Instructor Contact & Course Details

Instructor: Nolan Weil
E-mail: nolan.weil@usu.edu
Office Hrs: by appointment
Mode: Online asynchronous plus periodic whole-class Zoom Conference & individual student/teacher conferences. (Formal class meetings M-W 12:30-2:20)

Important Dates:

- Aug 31: New Student Orientation
- Sept 2: 1st Assignment Due
- Sept 7: Labor Day Holiday
- Nov 25-27: Thanksgiving Day Holiday
- Dec 9: Last Day of Class

About the Course. This course focuses on developing writing skills at the intermediate level, moving from the paragraph to the academic essay. You also begin learning to acknowledge sources and use the library and the Internet to inform your writing.

Required Text. No special text is required for the course. Your professor will provide materials.

Schedule. This is a blended course. Some of the instruction will be asynchronous, meaning that there will be no fixed time to meet. I will post and give written or sometimes video recorded explanations of the assignments via CANVAS. (You are responsible for setting your CANVAS notifications to receive timely updates, as well as accessing CANVAS daily to work on and submit assignments before their submission deadlines.)

We may also have occasional whole-class meetings via Zoom for the purpose of discussing ongoing projects and clarifying any confusions that may arise about assignments. We will negotiate the times for these meetings according to everyone's availability. I will also arrange individual conferences with each member of the class to discuss your work and help you improve your writing.

Expected Learner Outcomes
Students are able to write well-developed and organized compositions of 3-5 paragraphs in a variety of genres:

- following basic conventions of academic writing
- employing rhetorical modes appropriate to the topic
- using grammar appropriate to the genre

Assignments & Evaluation
There will be daily writing assignments. Some of them will be informal, in-class assignments. Others will be formal and will have to be properly formatted and produced by word-processor or posted online. Assignments may range in value from about 10-20 points, depending on content and length. Your score on any given assignment will be based on the quality of your work. However, learning to write well is a process, involving drafting, receiving feedback, and revising. Preliminary drafts may or may not be assigned a numerical score. I will generally comment on them in ways designed to inform you of
strengths and weaknesses in your handling of the assignment. You will have one or more opportunities to revise your work before I assign a final score to the writing.

To receive full-credit for assignments, you must submit them when they are due. I reserve the right to refuse to accept any late submissions. Late submissions that I do accept may lose up to 25% for every 24-hour period they are late.

Your final grade will be calculated by adding up the total number of points you receive for all assignments and dividing by the total number of points possible. Grades will be calculated based on the following percentages.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>93-100%</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90-92%</td>
<td>A-</td>
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<td>88-89%</td>
<td>B+</td>
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<td>83-87%</td>
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<td>80-82%</td>
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<td>63-67%</td>
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<td>&lt;63%</td>
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**IELI Policies and Practices**

**Participation Policy**
Developing academic language ability requires that you actively participate in your classes. If you do not regularly access assigned materials, engage in course activities, and complete assignments, you will miss important opportunities to meet course objectives, and it is likely that you will fail the class and not progress to the next level in the IELI program.

**Grading**
The grades you get for each class are based on the work you do for that class. Task completion is important for successful learning but completion alone is not a guarantee that you will earn an A in every class. The quality of your work and your ability to demonstrate significant progress in meeting course objectives is also necessary. A’s and B’s are generally regarded as good grades in the United States and C’s are acceptable (even if students do not prefer them). It is important for you to do your best on all in-class and at home activities as your grade will depend on the degree to which you are able to demonstrate achievement of course objectives.

**Progressing to the next level**
You must receive a grade of C- or better in any IELI class in order to pass that class and move to the next level of that class. Students who receive lower than a C- are required to repeat the class until they receive a passing grade. If you are not passing a class at mid-term you will be re-registered for the class until final grades are posted. If your final grade shows that you passed the class, you will be moved up into the next level or the class will be dropped.

If you want to check on how well you met the learner outcomes for each class, there are two ways to do so: 1) you can get a copy of the student achievement form from the IELI staff assistants or 2) you can access your grade on the USU website and then compare the grade to the Grade Descriptions on the IELI website (Current Students -> Academics-> Grade Descriptions).

**In-term evaluations**
Your professor will keep you informed of your progress throughout the semester by posting in a timely way on CANVAS the outcomes of all assignments. At midterm, your professor will assign you a letter grade. If you are doing work at a level lower than C in any of your classes, your professor will meet with you to discuss what you will need to do to pass the class.

**University Policies**
**COVID-19 Policies.** Students should be familiar with and should follow up-to-date policies regarding Covid-19 as found at [https://usu.edu/covid-19](https://usu.edu/covid-19).

**Plagiarism.** Plagiarism includes knowingly "representing, by paraphrase or direct quotation, the published or unpublished work of another person as one’s own in any academic exercise or activity without full and clear acknowledgment. It also includes the unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials." The penalties for plagiarism are severe. They include warning or reprimand, grade adjustment, probation, suspension, expulsion, withholding of transcripts, denial or revocation of degrees, and referral to psychological counseling.

**Students with Disabilities.** The Americans with Disabilities Act states: “Reasonable accommodation will be provided for all persons with disabilities in order to ensure equal participation within the program. If a student has a disability that will likely require some accommodation by the instructor, the student must contact the instructor and document the disability through the Disability Resource Center (797-2444), preferably during the first week of the course. Any request for special consideration relating to attendance, pedagogy, taking of examinations, etc., must be discussed with and approved by the instructor. In cooperation with the Disability Resource Center, course materials can be provided in alternative format, large print, audio, diskette, or Braille.”