



Writing 1020G (570)

Winter 2026

Writing: Introduction to University Essay Writing

Course Information:

Calendar Description: A practical introduction to the basics of successful academic writing, designed for first-year students in all disciplines. Topics will range from grammar, sentence structure, and paragraphing to the principles of scholarly argument and research.

Prerequisite(s):

Anti-requisite(s): Writing 0002F/G, Writing 1002F/G, Writing 1021F/G, Writing 1022F/G, Writing 2101F/G.

Extra Information: 3 lecture/tutorial hours. [This course will not serve as a prerequisite for any area of concentration].

Course Weight: 0.50 **Breadth:** Category B

Subject Code: Writing

Notice: Unless you have either the requisites for this course (fulfilment of pre-requisites, no anti-requisite conflicts), or special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary pre-requisites.

King's University College at Western University
Department of English, French, and Writing
Writing 1020G (Section 570): Introduction to University Essay Writing | Winter 2026

Land Acknowledgement

King's is built on the traditional territories of the Anishinaabek, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak and Chonnonton Nations, on lands connected with the Dish With One Spoon Covenant Wampum, and stolen partly through the London Township and Sombra Treaties of 1796. Acknowledging this, we commit to advancing reconciliation. We hope to build relationships with, and respect for the knowledges of, the diverse Indigenous Peoples who are stewards of the land and contributors to our learning. We acknowledge how precious these lands and waters are, and how precious the creatures are that live upon them.

Basic course information

Instructor: Dr. Busra Copuroglu (she/her)

Email: bcopurog@uwo.ca

Course duration: January 8 – April 9, 2026 (plus exam – see the weekly schedule below, pp. 6-7)

Hours of coursework and writing per week: 6-7

Class hours: Thursday 11:30 AM – 2:30 PM

Office location and office hours: TBA; via Zoom

Course URL: OWL Brightspace

Calendar course description

A practical introduction to the basics of successful academic writing, designed for first-year students in all disciplines. Topics will range from grammar, sentence structure, and paragraphing to the principles of scholarly argument and research.

Prerequisites: None. **Antirequisite(s):** Please **DO NOT take this course if you have already taken** the former [Writing 0002F/G, 1002F/G, 1021F/G, 1022F/G, or 2101F/G](#).

Writing 1020 Learning Outcomes

Writing 1020 can help you improve your performance in all your university courses. During and after this course, you will:

- know more about the goals, features, and methods of university-level academic writing;
- get familiar with some common academic genres (e.g., the reflective essay, the essay proposal, and the research essay);
- create clear and plausible arguments that show your awareness of the writing context;

- hone your research skills, finding, selecting, and critically evaluating research sources
- integrate evidence from research into your own writing through summary, paraphrase, and quotation, with correct citation;
- shape your paragraphs, and organize the essay as a whole;
- be able to review the work of your peers constructively but critically;
- revise and edit your writing to ensure focus, clarity, unity, and correctness.

What textbooks do you need?

- Roe, Steven C. and Pamela H. den Ouden. *Academic Writing: The Complete Guide*. 3rd edition. Canadian Scholars, 2018. ISBN: 9781773380407. Print and electronic copies are available through the [Western bookstore](#). (\$89.90)
- If you are experiencing financial difficulties, please contact me in confidence
- Links to the [OWL Purdue website](#) and other related websites specified in the Course Schedule and/or on OWL (make sure to follow the ANNOUNCEMENTS)

What technology do you need?

- Writing 1020 (570) is offered in class. You are welcome to bring your laptops to class. During lecture, please use them **only for course-related work**.
- In-class teaching is supplemented by materials that will be posted on the course OWL Brightspace site. To access the site, use a web browser such as Firefox or Google Chrome, and make sure you have been added as a course participant. [OWL Brightspace Getting Started](#) and [Navigating OWL Brightspace](#) are good places to get started. If you are having difficulties, you can access technical help by creating a work ticket on [the OWL Brightspace Help](#) page. If you have accessibility questions, you can find information on [Accessibility Support](#), or contact Brightspace Help (see above).

What is the accessibility policy in this course?

- Your participation and success in this course matter to me and I want to ensure that the course is responsive to your needs. **Please do let me know if you are unable to access materials for personal reasons, if you need course materials in a different format, or if I can improve the course's accessibility for you or for the whole class in any specific way.** I will work with you to minimize any barriers to inclusion that you have encountered, including barriers related to disability, race, gender identity, sexual orientation, language, or financial situation.

