

SAULT COLLEGE OF APPLIED ARTS & TECHNOLOGY

SAULT STE. MARIE, ONTARIO

COURSE OUTLINE

ENGLISH FOR FORESTRY STUDENTS

Course Title: _____

Code No.: ENG 305-3

Program: VARIOUS FORESTRY

Semester: FOURTH

Date: JANUARY 1990

Author: LANGUAGE & COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT

New: _____ Revision: X

APPROVED: N. Koch
Dean

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Date: Jan. 2, 1990

PHILOSOPHY/GOALS:

This course engages the interest of forestry students while fulfilling reading and writing objectives at an advanced level. Students will examine commercial writing from popular sources, technical writing from professional publications and creative writing, especially from Canadian sources. After critical analysis of sample literature, students will write articles for various audiences. Students may also present oral reports and critiques, and participate in the publication of a class magazine.

GENERAL OBJECTIVES:

1. The students will extend their appreciation of the scope of writing about the natural environment and will recognize the roles that audience and purpose play in shaping a given piece of writing.
2. The students will recognize the multiplicity of approaches and points of view in this field of writing.
3. The students will appreciate the contribution of Canadian writers to literature related to the natural environment, and will recognize the importance of the natural environment in forming the "Canadian imagination".
4. The students will develop critical reading skills as they examine the content, style and the structure of the writing.
5. The students will extend their reading, writing and speaking vocabularies.
6. The students will develop their writing skills through reading and writing exercises.
7. The students will develop their research skills.
8. The students will write competent reports, articles and critiques as assigned.
9. Students will write articles, reports and stories for possible inclusion in a magazine to be published by the class at the end of the semester.
10. Students will develop skills in oral reporting through classroom discussion, answering questions and formal exercises in class.
11. Students will develop a professional sense of responsibility by attending class regularly and handing assignments in on time and in the prescribed format.

COURSE TOPICS:

After the general introduction, the course will cover the following topics through reading, analysing, criticizing, and writing. (The most suitable student writing may be incorporated into a magazine.)

(The order of these topics is not meant to suggest a strict sequential treatment. Some topics may be studied several times.)

1. Introduction
2. A survey of publications about the natural environment: technical, governmental, literary, popular.
3. Analysing the audience of a publication.
4. Types of articles. The importance of purpose.
5. The framework of an article (analysis) -
 - a) leads
 - b) anecdotes
 - c) quotes
 - d) transitions
 - e) endings
 - f) titles
 - g) style
 - h) mechanics
 - i) pace
6. Getting started. Developing ideas. Researching ideas.
7. Writing queries and other letters.
8. Using the mail. Surveys.
9. Recognizing types of books -
 - a) fiction
 - b) non-fiction
 - c) combinations
 - d) biographies and personal accounts
10. Writing critiques, book reports and articles.
11. Revising and editing the first draft.
12. Learning from examples.
13. Learning from criticism.
14. Avoiding plagiarism.

15. Layout and graphics.
16. Preparing audio-visual presentations.

TEXT COURSE MATERIALS:

1. Students will require a dictionary, which must be brought to each class!
2. In lieu of a text book, students may be required to buy copies of certain periodicals as specified during the course.
3. Students must have access to a 35 mm. single lens reflex camera for specified periods during the course.
4. Other mimeographed materials will be provided during the course by the teacher or sold through the bookstore when required.

HOMEWORK AND CLASS PREPARATION ASSIGNMENTS:

(Some of these may be marked complete or incomplete)

1. Preparation of a bibliography of periodicals.
2. Writing a profile of a publication.
3. A structural analysis of an article.
4. Reading (and answering questions on) assigned articles.
5. Submission of a graphics plan and script for an oral presentation.
6. An editing exercise: Rewriting an article.
7. Creative idea exercises: A sample of creative writing.
8. Point of view exercises: Rewriting for a new audience.
9. Participation in magazine preparation. Writing articles.
10. Letters of inquiry.
11. Interviews.
12. Surveys.

FORMAL ASSIGNMENTS AND MARKING:

1. Homework, short articles and in-class assignments - 50% (includes participation)
2. An analysis or critique of an article - 10%
3. A review of a book of non-fiction - 10%
4. A review of a book of fiction - 10%
5. Feature-length articles or stories - 20%

Total = 100%

FORMAT OF ASSIGNMENTS:

1. Assignments are to be legibly written or, in the case of specified formal assignments, typed or computer processed.
2. Use 8 1/2" x 11" standard white unlined paper.
3. Margins are to be used as follows:
left and top - 1 1/2 in.
right and bottom - 1 in.
4. All formal assignments must have a title page bearing the following information:
 - a) title of assignment
 - b) title of course
 - c) name of instructor
 - d) name of student author and class
 - e) date of submission
5. The first page of the assignment begins in the middle of the page with the title. (The first half is for my comments).
6. All formal assignments are due at the beginning of the class period on the assigned date. Late submissions will be accepted on the understanding that each day beyond the specified date will reduce the mark by 10%. Late submissions may be presented in person to the instructor or placed in the box on the office door. Please do not use the instructor's mailbox.
7. Number each page, except the first, in the upper right-hand corner - (never in the upper left).
8. Staple or clip pages in the upper left-hand corner only.

9. Corrections are acceptable provided the mistake is "xxx-d" out neatly.
10. Plagiarism will result in expulsion from the course and an "R" grade.

MAKE-UP:

Those whose work is unsatisfactory or incomplete may be allowed to write supplemental assignments at the teacher's discretion. However, such arrangements are provided only in clear cases of personal hardship.

ATTENDANCE:

Attendance at class is mandatory. Students who cut more than 10% of the classes will be considered no longer in the course. Special consideration may be given for unusual circumstances provided the student documents the circumstances to the satisfaction of the instructor and provided the student undertakes "make-up" assignments as required. Late arrival at class is unacceptable.