

English 1012FA/FDE: Academic Communications

Course Location: Ryan Building 3024 and Zoom

Class Times: Mondays and Wednesdays 11:30am-1pm

Prerequisites: Must be enrolled in the Indigenous Transition Year Program or The Indigenous Nurses Entry Program.

To our Students: Should you require information or documents from our office in another format, please let us know. We are happy to help you. Contact your instructor or our Department of English Administrative Assistant.

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Instructor Information

- Instructor: Judith Leggatt
- Office: RB3041
- Email: jleggatt@lakeheadu.ca
- Phone: Extension 8286
- Office Hours: By Appointment (Zoom or in-person; email for an appointment)

Course Description

This is a course in code-switching. It is intended to help students bridge the gap between everyday communication and academic communication, with a focus on the norms of writing, reading, thinking, speaking, and listening in an academic context, and the ways in which those norms interact with Indigenous way of thinking and modes of expression. Students summarize written texts, apply principles of clear writing to their own compositions, and expand their writing skills so that they can write and speak effectively for a variety of audiences and purposes.

Learner Outcomes

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- read essays critically, and assess how their language contributes to their rhetorical, ideological and aesthetic strategies.
- write in a style suitable to academic settings (eg. following academic rules of grammar and structures of argument).
- communicate ideas effectively and coherently, in both the academic essay, and a variety of other forms.
- explain the role of language in articulating and creating categories of identity.
- explain how writing is produced by, and produces, its historical and cultural context.
- read critically.
- think independently and critically about the issues raised by writers.
- participate in class discussion effectively.

Course Resources

Required Course Texts

- Richard Bullock, Michal Brody and Francine Weinberg. *The Little Seagull Handbook*. 3rd Edition. W.W. Norton, 2017.
- Gerald Graff and Cathy Birkenstein. *They Say / I Say: The Moves That Matter in Academic Writing*. 5th Edition. W.W. Norton, 2021.

These two books are available bundled together at the Lakehead Bookstore. We will be using both books again next semester

Course Website

Other course readings, exercises, assignments, links to Zoom classes, and other course materials are available on the website for the course, available through [Desire2Learn \(aka myCourseLink\)](#).¹

Course Schedule

Wed., Sep. 8—Introduction to language and code switching

Mon., Sep. 13—Englishes—Read Maria Campbell, “Jacob” (D2L) **Trigger Warning: This story deals with the effects of residential schools and with suicide.**

Wed., Sep. 15—Englishes and Grammar (Sentences and Pronouns)—Read *Little Seagull Handbook* S-1 to S-3, S-6, L-1, L-10, L-11

Mon., Sep. 20—Engaging in Class Discussion (in person and online) Read *They Say / I Say* Chapter 12 and 13; **Translation of Maria Campbell Due (5%)**

Wed., Sep. 22—Academic Writing—Audience, Purpose and Language Read “Hidden Intellectualism” (*They Say, I Say* pp. 291-297) and *Little Seagull Handbook* W-1 and W-2

Mon., Sep. 27—Academic Writing—Making and Structuring Arguments; *Little Seagull Handbook* W-4 and W-8; Grammar (Verbs and Agreement): *Little Seagull Handbook* S-4 and S-5; **Analysis of your translation due (5%)**

Wed., Sep. 29—Academic Writing—Writing Paragraphs *Little Seagull Handbook* W5; Grammar (Commonly Confused Words) *Little Seagull Handbook* L-4

Mon., Oct. 4—Quoting, Paraphrasing and Summarizing Academic Writing while Avoiding Plagiarism; *Little Seagull Handbook* W-3 and R1-4; *They Say/I Say* Ch 2-3.

Wed., Oct. 6—Research—Using the Lakehead Library. (Find a Source for your Rhetorical Analysis)

Study Week

Mon., Oct. 18—Rhetorical Analysis of Essays; Read *Little Seagull Handbook* W-9 **Summary Paragraph Due (10%)**

Wed., Oct. 20—Rhetorical Analysis of Essays; Read Lee Maracle, “Oratory, Coming to Theory” (D2L);

Mon., Oct. 25—Essays and Storytelling; Read Drew Hayden Taylor, “Academia Mania” (D2L)

Wed., Oct. 27—Grammar Review of what we have learned so far *Little Seagull Handbook* S-1-S-7; **Rhetorical Analysis First Draft Due (5%)**

Mon., Nov. 1—Editing *Little Seagull Handbook* W-4e-f

Wed., Nov. 3—Proofreading *Little Seagull Handbook* E1-E-4; E-6.

