

ENG 251: Writing in Professions Sample Outline

Brief List of Major Course Assignments

- Writing Journal (supports writers throughout the process of each paper)
- Career-Related Issues Paper:
 - Students interview an expert in their field and conduct library research in their field as a means of considering the following questions: what are the issues in my career; what can I do with my career/major; what is the future of my career; how does this career fit my values and expectations? The final goal for the paper is that students speculate about trends in their field of study and make arguments about the effects of these trends.
- Professional Genre Analysis Paper:
 - Students select three articles from three different journals in their major or area of interest and write an analytical paper discussing what constitutes argument or debate for writers in the selected field of study.
- Research Proposal (for final, researched argument paper):
 - Students will propose work for their final projects. Some instructors may require students to present these proposals to the class vis-à-vis an oral presentation or PowerPoint presentation. Those instructors who do not use an oral presentation format for this project will require an oral presentation in conjunction with one other project in the course.
- Annotated bibliography related to the final project
- Researched argument paper that makes a recommendation related to an issue from the student's selected area of study.
- Reflective letter or essay (possibly written at the final exam) where the student discusses what he/she has learned about his/her area of interest AND makes an argument about the value of that career/area of interest

Abbreviated Course Calendar

Week 1

- Introduction to the class and its members and introduction to the career issues paper
- Activities related to career issues paper

Week 2

- Activities related to career issues paper
- Research techniques for career issues paper

Week 3

- Research techniques for career issues paper
- Work with citation formats

Week 4

- Peer review of career issues paper
- Submission of career issues paper drafts to instructor for revision advice

Week 5

- Introduction of genre analysis paper
- Journal entries to practice reading journal articles and writing good summaries

Week 6

- Work with argument terminology and identifying arguments in journal articles
- Drafting activities with genre analysis paper

Week 7

- Revisions of career issues paper due for a grade
- Draft of genre analysis paper due for peer review and instructor feedback

Week 8

- Topic selection and narrowing for the researched argument paper
- Library exercises
- Discuss evaluating source material

Week 9

- Final versions of genre analysis paper due for a grade
- Work with annotated bibliographies

Week 10

- Annotated bibliography for peer review and then instructor submission
- Work on preparing oral and/or PowerPoint research proposal presentations

Week 11

- Students present their research proposals to the class

Week 12

- Work with argumentation strategies (e.g. reasons and evidence, avoiding faulty reasoning, anticipating counterarguments)

Week 13

- Work on shaping and developing a researched argument

Week 14

- Practice integrating and documenting sources
- Editing techniques

Week 15

- Peer review of researched argument and revision activities with the researched argument
- Start face-to-face meetings with instructor for help with researched argument paper revisions

Week 16

- Finish face-to-face meetings with instructor for help with researched argument paper revisions
- Final versions of researched argument papers due at the end of the week

Final Exam

- In-class writing of the reflective essay
- Return final projects