- Accommodations for exams or course delivery **are your right**; if you need any, do visit the [King's Accessibility and Counselling Office](#). You are also welcome to talk to me about your needs.
- For information on accessible routes, temporary service disruptions, feedback about the accessibility of services, and policies related to service animals, support persons, and assistive devices, please visit King's' [Accessibility](#) website.

Attendance and Participation policy

- Attendance and participation are crucial to your success in any first-year course. In this course, your attendance will be tracked through a sign-in sheet which will be circulated in class. **Attendance and participation grade is worth 10%**. If you are absent from **more than 3** classes, you will lose 1% for each missed class. If you miss **more than 6** classes, you forfeit your entire attendance grade. If you need flexibility around this policy, please talk to me.
- **Please be punctual:** it will reflect consideration for your classmates, for me, and for the learning process. There will be a mid-class break of 10 or 15 minutes, and I will try to end the class at least 10 minutes before the half-hour mark.
- In addition to attending the lectures regularly, you can earn your participation by pre-reading your texts and participating constructively in class discussion and in individual, pair, or group tasks. There will be Forum and various—group or individual—discussion exercises/questions in class lectures.
- If you are simply not able to complete the work in a way that meets the course goals, this statement in the Western calendar may apply to your situation: "Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class... in any course, will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning is given). On the recommendation of the department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of the Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course."

Ethics, politeness, and honesty during in-class and online interactions

- Whether we agree or disagree with each other, we are all expected to be professional, respectful, and kind when we are interacting in class or online.
- This course's content, created by faculty members at King's, should not be distributed, shared in any public domain, or sold without the prior written consent of the faculty members. Please do not record lectures without my explicit consent.
- **Please pay attention to the course's policies on plagiarism and generative AI use, outlined below.**

How to succeed in this course?

- **Keep in touch with me!** If you need information or help, email me at bcopurog@uwo.ca . Use my office hours for one-on-one meetings with me.

- Read this **Course Syllabus** carefully; **attend classes** and pay close attention to the **Course Schedule**, which will tell you exactly how to complete each week's work: what to read, what to research, and what assignments are due.
- Before you attend class, read the assigned textbook pages and recommended OWL Purdue pages actively. Reading for each week should take you one or two hours.
- Get help from THE WRITE PLACE (see below).
- Don't fall behind on assignments. To succeed in this course, you will need to spend about 6 hours each week as follows:
 - 1-2 hours on reading the textbook, including making notes
 - 2.5 hours in class
 - 2 hours on research and out-of-class writing.

Note: Some weeks will be busier than others. To help you budget your time, here are some important university dates (Add/Drop deadlines, the exam period, Study Days, etc.): [Academic Dates and Events](#).

Note About Assignments and AI Policy

- All assignments **must be done by you**, following the instructions outlined on the course OWL site. You need not submit assignments to Turnitin routinely, but **if I have concerns, I will ask for the assignment to be submitted for checking**. Students often resort to [plagiarism](#) when they are under pressure, so time management is key. Shortcuts such as copy-pasting of large amounts of text, [contract cheating](#), and [self-plagiarism](#) are not only subject to [Western's scholastic discipline policy](#), but they also defeat the purpose for which you take a course: learning and developing skills. Patchwriting (copying and slightly modifying "patches" of borrowed text) is less egregious but is also unacceptable.
- You will develop important skills in critical thinking, independent inquiry, and creativity by working on your assignments and are supposed to show your own critical thinking and writing skills. Using AI tools to do the work for you will not help you develop your own thinking, reading, and writing skills. Writing can be hard and the only way to improve your skills is through practice. **The use of AI tools such as Chat GPT is NOT PERMITTED for any assessments, including assignments, essays, and examinations. If ChatGPT use is detected in your assignments, you will receive a grade of ZERO.**
- If you are unsure of AI use in this class, please reach out to me in-person or by email
- **Human assistance**, on the other hand, is perfectly acceptable and encouraged. In fact, you are highly encouraged to seek help from **The Write Place**, which is the writing help centre at King's. [Make your appointment](#) early.
- **Please keep copies of all your assignments**; if a submitted assignment is lost, you will be asked to submit the duplicate for grading immediately.
- The final examination will test your ability to read academic sources critically, to construct a strong argument, to summarize, paraphrase and quote effectively, and to cite correctly.
- If you have any questions/concerns and need further support about your assignments, please contact me.

