WRITING

Cascades College
Cascade Campus
Cascade Hall (CH), Room 208 & 306
971-722-5251
Rock Creek Campus
Building 3, Room 201
971-722-7522 or 971-722-7806
Southeast Campus
Mt. Scott Hall (MSH), Room 106
971-722-6146
Sylvania Campus
Communications Technology Building (CT), Room 219
971-722-4266
pcc.edu/programs/writing/

DESCRIPTION

Writing is fundamental in learning to think and express one’s thoughts in ways that reach others. The ability to use language coherently and powerfully and to write in ways that connect with others across cultural boundaries and within communities is essential to active citizenship and to success in almost any profession. The writing courses at PCC enable students to inquire, to discover, to inform, to persuade, and to think creatively, preparing them to transfer to universities and evolve vocationally.

PCC’s English Composition Program courses prepare students for the written work of upper division courses and graduate education; also, writing courses meet the requirements for several associate degree and certificate programs at PCC. For students who wish to transfer to a four-year Oregon college or university, WR 121, WR 122 and/or WR 227 satisfy the writing course requirements. Writing transfer courses are offered under the subject headings of English Composition, Business and Technical Writing, and Creative Writing. Students majoring in technical areas or business are encouraged to take WR 227.

In addition, PCC’s Creative Writing Program offers students one of the largest selections of creative writing courses in Oregon. These include poetry, fiction, creative nonfiction and screenwriting workshops and a publishing course that allows students to edit and design both their own chapbooks and a campus literary magazine. Students may also pursue a Creative Writing Focus Award. Placement into WR 121 is a prerequisite for creative writing classes; completion of WR 121 is recommended.

Conferences are an integral part of the instructional process in all writing courses, and students should expect at least two per term. Students are required to take the writing placement examination to determine appropriate placement in a writing course. Testing centers are available at Cascade, Rock Creek, Southeast or Sylvania. Once students receive placement scores, they should check with an advisor before enrolling in a writing course.

WR 80. Writing 80. 3 Credits.
Covers basic communication skills, language mechanics, grammar, spelling, sentence structure and paragraph development. Prerequisite: (ABE 0783 and ABE 0784), or ABE 0790, or (placement into WR 80 and RD 80). Audit available.

WR 90. Writing 90. 3 Credits.
Instruction includes sentence structure, paragraph and essay development, and written expression. Students can expect to increase working vocabulary and improve skills in basic communications. Prerequisite: Placement into WR 90 or completion of WR 80 and placement into RD 90 or completion of RD 80 with a “C” or better. Audit available.

WR 90C. Writing 90C. 3 Credits.
Includes instruction in grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, essay development, and critical thinking skills. Improves basic writing skills by learning to use simple and complex sentences in developing a good essay, and by developing critical thinking skills that are used in the writing process. Prerequisites: Placement into WR 90 or completion of WR 80; Placement into RD 90 or completion of RD 80. Audit available.

WR 92A. Basic Grammar. 2 Credits.
Instruction in grammar including punctuation, sentence structure, and the writing process. WR 92A and WR 92 are equivalent. Only one may be taken for credit. Prerequisite: WR 80 and RD 80 or equivalent placement. Audit available.

WR 92B. Basic Grammar. 3 Credits.
Overview of some fundamental principles of American English grammar including parts of speech, sentence types, sentence analysis, simple/compound/complex sentences, subject-verb agreement, pronoun usage, selected homonyms, punctuation, capitalization, and avoidance of fragments, run-ons, and other errors. Audit available.

WR 105. Writing for Scholarships. 2 Credits.
Explores approaches to autobiographical writing required for completing scholarship applications. Covers responses to typical scholarship essay prompts. Develops scholarship essays through journaling and sharing essay drafts. Introduces the practice of revising and rewriting material in different ways to respond to different audiences and prompts. Prerequisite: Placement into WR 115 or instructor approval. Corequisites: Concurrent enrollment in CG 105. Audit available.

WR 115. Introduction to Expository Writing. 4 Credits.
Introduces college level skills in reading critically, exploring ideas, and writing. Covers composing essays which support a thesis through structure appropriate to both thesis and reader and revision for clarity and correctness. Prerequisites: (Placement into WR 115 or completion of WR 90 or IRW 90 or ESOL 260) and (placement into RD 115 or completion of RD 90 or IRW 90 or ESOL 260). Audit available.

WR 121. English Composition. 4 Credits.
Focuses on academic writing as a means of inquiry. Uses critical reading, discussion and the writing process to explore ideas, develop cultural awareness and formulate positions. Emphasizes development of a variety of strategies to present evidence in support of a thesis. Prerequisite: Placement into WR 121, or completion of (WR 115 and RD 115) or IRW 115. Audit available.

