

ARTSSCI 1B03/Writing
McMaster University
Term 1, 2017-2018

Class:

Time: Wednesday, 11:30-1:20pm, Friday 1:30-2:20pm
Location: BSB 136

Instructors

Professor: Dr. Matthew Grellette
Office: UH 308
Office Hour: Fridays, from 12:15 to 1:15pm
Email: grellemj@mcmaster.ca

Teaching Assistant: Sabrina Sibbald
TA Email: sibbalsa@mcmaster.ca

Course Description:

We write to communicate our thoughts and beliefs to others. We write to tell people about the things that we have discovered. We write to convince others that our position is correct. By training you in the basics of grammar, essay writing, and research methods, this course will enhance your ability to achieve all of these ends. The course consists of a two-hour class and a one-hour practical workshop every week. By the end of term you will have learned the writing skills associated with a number of academic endeavours, including abstract and summary creation, argumentative prose, literary analysis, and the construction of an effective research paper.

Text:

Eric Henderson, *Writing by Choice*. Oxford: OUP 2011.

Online:

This course uses Avenue to post the course outline, assignments and other notices.

Evaluation:

Workshop Participation.....	10%
In-class Test.....	15%
Take-home assignments (3).....	50%
Final Exam.....	25%

Workshop Participation:

This class includes ten sessions, on Fridays, wherein you will be provided with exercises and activities meant to help you develop your writing skills. The work done in these sessions will be collected and graded as pass/fail. This segment is worth 10% of your final grade.

In-class Test:

One in-class test will take place during the fifth week of term. The test is worth 15% of your final grade. It will require you to demonstrate your mastery of the skills and technical information that you have been taught within our lectures on grammar.

Take-home Assignments:

You will be assigned three take-home exercises during the term. The first assignment (due Nov. 6th) is worth 15% of your grade. It will test your ability to effectively summarize an academic article. The second assignment (due Nov. 24th) is worth 15% of your grade. It will test your ability to write a brief argumentative essay. The final assignment (due Dec. 6th) is worth 20% of your grade. It will test your ability to write a brief research essay. The details of these assignments will be more thoroughly explained in class.

Final Examination

The final examination is worth 25% of your grade, and will cover all the material that you have learned in this course. More details regarding the structure and content of this examination will be provided in class. The exam date and location will be scheduled by the Office of the Registrar.

Late Work:

Late assignments will be penalized 5% of the assignment's worth per day late. Missed assignments will be dealt with via the MSAF (described below).

McMaster Policy on Academic Integrity:

You are expected to exhibit honesty and use ethical behaviour in all aspects of the learning process. Academic credentials you earn are rooted in principles of honesty and academic integrity. Academic dishonesty is to knowingly act or fail to act in a way that results or could result in unearned academic credit or advantage. This behaviour can result in serious consequences—e.g., the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: “Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty”), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university. It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. For information on the various types of academic dishonesty, please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy, located at: <http://www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity>.

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty: 1) Plagiarism—e.g., the submission of work that is not one's own or for which other credit has been obtained. 2) Improper collaboration in group work. 3) Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

McMaster Student Absence Form (MSAF):

In the event of an absence, students should review and follow the Academic Regulations in the Undergraduate Calendar “Requests for Relief for Missed Academic Term Work.” Please consult the MSAF statement on our website (<https://arts.mcmaster.ca/forms-requests/>) and direct any questions or concerns to Shelley Anderson or Rebecca Bishop in the Arts & Science Program Office as appropriate.

Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities:

Students who require academic accommodation must contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) to make arrangements with a Program Coordinator. Academic accommodations must be arranged for each term of study. Student Accessibility Services can be contacted by phone 905-525-9140 ext.

28652 or email sas@mcmaster.ca. For further information, consult McMaster University's Policy for Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities.

Please Note:

The instructor and university reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The university may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes. It is the responsibility of students to check **their McMaster email** and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes. Announcements will be made in class and by using the course email distribution list.

Course Schedule:

Week 1: Sept 6, 8	Introduction and Sentence Essentials, Ch. 10 Lecture and Workshop
Week 2: Sept. 13, 15	Sentence Essentials, Ch. 10-11 Lecture and Workshop
Week 3: Sept. 20, 22	Sentence Essentials, Ch. 11-12 Lecture and Workshop
Week 4: Sept. 27, 29	Sentence Essentials, Ch. 12 Lecture and Workshop
Week 5: Oct. 4, 6	Essay and Paragraph Essentials. Ch. 3 Lecture and Test (on 6th) - 15%

Mid-Term Break - Oct 9-15

Week 6: Oct. 18, 20	Achieving Clarity and Depth, Ch. 9 Lecture and Workshop
Week 7: Oct. 25, 27	Reading and Thinking, Ch.1 The Writing Situation, Ch. 2 Lecture and Workshop
Week 8: Nov. 1, 3	Responding to Texts, Ch. 4 Lecture and Workshop Assignment 1 - 15% — Due Nov. 10
Week 9: Nov. 8, 10	The Argumentative Essay, Ch. 5 Lecture and Workshop

Week 10: Nov. 15, 17	The Literary Essay, Ch. 6 Lecture and Workshop Assignment 2 - 15% — Due Nov. 24
Week 11: Nov. 22, 24	Writing a Research Essay, Ch. 7 Assignment 3 - 20% — Due Dec.6
Week 12: Nov. 29, Dec.1	Documentation Styles, Ch. 8 Lecture and Workshop
Week 13: Dec. 6	Concluding Lecture