

**Department of Literature, Journalism and Modern Languages**  
**Writing 1010**  
**College Composition**  
**4 Credit Hours**  
**Fall Semester, 2019**

**Instructor Information:**

Professor Kara deFreitas

BAC 117

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Office Hours: TBA

**Required Texts and Materials:**

Bullock, Brody and Weinberg. *The Little Seagull Handbook*

Atwan, Robert. *The Writer's Presence*, 7<sup>th</sup> edition

**PLNU Mission: To Teach, To Shape, To Send**

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian environment where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service becomes an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we aspire to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

**Course Description (Catalog)**

The study of writing as a process incorporating the principles of sentence, paragraph and essay composition with an emphasis on critical thinking. Introductory practice in library-based research and writing. Use of computers in composing and research processes.

This course is one of the components of the General Education Program. By including this course in a common educational experience for undergraduates, the faculty supports the pursuit of personal awareness and skill development, focusing on analytical, communication and quantitative skills necessary for successful living in modern society.

**Course Goals:**

This course emphasizes that writing is a skill and a process; that is, like learning to ride a bike or play tennis, progress is achieved through practice. Writing improves through reading, time, patience, rewriting, editing and studying the skills of other writers. As a class we will study professional writers' work and learn together what is effective and successful about those pieces. Students will then write their own essays (4), seeking to present a strong thesis and focus, organize their ideas in coherent paragraphs, control their tone and limit their discussion to the assignment while keeping their audience in mind, and to punctuate their papers well, finally presenting a polished, is posted and professional product.

### **Final Exam Policy**

Successful completion of this class requires taking the final examination on its scheduled day. The final exam schedule is posted on the Class Schedules Site. No requests for early examinations or alternative days will be approved.

### **Grading Procedures:**

Essays:	40%
Quizzes, homework	
Attendance, class participation:	20%
Midterm	10%
Peer-Led Writing Project:	5%
Final Research Project	15%
Final Exam	10%

**Note: There are no “make-up” quizzes given; neither will late essays or homework assignments be accepted baring a serious and proven emergency.**

### **Policies:**

#### **Academic Dishonesty: Plagiarism and Cheating**

The University System supports and promotes academic honesty and personal integrity. Cheating can take the following forms:

- Submitting another person's work
- Writing a paper for someone else
- Working in a group effort without faculty consent
- Buying a paper from a research service

Submitting the same work for credit without approval

The Web and Plagiarism Note: The Web has made it very easy to copy and insert materials into a paper. Students must be careful to attribute materials found on the Web.

The Department of Literature, Journalism and Modern Languages deems intellectual and academic integrity to be critical to academic success and personal development; therefore, any unethical practice will be detrimental to the student's academic record and moral character. Students who present the work of others, in any form, commit plagiarism and will earn a failing grade on the assignment and possibly for the course. In either event, a written report will be filed with the department chair and area dean. The dean will review the report and submit it to the provost and the vice president of student development. It will then be placed in the student's academic file.

**The Writer's Studio:**

The Writer's studio is available to those students whose first essay and diagnostic grammar test indicate that they need the additional one-on-one time that a trained student tutor can provide. Students who qualify for the Writer's Studio are registered for Wri 097 and attend weekly tutorials. Students who do not complete the required ten tutorials, by the deadline of two weeks before finals will not be assigned a grade for Wri 110.

**Attendance:**

Per the college catalog, a student may be dropped from the course if his or her absences equal more than one and one half weeks of class. Even two or three absences will negatively affect a student's grade.

**Academic Accommodations:**

While all students are expected to meet the minimum standards for completion of this course as established by the instructor, students with disabilities may require academic accommodations. At Point Loma Nazarene University, these students are requested to file documentation during the first two weeks of the semester with the Academic Support Center, located in the Bond Academic Center. This policy assists the University in its commitment to full compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act. Section 504 prohibits discrimination against students with special needs and guarantees

all qualified students equal access to and benefits of PLNU programs and activities. Once the student files the documentation, the ASC will contact the student's instructor and provide written recommendations for reasonable and appropriate accommodations to meet the individual learning needs of the student.

### **Public Discourse:**

Much of the work that we will do in this class is cooperative, by nature of the class discussions and general feedback given to written work and projects; thus you should think of all your writing and speaking for and in class as public, not private, discourse. By continuing in this class, you acknowledge that your work will be viewed by others in the class.

### **Methods of Instruction:**

This class is interactive and activity-and discussion-based. You will need to come to class prepared to talk and write about course readings and contribute to and lead discussions, small group activities, and peer reviews. Students who attend regularly, stay engaged in the class activities, and keep up with assigned reading and writing will succeed in this class.

### **PLNU Copyright Policy**

Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the US Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside of the class may violate the law.

### **Description of Requirements:**

Formal Essays: You will write four formal essays throughout the semester, three of which you will draft, edit and revise at home and during class peer editing workshops. These essays should average 1050-75words (4 pp) double-spaced, and should use standard, one inch margins. You will be expected to bring a well-executed draft of the essay for editing workshops. The fourth essay will be written during class. This essay count does not include the diagnostic write or the exit essay (your final exam).

Reading Assignments: In the class schedule you are assigned to read various essays by twentieth century writers, At the end of each reading you will answer three questions in response to the essay; expect to write three well-developed paragraphs to respond well to these questions. You may hand write or type your responses, and all are due at the beginning of the

class period for which they are assigned. Also, come to class very familiar with the assigned essay, prepared to discuss it and at times be quizzed on it.

Handbook Assignments: Although not listed in the class schedule, I will assign grammar-based practices from your handbook as we review grammatical principles.

Peer-Led Writes: Once each week you will come to class and write during class in response to a prompt that a classmate has designed. A whole-hearted effort is expected with each of these; a good goal of length for each is two pages. The individual who assigned the piece of writing will then take it home, edit and grade the essays, and turn the entire project in to me for a grade. All of you will receive assignment level credit for participating in each project,

MLA Style Research Paper : The culminating project of the semester will be a 15-17 page, MLA style, fully-documented research paper. You will also be required to present your work to the class in an informal presentation.

Quizzes, Class Discussions, "Arbitrary" Writing Assignments that I Deem Useful