The Write Place

The Write Place is a hub for writers and writing at King's and part of the Department of English, French, and Writing. The tutors, writing consultants, and writing specialists empower writers working on academic and creative projects, helping build the confidence that comes with improved reading, thinking, and communication skills. Students are highly encouraged to visit The Write Place throughout the semester. Appointments can be made online, by phone, or by visiting. Visit for more and most up to date information: <https://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/academic-resources/the-write-place/appointments-and-drop-ins/>

Assessment weights and due dates (summary; detailed instructions will be shared on OWL)

Assessment <i>(further details will be provided later in the term; the assignments are mostly short mid-length writing assignments. The word count varies between 250-1200)</i>	Weight	Submission date	OWL tab for prompt and submission
Attendance and participation	10%	See Attendance Policy	In class/online
Exercise 1: Short reflective essay	5%	January 19, 11.59 PM	OWL: ASSESSMENTS
Exercise 2: Critical summary	5%	January 30, 11.59 PM	OWL: ASSESSMENTS
Exercise 3: Essay proposal	5%	February 13, 11.59 PM	OWL: ASSESSMENTS
Research Essay FIRST ROUGH Draft	15%	March 20, 11.50 PM	OWL: ASSESSMENTS
Peer review letter	10%	April 3, 11.59 PM	OWL: ASSESSMENTS
Research Essay FINAL Draft	20%	April 9, 11.59 PM	OWL: ASSESSMENTS
Final examination	30%	To be decided	In person
	100%		

Note About Due Dates

Each Writing assignment builds on the previous one, **I strongly encourage you to stay within the deadlines.** However:

- There is some built-in flexibility (**two additional days without penalty**) for each submission. Please **do not use this option more than twice during the term**, and email me if you are using the extra time.

- If you have compassionate, religious/cultural (e.g., attendance at Ceremony), or medical grounds for late submission, please follow the procedure set out in the Appendix to this course outline titled “Course Outline Policies Statement.” **Contact me within 24 hours of the missed deadline, to set up a new submission date or make-up test date.** If you are permitted a late submission beyond the two-day late submission period allowed on Brightspace, **please e-mail the assignment to me at bcopurog@uwo.ca**
- Late submissions after the last day of classes can be arranged with me via an academic counsellor.

Weekly Schedule: Reading, Lectures, and Assignments

NOTE: lectures may feature outside or recommended sources and they may be shared with class in some cases. You will not be held responsible for outside sources; however, you are welcome to engage with them at your leisure. You are, however, responsible for readings listed in the weekly schedule. Depending on class discussions and interests, the reading schedule might change. If such a change happens, you will be notified a week in advance. Please make sure to follow ANNOUNCEMENTS on the course OWL site.

WEEK	READING (please pre-read AW = Academic Writing book AR = Additional Reading)	LECTURE TOPICS	ASSIGNMENTS Details in the ASSESSMENTS tab
Week 1 January 8	Writing 1020 Course outline AW pp. 1-9	Course syllabus and policies Introducing ourselves and discussion about your relationship to writing (in class and/or Forum post) Academic writing & genre	
Week 2 January 15	AW: pp. 104-107; skim-read examples of personal introductions on pp. 136-142. AW: pp. 214 to 223 (paraphrase) AR: OWL Purdue pages on Quoting and Paraphrasing	Discussion of Forum responses about writing Reflective, personal essay: positionality and storytelling Basic paragraphing Paraphrase, quotation	Reflective essay due January 19, 11:59 PM
Week 3 January 22	AW pp. 13-14 (“Searching for Direction”) and pp. 19-30.	Research essay: unpacking the question	

	AW pp. 112-114 AW pp. 230-235	Research site and topic Two-part titles Citation: avoiding plagiarism	
Week 4 January 29	AW: pp. 31-36; 56-69 Glance at examples of research notebooks/reading logs, pp.41-67 AR: OWL Purdue pages on research (especially Searching Online and Evaluating Sources) and UWaterloo page on summary	Conducting research Summarizing an article	Critical Summary due January 30, 11:59PM
Week 5 February 5	AW pp. 56-69 continued. AW pp. 70 to 74 and proposal samples from pp. 74-95.	Research/Essay Proposals	
Week 6 February 12	AW pp. 70-95 continued <i>Optional: AW, pp. 154-159</i> AR: and U of T page on proposals	Research/Essay proposal continued Essay Proposal Workshop Option to bring a rough draft of your proposal! Forum/group exercises	Essay Proposal due (preliminary bibliography is optional but highly encouraged), February 13, 11:59PM
Week 7 February 19 NO CLASS READING WEEK BREAK			