WR 121H. English Composition: Honors. 4 Credits.
This is the Honors version. Focuses on academic writing as a means of inquiry. Uses critical reading, discussion and the writing process to explore ideas, develop cultural awareness and formulate positions. Emphasizes development of a variety of strategies to present evidence in support of a thesis. Prerequisite: 3.25 GPA and placement into WR 121, or completion of (WR 115 and RD 115) or IRW 115. Audit available.

WR 122. English Composition. 4 Credits.
Continues the focus of WR 121 on academic writing as a means of inquiry with added emphasis on persuasion and argument supported by external research. Uses critical reading, discussion and the writing process to explore ideas, develop cultural awareness and formulate original positions. Emphasizes development of writing and critical thinking through logical reasoning, rhetorical control, independent research and information literacy. Prerequisite: WR 121. Audit available.

WR 122H. English Composition: Honors. 4 Credits.
Honors WR 122. Focuses on argument as a means of inquiry, clear and appropriate writing style, and critical reading. Explores ideas and issues through discussion and writing. Students compose analytical, argumentative, and/or expository essays with appropriate documentation. Students will explore principles of classical and neoclassical rhetoric theory while becoming confident members of the academic community. Prerequisite: WR 121 and 3.25 GPA. Audit available.

WR 123. English Composition. 3 Credits.
Uses extensive research writing to develop skills in critical analysis and documented argument. Students synthesize their considered response to designated text(s) and/or issues with the reactions of other writers. Includes paraphrasing, summarizing, quoting, and documenting using style appropriate to discipline researched. Prerequisite: WR 122. Audit available.

WR 180. Composition Conferencing and Tutoring. 1 Credit.
Explores the techniques and philosophies involved in tutoring and conferencing one-to-one with writing students. Students practice skills learned in the classroom as they work in the PCC Writing Center. Audit available.
WR 185. English Language: Theory and Practice. 3 Credits.
Explores elements and nuances of Standard English and dialects in both theory and practice. Explores historical, social, and current cultural issues of grammar and language use through reading, discussion, and writing. Prerequisites: Placement into WR 121 or WR 115 with a grade of C or better. Audit available.

WR 198. Independent Study in Writing. 1-4 Credit.
Provides an opportunity to develop individual projects in creative and expository writing, critical analysis, digital humanities, or special research. Requirement: a written project proposal that must be approved by the instructor and area Dean before registration. Required: Instructor and Dean permission. Prerequisites: (WR 115 and RD 115) or IRW 115 and MTH 20 or equivalent placement. Audit available.

WR 222. Writing Research Papers. 4 Credits.
This course uses extensive research writing to develop skills in critical analysis and documented argument. Students synthesize their considered response to designated text(s) and/or issues with the reactions of other writers. Students gain experience locating and using sources via library catalogs, professional databases and other forms of research. Includes paraphrasing, summarizing, quoting, and documenting, using style appropriate to discipline researched. At least two conferences required. Prerequisite: Completion of WR 122 with a grade of "C" or higher. Audit available. This course fulfills the following GE requirements: Arts and Letters/ASOT-B, Arts and Letters/AAS, Arts and Letters/AGS, Arts and Letters/AAOT.

WR 227. Technical and Professional Writing 1. 4 Credits.
Introduces technical and professional communications. Students compose, design, revise, and edit effective letters, memos, reports, descriptions, instructions, and employment documents. Emphasizes precise use of language and graphics to communicate complex technical and procedural information safely, legally and ethically. Two instructor conferences required. Prerequisites: WR 121, basic computer literacy, and intermediate word processing skills. Audit available.

WR 239. Creative Writing (Word & Image). 4 Credits.
Focuses on writing and designing work that incorporates both words and images. Explores the techniques, styles, and structures used by established writers and artists of the genre. Includes critiquing and revising work in a workshop setting. Prerequisites: (WR 115 and RD 115) or IRW 115 or equivalent placement. Audit available.

WR 240. Creative Writing - Nonfiction. 4 Credits.
Introduces creative nonfiction and the writing of essays using creative techniques, such as personal narrative, memoir, nature and travel writing, and literary journalism. Explores the works of established writers for techniques, structures and styles. Includes lecture, small group activities, and conferences. Prerequisite: WR 243 and its prerequisite requirements; or instructor permission. Audit available. This course fulfills the following GE requirements: Arts and Letters/ASOT-B, Arts and Letters/AAS, Arts and Letters/AGS, Arts and Letters/AAOT.

