Location/Times: M/Th 10:50-12:05 (AB 307); M/Th 12:15-1:30 (AB 307)
Instructor: Dr. Gretchen Rumohr-Voskuil
Office: AB 309
Phone Number: 616.481.3312 (allow 24 hours for response; texting ok)
Fax Number: 616.732.4487
E-mail Address: ghr001@aquinas.edu (allow 24 hours for response)
Office Hours: Listed on CourseConnect site

Colleague’s contact information: ________________________________

Required Textbooks and Instructional Materials


Hacker, Diana. A Pocket Style Manual (ISBN 9780312542542); NO SUBSTITUTIONS, PLEASE.

Regular access to your Aquinas email address

Regular, reliable internet access (including email)

Knowledge of, and access to, Courseconnect (our password is aquinas)

“Printing funds” if you plan to print papers at the computer lab rather than at home (plan ahead)

If you print at home, a reliable printer with PLENTY OF INK (plan ahead)

If you print at home, plenty of printer paper (plan ahead)

Course Description

GOALS

Inquiry and Expression (GE 101) is a one semester course designed to introduce Aquinas College freshmen to the skills necessary to ensure success not just at the college level, but for the rest of their lives.

The “Inquiry” portion of the course involves developing strategies for conducting an investigation to seek information, knowledge, and truth. The “Expression” portion of the course involves developing the skills necessary to explain to others the results of one’s inquiry both in writing and in speaking. Throughout this course students will inquire into and express ideas that will help them discover who they are as individuals, as students of Aquinas College, and as members of the larger community.

Inquiry and Expression will seek to meet these goals through the development of the following specific skill related goals:

1. The study, practice, and development of specific writing (rhetorical) skills
2. Critical thinking skills
3. Critical reading skills
4. Competence in finding and using source materials in order to write interesting and thoughtful research papers
5. Confidence in speaking before a group
6. Confidence in one's ability to think, read, speak, and write critically

OBJECTIVES

In order to achieve these goals, students in this course will

1. write to discover and learn
2. understand and apply a process approach to writing that involves inventing, drafting, revising, editing, and proofreading
3. select, integrate, and document appropriate research materials
4. adapt an appropriate voice for a variety of audiences and purposes in writing and speaking
5. exhibit critical thinking in writing and speaking
6. identify and use elements of effective writing

PROPOSED STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. exhibit competence in disciplines across the liberal arts
2. read critically and formulate relevant conclusions (critical thinking)
3. demonstrate proficiency in communication (writing, speaking, reading, listening, presentation skills)
4. acquire research and analysis skills
5. integrate knowledge of diverse perspectives and cultural traditions

Requirements

You are encouraged to keep track of your own points in this course throughout the semester.

INITIAL COURSEWORK

PANEL DISCUSSION
Details provided on assignment sheet

SUMMARY/ANALYSIS ESSAY
Details provided on assignment sheet/calendar

ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY/RESEARCH MEMO
Details provided on assignment sheet/calendar

RESEARCH ESSAY
Details provided on assignment sheet/calendar

NARRATIVE ESSAY
Details provided on assignment sheet/calendar

Misc: 20
Plan ahead/prep sheet: 40
Participation: 60
Background Work: 20
Complete Workshop Draft: 30
Conferencing: 10
Final Essay: 150

Background Work: 20
Complete Workshop Draft: 30
Conferencing: 10
Final Essay: 100

Background Work: 20
Complete Workshop Draft: 30
Conferencing: 10
Final Essay: 150

Background Work: 20
Complete Workshop Draft: 30
Conferencing: 10
CONTEMPORARY WRITERS SERIES and WRITTEN REFLECTION

You are expected to attend **ONe** of the following presentations (and follow up with a *3-page written review*) during this semester. Please plan ahead. Stay tuned for further information:

- Bonnie Jo Campbell, Thurs, Sept 20, 2012
  - Reading @ 7:30pm in Wege Ballroom
  - Lunch talk, TBA (check your email)
- Robin Hemley, Thursday, Nov 1, 2012
  - Reading @ 7:30pm in Wege Ballroom
  - Lunch talk, TBA (check your email)

Before attending the event, we will talk about what makes a “good” presentation. During and after this event, consider whether Aquinas’ money was *well spent on this writer*. Your *3-page polished written review*. See our CourseConnect page for an example of a well-written review. *You may attend—and write up an additional review—for an additional CWS for an additional 40 points extra credit.*

**Grading**

**INVESTMENT**

GE 101 students are expected to:

1. Arrive to class on time, with assignments completed.
2. Give engaged, insightful, useful, *on-task* peer feedback to colleagues during workshops.
3. Invest themselves consistently in each draft of every paper.
4. Make *significant* revisions on drafts when the assignment calls for revision. *This means extending or changing the thinking or organization, not just fixing grammar or punctuation.*
5. Carefully copy-edit all final revisions of main assignments until they conform to the conventions of edited, revised English.
6. Get regular help at the Writing Center if the instructor asks them to do so.
7. Arrive to instructor/student conferences on time and well-prepared (i.e. questions ready).

**ATTENDANCE**

Three absences, for whatever reason, are allowed without penalty.

- With four (4) absences, your final grade for the course will fall a *full letter grade*.
- With seven (7) absences, your final grade will fall a *second full letter grade*.
- With eight (8) absences, you will receive an *automatic failure* for the course.

Please be aware that a missed instructor-student conference counts as an absence.

**LATE WORK**

Late work is rarely accepted in this course.

**FORMAT OF ASSIGNMENTS**

All GE 101 assignments should: be ready to submit at the beginning of the class period; be typed (12 point Times New Roman), and conform to 2009 MLA guidelines (see Hacker page 155-162; page 159 has a concrete example of this format).

**Support Services**
Students with Disabilities
If you believe you qualify for course adaptations or special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act, it is your responsibility to contact the Disability Coordinator (616) 632-2166 and provide the appropriate documentation. If you have already documented a disability or other condition that would qualify you for special accommodations, or if you have emergency medical information or special needs, this should be reported in confidence to the Disability Coordinator to discuss your specific needs. Together, you can plan how best to coordinate your accommodations.

Academic Assistance
Academic and Learning Services at (616) 632-2166 offers free tutoring to all students. In addition, participants in the Student Support Services program can receive academic assistance and other services.

Writing Center
Please visit the Writing Center in Wege Center 104 at the first sign of academic difficulty. The Center employs specialists in study and reading skills, grammar, and term-paper preparation. Hours will be announced during the second week of class, and are available at http://www.aquinas.edu/aac/writing.html.

Academic Integrity
Note that it is not allowable to submit previously-written papers in this class (whether from high school or college or elsewhere). Written or other work that a student submits must be the product of her/his own efforts. Plagiarism, cheating and other forms of academic dishonesty, including dishonesty involving computer technology, are prohibited and may result in failure of the course. Further information on Academic Dishonesty can be found in the current College catalog.

Technology
Please silence, and put away, all mobile devices while in class (this includes group activities). Laptops are permitted during class when they are used to enrich—not distract from—course material.

Calendar/Assignments
The calendar of class meetings and due dates are provided on individual assignment sheets.

Feedback
I will aim to provide feedback on essays within two weeks of submission.

Class cancellation policy
If a class is cancelled (due to snow or other reasons) on a paper’s due date, that paper will be collected at the next class.

Resources/References
In addition to a course reserve in the Woodhouse Library, Inquiry and Expression maintains a web site (www.aquinas.edu/ie/index.html) where students can find links to numerous online writing resources. The Grace Hauenstein Library also subscribes to numerous databases (including ProQuest, First Search, InfoTrac, and others) in order to support academic research and learning.