

**ENGLISH 3: COMPOSITION, RHETORIC, AND LANGUAGE**  
**LECTURE [number] – [term]**  
**[meeting time and location]**

Instructor: Heather Wozniak

Office Hours: [tba] and by appointment, in Royce B-14

Office Phone: 825-3825 (during office hours only – no messages)

Mailbox: 2225 Rolfe Hall – English Department Main Office

Email: hwoz@ucla.edu

- I will make every effort to respond within 24 hours

- I will NOT view attachments or accept papers submitted via email

Course Web Site: access through <ecampus.humnet.ucla.edu> or <my.ucla.edu>

**Course Description**

This course will help you develop the writing and critical thinking skills necessary to communicate effectively at the university level. We will focus not only on grammar and composition skills, but also on the analytical thinking and rhetorical strategies that will help you to read and write successful essays in any academic discipline. We will run class as a writing workshop where you will engage in a variety of activities: discussions of writing techniques and mechanics; intellectual debates about the readings; exercises to practice writing skills; and thoughtful evaluations of your peers' work.

We will read a series of essays and stories surrounding the themes of **Heroism, Violence, and Culture**. Thinking about the readings and participating in class discussions will generate ideas for papers and sharpen your critical thinking skills. I have assigned readings to stimulate questions about personal assumptions and values as well as about aspects of popular culture: What makes a hero? How do concepts of heroism vary across time and culture? What qualities do we admire in our contemporary role models, and why? These questions and others will provide us with plenty of material for class discussions and written arguments.

**Required Texts**

The following materials should be available at ASUCLA Textbook Store:

- *APS Course Reader* (for Lecture 17)
- Diana Hacker, *A Pocket Style Manual*, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition
- Mary Shelley, *Frankenstein: The 1818 Text*, Oxford World Classics
- John R. Trimble, *Writing with Style*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition

**Course Requirements**

*Reading and Classroom Participation:* Active participation in this workshop-style course will be crucial for you to reap the most benefit, so relax and speak up! You should come to class prepared to ask questions and to discuss the assigned readings, including the selections about writing style, in small groups or with the class as a whole. In-class activities cannot be made up by outside work. Readings are to be completed by the day indicated on the Course Schedule (see

below). All readings are in the Course Reader except *Frankenstein* and the selections from Trimble and Hacker.

*Papers:* Essay assignments will be based on course readings and class discussions. Papers must adhere to the formatting instructions indicated on the paper assignment sheet. When turning in the final draft of your paper, attach an Outline Worksheet, all copies of peer review comments, and all rough drafts. Timestamp the front page and place the paper in my mailbox. Failure to follow these instructions will result in a one-third letter grade deduction. Please be advised of the following policies:

1. Papers will receive a one-third grade deduction for each day they are late, including weekends.
2. If more than one week late, the paper will receive a grade of "F."
3. All three papers must be submitted for you to earn a grade in the course.

*Rough Drafts:* On peer review days, bring one completed Outline Worksheet and THREE (3) copies of your initial draft, due at the beginning of class. These drafts must be complete papers that could be turned in for a grade (including correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation). Classmates will review your drafts, and I will also comment on them and assign a preliminary grade. You should consider and incorporate these comments into the final draft. If you fail to submit a rough draft, you will lose the constructive comments of your instructor and peers AND your final draft grade will be lowered by one full grade.

*Peer Reviews:* Being able to judge and critique your own writing is one skill that makes a good writer. Having comments from a variety of readers also helps writers to clarify their ideas and ensure their audience understands them effectively. Our peer review sessions will allow you to develop critical reading skills and gain from other students' perspectives on your writing.

### **Grading**

Drafts and Peer Review	15%
Participation and Class Exercises	20%
Paper #1 (3-4 pages)	20%
Paper #2 (5-6 pages)	20%
Paper #3 (7-8 pages)	25%

Please note: To fulfill the University writing requirement, you must pass this class with a grade of "C" or higher.

### **Statement on Plagiarism**

The English Department *Style Sheet* defines plagiarism as "the use of another's ideas or words as if they were one's own" (5). If you borrow an idea, whether from a book, magazine, the Internet, or another student, you must acknowledge the source with a citation (even if you don't use the source's exact words). Plagiarism is a serious offense that could result in your dismissal from UCLA. University Policy requires me to report all instances of suspected plagiarism to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action, and I will not hesitate to do so. When students plagiarize they gain nothing: they do not develop their thinking and writing abilities, but they do



Week 6 M 11/3 **Peer Review Paper #2:** Three copies of rough draft due in class.

W 11/5 Anzaldúa, “Entering Into the Serpent”  
Trimble, “Punctuation” (105-32)

Week 7 M 11/10 Andersen, “The Little Mermaid”  
Trimble, “Abbreviations” and “Tips on Usage” (149-59)

### **PART III: ECHOES IN POPULAR CULTURE**

W 11/12 Kottak, “Television and Cultural Behavior”  
Berger, “‘He’s Everything You’re Not...’: A Semiological Analysis of  
‘Cheers’”

F 11/13 **Paper #2 final draft due** by 4:30pm in my mailbox.

Week 8 M 11/17 Schaefermeyer, “Film Criticism”  
Screening of *First Blood*, aka *Rambo*, (1982)  
Paper #3 assigned.

W 11/19 Medved, “The Long Arm of What You Watch”  
Completion of *First Blood*  
Discussion of *First Blood* and selected movie heroes.

Week 9 M 11/24 **Peer Review Paper #3:** Three copies of rough draft due in class.

W 11/26 Barthes, “The World of Wrestling”  
Keith, “Introduction” and “Act 6: There Goes the Neighborhood”  
Viewing and discussion of selected WWF matches.

Week 10 M 12/1 Schaap, “So Much of the Joy Is Gone”  
Schrank, “Sport and the American Dream”  
Berger, “Seven Points on the Game of Football”  
Rounds, “Why Men Fear Women’s Teams”

W 12/3 Ray, “The Thematic Paradigm”  
Review and final thoughts on heroism and violence in our lives today  
Course Evaluations

Finals Week W 12/10 **Paper #3 final draft due** by 4:30pm in my mailbox.