university's Academic Integrity Policy, approved by the Board of Trustees as Board Policy No. 709 on February 10, 2010, and published in the Student Handbook. Penalties for academic misconduct in this course may include a failing grade on an assignment, a failing grade in the course, or any other course-related sanction the instructor determines to be appropriate. Continued enrollment in this course affirms a student's acceptance of this university policy.

COURSE EVALUATIONS (in which *you* get to grade *me*): Student evaluations of a course and its professor are a crucial element in helping faculty achieve excellence in the classroom and the institution in demonstrating that students are gaining knowledge. Students may evaluate courses they are taking starting on Monday, Nov. 24, through the end of finals week by logging in to myUCA and clicking on the Evals button on the top right.

OTHER UNIVERSITY POLICIES

DISABILITIES: UCA adheres to the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you need an accommodation under this act due to a disability, contact the UCA Office of Disability Services at 450-3613.

BUILDING EMERGENCY PLAN: An Emergency Procedures Summary (EPS) for the building in which this class is held will be discussed during the first week of this course. EPS documents for most buildings on campus are available at <http://uca.edu/mysafety/bep/>. Every student should be familiar with emergency procedures for any campus building in which he/she spends time for classes or other purposes.

TITLE IX DISCLOSURE: If a student discloses an act of sexual harassment, discrimination, assault, or other sexual misconduct to a faculty member (as it relates to "student-on-student" or "employee-on-student"), the faculty member cannot maintain complete confidentiality and is required to report the act and may be required to reveal the names of the parties involved. Any allegations made by a student may or may not trigger an investigation. Each situation differs and the obligation to conduct an investigation will depend on those specific set of circumstances. The determination to conduct an investigation will be made by the Title IX Coordinator. For further information, please visit: <https://uca.edu/titleix>. **Disclosure of sexual misconduct by a third party who is not a student and/or employee is also required if the misconduct occurs when the third party is a participant in a university-sponsored program, event, or activity.*



CN
COLLECTION