

OXFORD COLLEGE of Emory University

COURSE OUTLINE

**English 185 – Critical Reading & Writing**

Dr. Lucas Carpenter

Spring 2014 Semester (MWF 9:30-10:35 am)

**I. Objectives of the Course**

Through class participation, the close reading of assigned works, in-class writing exercises and tests, six formal essays (4-5 pages), a research paper (8-10 pages), an oral presentation and a final examination, the student will be graded on his/her ability:

- A. To construct outlines demonstrating that sufficient material has been gathered and organized prior to writing.
- B. To write college-level essays, both expository and argumentative, displaying clarity, organization, and adequate support and/or evidence.
- C. To demonstrate in writing a command of style, sentence structure, paragraph development, grammar, spelling, punctuation and vocabulary.
- D. To demonstrate a command of library research skills and proper research paper format.
- E. To read college-level nonfiction texts with insight and understanding.

**II. Student Requirements for Completing the Course**

- A. Brief unannounced quizzes which will be factual in nature. There are no make-ups for missed quizzes.
- B. Several in-class writing assignments, tests, and presentations. There are no make-ups for these assignments.
- C. Six formal critical essays (900-1000 words) to be assigned later. One letter grade will be deducted for each day a paper is late.
- D. A research paper (8-10 pages) to be assigned later. One letter grade will be deducted for each day a research paper is late.
- E. A final examination composed of factual and essay questions.
- F. Satisfactory participation in class discussion, which can only be accomplished if the attendance policy is rigorously observed.

### III Grading Practices

The grade will be determined by an evaluation of the entire semester's work, with special emphasis on fulfillment of course objectives. Grading will generally adhere to the following:

Class participation	5%
Quizzes, exercises, and in-class writing	15%
Six essays	50%
Research paper	15%
Final examination	15%

### IV. Attendance Policy

- A. Although attendance is not mandatory, it is to the student's distinct benefit to be present in class, and the student will be held responsible for any assignments made when he/she is absent. After one absence, one point will be deducted from the final grade for each additional absence.
- B. Students who are late must assume personal responsibility to see that the record is altered at the end of class. This record will not be changed at a later date.

### V. Textbooks:

Mind Readings, ed. Gary Colombo. Bedford, St. Martin.

**Failure to have the text in class will count as an absence.**

### VI. Weekly Outline of Topics to be Covered

Jan 14-17	Preliminary
Jan 20-24	Making Sense <u>Mind Readings</u> , Chapter 1, "Reading the Senses"
Jan 27-31	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Essay Due</b>
Feb 3-7	The Writing Process <u>Mind Readings</u> , Chapter 2, "Reading Memory"
Feb 10-14	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Essay Due</b>
Feb 17-21	Style and Voice: The Writer's Self <u>Mind Readings</u> , Chapter 3, "Reading the Self"
Feb 24-28	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Essay Due</b>
Mar 3-7	Audience: Readers as "Others" <u>Mind Readings</u> , Chapter 4, "Reading Other Minds"
Mar 10-14	Spring Break

**VI. Weekly Outline of Topics to the Covered** (continued)

Mar 17-21	The Research Paper <b>4<sup>th</sup> Essay Due</b>
Mar 24-28	<u>Mind Readings</u> , Chapter 5, "Reading Animal Minds"
Mar 31-Apr 4	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Essay Due</b>
Apr 7-11	Reasoning & Research <u>Mind Readings</u> , Chapter 6, "Reading Cyberminds" <b>6<sup>th</sup> Essay Due</b> (in-class)
Apr 14-18	<u>Mind Readings</u> , Chapter 6, "Reading Cyberminds" (continued)
Apr 21-25	<u>Mind Readings</u> , Chapter 6, "Reading Cyberminds" (continued)
Apr 23	<b>Research Paper due</b>
Apr 28	Last Class
May 6, 2:00-5:00 pm	<b>FINAL EXAMINATION</b>

**VII. Office Hours**

My office is located in Seney Hall, Room 115B, and my office hours are the following:

Monday through Friday 2:00-3:00 PM

If these hours are ever inconvenient, appointments can be arranged. Please do not hesitate to see me about anything that is of concern to you.

**VIII. Honor Code**

I assume that you are familiar with the Honor Code and that you know what plagiarism is.

**IX. Digital Devices**

- Cell phones must be off and out of sight during class.
- A laptop can be used only when directed to do so.

**Student work submitted as part of this course may be reviewed by Oxford College and Emory College faculty and staff for the purposes of improving instruction and enhancing Emory education.**