WR 241. Creative Writing - Fiction. 4 Credits.
Focuses on writing short fiction for class discussion and analysis in a workshop setting. Explores the techniques, styles, and structures of the writings of established authors, as well as the creative writing process from development of an idea to revision of a manuscript. Prerequisites: (WR 115 and RD 115) or IRW 115 or equivalent placement. Audit available. This course fulfills the following GE requirements: Arts and Letters/AAS, Arts and Letters/AGS, Arts and Letters/AS, Arts and Letters/AAOT, Arts and Letters/ASOT-B.

WR 242. Creative Writing - Poetry. 4 Credits.
Focuses on the writing and submitting of poetry for class discussion and analysis in a workshop setting. Introduces the techniques, structures, and styles of established poets. Prerequisites: (WR 115 and RD 115) or IRW 115 or equivalent placement. Audit available. This course fulfills the following GE requirements: Arts and Letters/AAS, Arts and Letters/AGS, Arts and Letters/AS, Arts and Letters/AAOT, Arts and Letters/ASOT-B.

WR 243. Creative Writing - Script Writing. 4 Credits.
Focuses on writing and submitting theatre and film scripts for class discussion and analysis. Studies established writers for techniques, structures, and styles. Prerequisites: (WR 115 and RD 115) or IRW 115 or equivalent placement. Audit available. This course fulfills the following GE requirements: Arts and Letters/ASOT-B, Arts and Letters/AAS, Arts and Letters/AGS, Arts and Letters/AS, Arts and Letters/AAOT.

WR 244. Advanced Creative Writing - Fiction. 4 Credits.
Extends the introduction to the craft of fiction in WR 241. Explores the creative writing process from development of an idea to revision of a manuscript. Introduces the techniques, structures, and styles of established writers. Prerequisites: WR 241 or instructor permission. Audit available. This course fulfills the following GE requirements: Arts and Letters/AAS, Arts and Letters/AGS, Arts and Letters/ASOT-B, Arts and Letters/AS, Arts and Letters/AAOT.

WR 245. Advanced Creative Writing - Poetry. 4 Credits.
Extends the introduction to the craft of poetry in WR 242. Write poetry, have work critiqued by peers and the instructor, and critique the work of others in a workshop setting. Students without WR 242 may enter the class with instructor permission. Prerequisite: WR 242 and its prerequisite requirements. Audit available. This course fulfills the following GE requirements: Arts and Letters/AAS, Arts and Letters/AGS, Arts and Letters/ASOT-B, Arts and Letters/AAOT.

WR 246. Advanced Creative Writing, Editing & Publishing. 4 Credits.
Emphasizes development of craft while introducing basics of editing others' manuscripts and preparing them for publication in a variety of forms, including an annual student literary magazine. May be repeated twice for credit. Prerequisites: (WR 240 or 241 or 242 or 243) and (WR 244 or 245) or instructor permission. Audit available. This course fulfills the following GE requirements: Arts and Letters/AAOT, Arts and Letters/AS, Arts and Letters/ASOT-B, Arts and Letters/AGS, Arts and Letters/AAOT.

WR 247. Advanced Creative Writing - Scriptwriting. 4 Credits.
Focuses on writing and submitting both drama and screen scripts for class discussion and analysis, as introduced in WR 243. Continues the study of established writers for techniques, structures, and styles. Includes lecture, small group activities, and conferences. Prerequisite: WR 243 and its prerequisite requirements; or instructor permission. Audit available. This course fulfills the following GE requirements: Arts and Letters/ASOT-B, Arts and Letters/AAS, Arts and Letters/AGS, Arts and Letters/AAOT.

WR 248. Advanced Creative Writing - Nonfiction. 4 Credits.
Extends the introduction of creative nonfiction and the writing of essays using creative techniques, such as personal narrative, memoir, nature and travel writing, and literary journalism. Explores the works of established writers for techniques, structures and styles as a context for the production of creative nonfiction for class discussion and analysis. Prerequisite: WR 240 or instructor permission. Audit available. This course fulfills the following GE requirements: Arts and Letters/ASOT-B, Arts and Letters/AAS, Arts and Letters/AGS, Arts and Letters/AAOT.

WR 249. Advanced Creative Writing, Editing & Publishing II. 4 Credits.
Extends the introduction to editing manuscripts and designing and publishing printed chapbooks and literary magazines. Prerequisite: WR 246 or instructor permission. Audit available.

WR 280A. Cooperative Education: Writing and Publishing. 1-6 Credit.
Extends knowledge of writing, editing, publishing, and communications acquired in writing courses through volunteer and/or work time spent in settings that provide learning experiences in these areas. Prerequisite: WR 121 and department permission required.