

OXFORD COLLEGE of Emory University

COURSE OUTLINE

English 185 – Critical Reading & Writing

Dr. Lucas Carpenter

Fall 2012 Semester (TTh 10:00-11:40 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

Aug 29-31	Preliminary
Sept 4-7	Making Sense <u>Mind Readings</u> , Chapter 1, "Reading the Senses"
Sept 10-14	1st Essay Due
Sept 17-21	The Writing Process <u>Mind Readings</u> , Chapter 2, "Reading Memory"
Sept 24-28	2nd Essay Due
Oct 1-5	Style and Voice: The Writer's Self <u>Mind Readings</u> , Chapter 3, "Reading the Self"
Oct 8-12	3rd Essay Due
Oct 15-16	Fall Break
Oct 17-19	Audience: Readers as "Others" <u>Mind Readings</u> , Chapter 4, "Reading Other Minds"

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

Oct 22-26	The Research Paper 4th Essay Due
Oct 29-Nov 2	<u>Mind Readings</u> , Chapter 5, "Reading Animal Minds"
Nov 5-9	5th Essay Due
Nov 12-16	Reasoning & Research <u>Mind Readings</u> , Chapter 6, "Reading Cyberminds" 6th Essay Due (in-class)
Nov 19-20	<u>Mind Readings</u> , Chapter 6, "Reading Cyberminds" (continued)
Nov 21-23	Thanksgiving Recess
Nov 26-30	Research Paper due
Dec 3-7	<u>Mind Readings</u> , Chapter 6, "Reading Cyberminds" (continued)
Dec 11	Last Class
Dec 7, 2:00-5:00 pm	FINAL EXAMINATION

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.