Friday Nov. 5: Last day to drop course without academic penalty (not a class day)

Mon., Nov. 8—**Grammar Quiz #1 (OPEN BOOK) (10%)**

Wed., Nov. 10—Personal Narrative Essays. *Little Seagull Handbook* W-11; Grammar (Parallelism) *Little Seagull Handbook* S-7

Mon., Nov. 15—Finding Topics for Personal Narrative Essays; **Rewrite of Rhetorical Analysis Essay Due (15%)**

Wed., Nov. 17—Developing your own academic voice; Grammar (Coordination, Subordination) *Little Seagull Handbook* S-8

Mon., Nov. 22—Writing Introductions; Grammar (Shifts) *Little Seagull Handbook* S-9

Wed., Nov. 24—Writing Conclusions; Grammar (Adjectives and Adverbs) *Little Seagull Handbook* L-7

Mon., Nov. 29—**Grammar Quiz #2 (OPEN BOOK) (10%)**

Wed., Dec. 1—Peer Reviewing of Personal Narrative Essays.

Mon., Dec. 6—Review, Catch-up and Looking Ahead. **Personal Narrative Essay Due (20%)**

Assignments and Evaluation

Table of Assignments

Assignment	Due date	Value	Length
Translation paragraph	Sept 20	5%	300 words max
Analysis of Translation	Sept 27	5%	300 words max
Summary paragraph	Oct 18	10%	300 words max
Rhetorical Analysis First Draft	Oct 27	5%	2-4 pages
Rhetorical Analysis Rewrite	Nov 15	15%	2-4 pages
Open Book Grammar Quizzes	Nov 8 and Nov 29	2X10%= 20%	1 page
Personal Narrative Essay	Dec 6	20%	2-4 pages
Participation and groupwork	Throughout term	20%	

Assignment Policies

- All assignments, apart from participation and groupwork, are individual assignments and cannot be completed collaboratively.
- Assignments are due by 11:30am on the dates indicated and must be submitted through the assignments section of D2L.
- If you require an extension, you must ask for one BEFORE the due date.
- Unless you ask for (and receive) an extension, late essays will be penalized by 2% per day (to a maximum of 20%).
- All assignments must be in MLA (8th or 9th edition) or APA format, double spaced, with 1" margins, and in 12-point font.
- Exceptions to these policies are allowed with a doctor's note or other appropriate documentation.

Details of Assignments

Translation paragraph: Due Sept 20, Weight: 5%

Take one section of Maria Campbell's retelling of "Jacob" (no more than 300 words) and translate it into "standard" English. Your translation should be no more than 300 words long.

Analysis of Translation: Due Sept 27, Weight: 5%

Making reference to specific changes and choices you made, explain how (or if) the translation affects the purpose, audience, and/or cultural context of the passage. Your explanation should be no more than 300 words long.

Summary of Academic Writing: Due Oct 18th, Weight 10%

Find an academic source, or section of one, through the Lakehead library (you will have class time to do this). Provide a summary / paraphrase of source, including one brief quotation **and** one paraphrase of an important sentence.

- Pick a source that addresses one of the following topics:
- Maximum 300 words.
- You must include the original along with your translation (screenshot okay).

Note that you will use this source for your rhetorical analysis essay. These are also the general topics for your narrative essay, so you might use the source to back up your claims in that paper.

Draft of Rhetorical Analysis Essay: Due Oct 27, Weight 5%

In this paper you will use the skills we have developed in class to explain how the academic source you chose to summarize makes its case. You will look at the source's purpose, its argument, its voice, its structure, and how it positions itself in relation to its audience.

Final Submission of Rhetorical Analysis Essay: Due November 15, Weight 15%

Your final submission of your essay will be a rewriting of your first submission. Your revisions should take into account the professor's comments on the first draft and should include changes to improve both your sentences and the structure of your own argument.

Grammar Quizzes: Due November 8 and November 29; 10% each (20% total)

There are two open book grammar quizzes, in which you will identify and correct errors in the grammatical conventions which we will be studying throughout the term. For each quiz, you will be given a paragraph, and will have the class to identify and correct the errors in it. Quizzes will be held during class time. You can bring in any aids which you would use when proofreading your own essays.

