

Dr. Lori E. Amy
Writing and Linguistics
Fall 2014

WRITING For Publication / WRIT 5650

Course Goals and Objectives

Writing for Publication prepares students for writing for publication in a digital age. Students are encouraged to pursue various areas of research and interests as they learn how to locate suitable venues for publication, write query letters to publishers, format manuscripts for submission, and deal with revision and editing in today's technological environment. I will be working with you to develop your professional writing voice and your skills for understanding publication practices in your chosen area. I consider our class a writing community in which, as writers, we are engaging each other intellectually, creatively, meaningfully. Graduate students will be expected to identify a venue for publication and prepare a manuscript for submission.

What I Expect From You

As this is an online course you must, in order to do well, be highly motivated, disciplined, and able to organize your time well. The course is divided into 5 modules organized around specific learning objectives and components of the writing process. Each module contains an overview of the activities and learning objectives for the module and detailed instructions for each of the assignments.

Your graded activities include:

- Weekly Discussion Board Postings
- Group Activities for Research and Writing
- Writing Assignments (this includes drafting and revision components for a query letter, cover letter, and manuscript submission)
- Peer Review Activities

Refer to the Schedule of Assignments for complete listing of all assignments for the semester. Detailed explanations of assignments and the point value for each is specified in the Instruction Handouts located in each module.

Your grade will be determined by averaging the number of points you earn against the total number of possible points.

As you will see, the weekly discussion postings will generally be worth between 10 and 20 points each. Individually, none of these weekly assignments will make or break your grade. Cumulatively, they represent the bulk of your grade in the class. The discussion board forum is extremely important for pre-writing, thinking, collaboratively evolving ideas, soliciting and receiving feedback on writing, and evolving a writing community. You should thus take the weekly discussion assignments very seriously.

Readings/Texts

The bulk of your required readings will be free online sources, most of which will be directly linked for you in the content area of each Learning Module.

The two texts that you will be need to purchase are:

- The Writer's Market (or a variation of the online Writer's Digest), available for Purchase online at <https://www.writersmarket.com>. **DO NOT PURCHASE THIS YET!** We have a class activity that will ask you to explore the market in your specific area, and you will choose which guide is best for your individual needs as a result of this assignment. Sign up for whatever subscription method is best for you – you can choose a 1 month, 6 month, or 1 year option – if you want to cut your costs here, sign up for 1 month when we begin the assignments based on this book.
- A style guide (I am recommending Joseph Williams' and Gregory Colomb's *Style: Lessons in Clarity and Grace* (10th Edition). However, I have designed a genre/ field specific assignment that will help you define the style guides most commonly used in your desired area of publication; you may, after completing this assignment, choose an alternative guide if you find one more suitable for your specific publication needs.

Attendance and Late Assignments

Since this is an online course, we measure "attendance" by participation in the online forums available to the class and timely completion of all assignments. Late assignments will be accepted up to one week after the due date for half credit; assignments later than one week will receive no points.

Plagiarism

This is silly and you won't do it J

This class requires that you compose your own, field-specific original work. Many of the genres in which you will be writing require citation – if you do not carefully cite your sources and attribute your ideas, you might inadvertently plagiarize. Therefore, you need to be very careful to document your work. Exercises on properly citing sources and attributing your work will be covered in your style guide.

Self-Plagiarism

Thanks in part to recommendations from some of you, there will be a change in the *Student Code of Conduct* to specifically prohibit "self-plagiarism" defined as "resubmitting work previously submitted without explicit approval from the instructor." The new version of the Code of Conduct is not yet posted, but it will be [here](#), by the first day of classes.

The University Writing Center

Don't forget that the University Writing Center(Forest Drive Bldg. 1119) is one of your most important resources as a student at Georgia Southern! The tutors in the center will give you one-on-one help with any paper you're working on for any class on campus, including this one. I strongly encourage you to take advantage of the feedback and advice they can give you! Make an appointment ONLINE (<http://georgiasouthern.mywconline.com/>) or feel free to just drop in. The center also offers online consultations for online students.

Fall Semester Career Services Events:

Event	Day	Location	Time
Résumé Boot Camp	August 20 th	Career Services	3 p.m. – 7 p.m.
Communications Networking	September 5 th	TBA	2 p.m. - 4 p.m.
STEM Mock Interviews	September 16 th	CEIT's PDC	9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
STEM Career Fair	September 17 th	Nessmith-Lane	11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Speaker: Patrick Combs Major in Success	September 24 th	PAC	2:30 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.
Workshop: RoadTrip to My Career	September 25 th	Union 2042/2044	12:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m.
Graduate School Fair	October 2 nd	Union Ballroom	11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Mock Interview Day	October 28 th	Williams Center	9 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Résumé Critique Night	October 28 th	Williams Center	5 p.m. – 8 p.m.
Eagle Expo Career Fair	October 29 th	RAC	12 p.m. – 4 p.m.
Education Career Fair	November 6 th	Union Ballroom	2 p.m. – 4 p.m.
Healthcare Networking	November 12 th	Union Ballroom	2 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Contact:

Donna Lowe Career Development Specialist for CLASS Career Services Georgia Southern University [\(912\) 478-5197](tel:9124785197) dlowe@georgiasouthern.edu