**In-Class Procedures**

**English 1130.004 and 1130.008 – Academic Writing**

**Tues. and Thurs. / Douglas College / David N. Wright**

**Winter 2017**

In order to separate the learning outcomes for this course into manageable pieces, we will sometimes break into five teams of five individuals. Each of these peer groups will help the class understand the five main areas of interest established roughly every three weeks. I will make up the teams randomly at the beginning of each section below and announce the teams in class at the beginning of each section.

Each team will be responsible for dealing with subjects such as style, audience, process, argumentation, and summary. Each team will represent a source of expertise about learning outcomes for the course and supply the best practices for the topic for which it is responsible.

This is not a graded assignment. However, failure to complete or participate as a team member will reflect poorly on your commitment to the success of others in the class and will hinder your ability to complete the required assignments effectively.

Sections will run as follows, with some adjustments possible as we establish the class’ strengths and weaknesses.

**Main Subject Areas – First Half of Course**

- Style

- Audience

- Process

- Argumentation

- Summary

**Main Subject Areas – Second Half of Course**

- Proposals and Thesis (Style)

- Definition (Paragraphing)

- Quotation (Integrating Research)

- Summary and Paraphrasing

- Audience

**Definitions:**

1. “Peer group” - a group of people who have the same goals, standing, and interests as you do. Often used in higher education to identify your classmates or those who share similar educational goals.
2. “Style,” “Thesis,” “Paragraphing” and many of the other words you see above – terms we use that refer to our writing, particularly how the writing can be read by audiences and how that writing is structured for academic conventions
3. “Academic Conventions” – writing structure and presentation that reflects academic work rather than everyday writing you might encounter in journalism, fiction, poetry, greeting cards, or online venues
4. “Argumentation” – showing that you are for or against something; the act of presenting an opinion reinforced with logic and reason rather than purely speculation
5. “Research” – learning more about a topic (or opinion, or definition) in order to present a reasoned argument to others (an audience) with an interest in the topic (or opinion, or definition)
6. “Drafting” – making changes (both big and small) to your writing so that it includes new information, is better understood by the audience, or more clearly refines a claim
7. “Claim” – same as a thesis – the expression of an idea or opinion that will be reinforced with logic and reason through researched argumentation
8. “Best Practices” – a list of common “ways of doing” something. While these practices may change, at the time of writing they are the most common and best way(s) to do something.