Personal Narrative Essay: Due December 6, Weight: 20%

Write a 2-4 page focused essay that uses narrative to teach your reader a specific lesson about one of the following topics (note that these are all very general to give you flexibility, and allow you to write an essay that interests you):

- Definitions of health
- Water
- Indigenous Languages

- Land acknowledgements
- Sports
- Arts and crafts

Note that while the due date for this paper is Dec 6th, you must have a rough draft done for the peer review exercise on Wednesday Dec 1st.

Participation and Groupwork: Throughout the term, Weight 20%

In-class groupwork and participation (in person or over Zoom) is a necessary and important part of university courses, in which we all learn by exchanging ideas and information. Participation can include asking questions, answering questions, making suggestions, providing information, and friendly debates. While disagreement over ideas is encouraged, personal attacks are unacceptable. Make sure you leave room for your classmates to participate too. Much of this mark will come from your active participation in the groupwork that will be a large part of the course. If you cannot attend class for any reason, you can do the groupwork individually and hand it in for the same marks as if you attended class.

Marking Standards

All assignments will be marked in accordance with the [English Department Marking Standards](#)ⁱⁱ. The ones for 1st year writing courses are the ones that are relevant for this course.

Collaboration/Plagiarism Rules

Plagiarism is the unacknowledged use of someone else's words and/or ideas. Not acknowledging your debt to the ideas of a secondary source, failing to use quotation marks when you are quoting directly, buying essays from essay banks, copying another student's work, or working together on an individual assignment, all constitute plagiarism. Resubmitting material you've submitted to another course is also academic dishonesty. All plagiarized work (in whole or in part) and other forms of academic dishonesty, including collaborating on individual assignments, will be reported and infractions penalized as required by the [Student Code of Conduct - Academic Integrity](#)^{iv}

Course Covid Policies

- Be respectful to each other.
- All students, faculty, and staff accessing Lakehead University properties must complete a daily COVID-19 screening using our [Mobile Safety app](#) before arriving. Remember to do this every day if you are attending class in person.
- As current university policy dictates, "All persons entering or remaining in these premises must wear a mask or face covering that securely covers the nose, mouth, and chin as required by the Medical Officer of Health under the authority of the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act (EMCPA) Ontario Regulations 263/20, 364/20."
- **If you are sick, have been exposed to someone who has tested positive for Covid, or have any Covid symptoms, do not come to in person class.** If you are only slightly sick, or have been exposed to someone with Covid, you can

attend the zoom class. Powerpoints from class will be available on D2L/MyCourseLink, and you can participate online and still get full participation marks.

- **If the professor is sick but still functional, or has had an exposure, the entire class will take place over Zoom.** If this is the case, I will send an email to the class before 8:30am on the day of the affected class. If class is cancelled, I will send out an email by the same time.
- In order to attend class, you must have received your first vaccine dose by September 7, and your second dose no later than October 7, so that you are fully vaccinated by October 21.

University Policies

- Students in this course are expected to conform to the Student Code of Conduct - Academic Integrityⁱⁱⁱ.
- **Accommodations:** Lakehead University is committed to achieving full accessibility for persons with disabilities in accordance with the terms of the Ontario Human Rights Code^{iv}. This occurs through a collaborative process that acknowledges a collective obligation to develop an accessible learning environment that both meets the needs of students and preserves the essential academic requirements of the course. Part of this commitment includes arranging academic accommodations for students with disabilities to ensure they have an equitable opportunity to participate in all of their academic activities. If you think you may need accommodations, you are strongly encouraged to contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS)^v and register as early as possible.

This course outline is available online through the English Department homepage^{vi} and/or the Desire2Learn or My CourseLinkⁱ site for the course.

ⁱ <https://mycourselink.lakeheadu.ca/d2l/home>

ⁱⁱ <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/programs/departments/english/marking-standards>

ⁱⁱⁱ <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/students/student-life/student-conduct/academic-integrity/node/51239>

^{iv} <http://www.ohrc.on.ca/en/ontario-human-rights-code>

^v <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/students/student-life/student-services/accessibility>

^{vi} <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/programs/departments/english>