

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to:

1. Apply the basics of research writing.
2. Develop effective research questions and thesis statements.
3. Evaluate the types and quality of sources.
4. Engage in meaningful analysis of research.
5. Apply the principles and techniques of argumentative writing.
6. Structure research essays effectively.
7. Integrate research according to citation conventions.
8. Improve rough drafts using revising and editing skills.
9. Polish final drafts using proofreading skills.

OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

- Introduction to Research and the Writing Process
- Defining Academic Research Writing
- The Purpose of Research Writing
- Managing Your Research Project
- The Qualities of a Good Research Question
- Choosing a Manageable Research Topic

- Formulating a Thesis
- Outlining and Classical Essay Structure
- The Seven Steps of the Research Process
- Finding and Evaluating Research Sources
- Distinguishing Scholarly Journals from Other Sources
- Understanding Bias
- Strategies for Gathering Reliable Information
- Research and Critical Reading
- Connecting Source Materials
- Annotated Bibliographies
- Research Writing and Argument
- Persuasion
- Models of Argument
- Purpose, Audience, Tone, and Content
- Creating a Rough Draft
- Introductions
- Body Paragraphs
- Conclusions
- Avoiding Plagiarism
- Citing and Referencing Techniques
- Blending Source Material with Your Own Work
- Anatomy of a Well-Cited Paragraph
- Revising and Editing
- General Areas of Revision
- Cohesion
- Developing a Final Draft
- Using Sources Creatively
- Detecting Assumptions and Generalizations
- Fact-Checking and Proofreading
- Reflection and Reflective Learning

GRADING: This is a pass/fail course. Students are required to complete all 9 formative and 8 summative assessments with an overall course average of 70% or better.