

WRTG 1320: academic writing & research

11226 // MWF 11–11:50am // Thompson 101

what is this course?

from the Undergraduate Bulletin:

Part of the lower-division UCA Core program and required of all students during the first semester they are eligible to enroll. The course introduces students to academic argument based on substantiating, evaluating, and proposing claims. Research strategies are central to the course, which will be conducted as a workshop. Prereq: WRTG 1310 with a grade of C or higher.

Dr. Allison H. Hitt



Thompson 323



MW 12-2pm
TR 11am-12pm



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from me:

Being a good researcher involves developing critical reading and thinking skills, listening to and evaluating multiple perspectives, and making choices about how to communicate to different audiences. We research NOT to prove a point but to understand what we don't know and contribute to larger conversations.

This semester, we will research **representations of disability**. Don't know anything about disability? That's okay. We don't often think critically about disability unless we are personally affected by it, but disability intersects all identities—gender, race, class, sexuality, age, nationality, religion—making it the perfect starting point for academic inquiry.

what are the course goals? (what will I learn?)

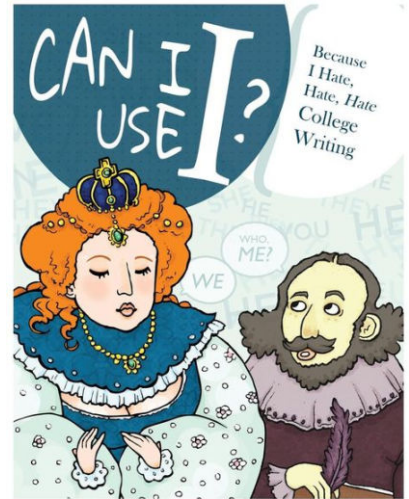
- **knowledge:** Students will learn about writing's relationship to academic inquiry; writing and revision processes; rhetorical concepts; and academic discourse.
- **skills:** Students will become proficient at finding and assessing credible sources, incorporating source material and different perspectives, and presenting research.

Access the full list here: <http://uca.edu/writing/course-descriptions-and-course-goals/>

what do I need?

Prendergast, Catherine. *Can I Use I? Because I Hate, Hate, Hate College Writing*. Out of Pocket Press, 2015.

I will make additional readings available through Google Classroom (classroom.google.com), which you will use to submit work, view feedback and grades, and access course materials—including class notes!



Catherine Prendergast
Illustrated by Hann Lindahl

what will we be doing?

project 1: synthesis essay. (20%)

You will synthesize two of our five shared readings, making critical connections to your own experiences/interests with our course inquiry. 4 pages. **(due 9-22)**

project 2: credible source analysis. (10%)

Before starting your own research, we will discuss how to assess the credibility of sources. You will choose a news article about a topic of your choice, analyzing its rhetorical appeals, evidence, and credibility. 2-3 pages. **(due 10-9)**

project 3: annotated bibliography. (20%)

You will form a research question and find scholarly and non-scholarly sources that offer different perspectives on your topic. You will critically summarize your sources and reflect on their usefulness. 5 annotations. **(due 10-30)**

project 4: research essay. (30%)

Building on the research from project 3, you will conduct primary and secondary research to develop a rhetorically balanced argument. 8 pages. **(due 11-29)**

project 5: visual translation. (10%)

You will translate research from your essay into an infographic or poster for an audience of your peers (e.g., college students). 2-page reflection. **(due 12-13)**

homework & rough drafts. (10%)

All homework is scaffolded for you to get feedback as you write toward major projects (5%). There are five projects, which means five rough drafts (5%).

need extra credit? You can take class notes (5 pts/day) for up to 25 points total.

how will we be graded?

A: 90-100%	B: 80-89%	C: 70-79%	D: 60-69%	F: 59% & below
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what are Dr. Allison's policies?

accessibility. I am committed to creating a classroom environment that is respectful of and inclusive to different learning and writing processes. If we can work together to make the class more accessible, please let me know.

late work. Assignments are due by the time specified on Google Classroom.

respect. We will be working with content and issues that may be unfamiliar, so I ask that you suspend judgment and be reflective of your ideas and assumptions. **You do not have to agree with someone to treat them and their work respectfully.**

technology. You are welcome to bring a laptop or tablet to class for notes and peer review.



If you need an extension for one of the four major projects, please email me one day before the deadline with your request, how long you need, and a current draft.

File Format

Google Docs



Font Style

Times New Roman 12

Arial 11

double spacing

what are UCA's policies?

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

accommodations. The University of Central Arkansas adheres to the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you need an accommodation under this Act due to a disability, please contact the UCA Office of Disability Support Services, 450-3613. (<http://uca.edu/disability/eligibility-for-services/>)

attendance. If a student in a WRTG course misses two weeks' worth of classes—e.g., six classes in a MWF course—and/or a student misses a week's worth of classes consecutively without contacting the instructor, the instructor will drop the student from the course.

building emergency plan. An Emergency Procedures Summary (EPS) for Thompson Hall 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/>.

In the event of an evacuation order, classes that meet in Thompson 101 will exit through the west door and reconvene at the Harding Centennial Plaza fountain to await further instructions from campus police. In the event of a shelter in place order, we will lock doors and stay away from windows. In the event of a tornado, we will shelter in first floor stairwells, restrooms, or kitchen.

disruptive behavior. Any student whose behavior regularly interferes with the instructor's ability to conduct class and foster student learning (or who severely impedes the conduct of class) may be dropped from the class. Students dropped for disruptive behavior will receive a grade of W, and a record of this disciplinary action will remain on the student's university file.

lower-division core. This course is part of the Communication component of the Lower-Division Core. Communication courses promote the ability to develop and present ideas logically and effectively in order to enhance communication and collaboration with diverse individuals and groups. (<http://uca.edu/core>)

student evaluations. 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 the Monday of the thirteenth week of instruction through the end of finals week by logging in to myUCA and clicking on "Course Evaluations."

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 the specific set of circumstances. The determination to conduct an investigation is made by the Title IX Coordinator. (<https://uca.edu/titleix>)

withdrawal. November 10 is the final date to officially withdraw from Aug. 24–Dec. 15 classes or the university with a W grade unless already dropped for non-attendance. After this date, only grades of A, B, C, D, F will be received.