Week 8 February 26	ESSAY PROPOSAL INSTRUCTOR FEEDBACK WEEK	Bring your essay proposal and questions!	
Week 9 March 5	AW pp. 209 - 214. AR: OWL Purdue MLA, APA, or CMS (browse through all pages related to the style you choose).	More on citation styles and integrating secondary sources	
Week 10 March 12	AW pp. 179-186; skim-read the examples, but pay attention to the methods of development. AW pp. 111 - 163, reading the white-background pages carefully while skim-reading the examples (grey background) within the boxes.	Writing process: from working thesis to thesis Essay structure, outlining, introductions	
Week 11 March 19	AW: p. 187; skim-read body paragraph examples from pp. 190 to 198. AW: pp. 242 -264; read Conclusions, skim-read the examples	Body paragraphs and Conclusions	Research essay first draft (with bibliography) due, March 20
Week 12 March 26	AW: pp. 291-295 AR: pages on Revision from OWL Purdue. This is mandatory	Writing process: Revision and editing Reverse outlining	
Week 13 April 2	Your writing partner's draft essay	How to do a peer review	Peer Review Report due April 3, 11:59 PM

Week 14 April 9	Exam Preparation Model Final Examination on OWL Lectures page	Exam practice	Research Essay Final Draft, due April 9, 11:59 PM
Final exam: (30%) Date TBA.			

Where can you access academic advice, personal support, or help with a complaint?

- To get friendly tutoring and feedback on your writing contact [The Write Place](#)
- To get academic counselling (adding and dropping courses, choosing programs, and so on) contact [Academic Advising Services](#).
- The [Accessibility, Counselling & Student Development \(ACSD\) Department](#) offers a number of (2015) services including accessibility supports, personal counselling, career counselling, and appointments with the King's Campus and Community Social Worker. Questions? Contact acsd@kings.uwo.ca or call 519-433-3491 ext. 7800.
- Student support networks and resources at King's and Western:
 - Director of Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Decolonization, Jennifer.Slay@kings.uwo.ca
 - [Supports for Black and Racialized Student Supports at Western](#)
 - [Supports for Indigenous students](#)
 - [Supports for 2SLGBTQIA+ students](#)
 - [Mental health supports and groups at King's](#)
 - [Prevention/reporting of gender-based violence](#)

For more detailed information and links to support your academic goals, your sense of well-being, and your interest in just practices, please go to the **Support and Community** page on your Brightspace course website.

All the best! Have a good term!

KING'S UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

GENERAL COURSE POLICIES

2025-2026

1. Academic Accommodations, Consideration for Absences

Academic Accommodation (Accessibility)

Accessibility Services works to ensure that academic programs are accessible to all students, and supports students who may have a condition related to, but not limited to, vision, hearing, mobility, different ways of learning, mental health, chronic illnesses, chronic pain, autism spectrum disorder, ADD/ADHD, and temporary conditions (beyond short-term academic consideration). Accessibility Services provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive assessment. The accommodation policy can be found here [Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#). Information on Accessibility Services at King's can be found [here](#).

Academic Consideration for Student Absence

If a student is unable to meet a course requirement due to substantial but temporary extenuating circumstances (medical or compassionate), they should follow the procedures below.

In some cases, where instructors have built flexibility into their assessments, this flexibility will already address consideration needs.

Requests for academic consideration should be directed to the Academic Advising Office of your faculty/college of registration. Requests must be made as soon as possible and no later than 48 hours after the missed assessment.

As a rule, documentation is required for academic consideration. For academic consideration requests on medical grounds, the Student Medical Certificate is available at https://www.kings.uwo.ca/kings/assets/File/currentStudents/courses_enrollment/exams_and_tests/SMC-Feb-2025.pdf.

Students are permitted one academic consideration request without supporting documentation per term per course.

Instructors may designate one assessment per half-course weight as requiring formal supporting documentation. Please refer to the course outline for each course.

Please note that Friday Make-Up Exams may only be written with the instructor's consent.

For further information, please see:

https://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/academic_consideration_Sep24.pdf

Absences from Final Examinations

If you miss the Final Exam, contact the Academic Advising Office of your faculty/college of registration as soon as you are able to do so. They will assess your eligibility to write the Special Examination (the name given by the University to a makeup Final Exam).

You may also be eligible to write the Special Exam if you are in a “Multiple Exam Situation” (e.g., more than 2 exams in 23-hour period, or more than 3 exams in a 47-hour period).

If a student fails to write a scheduled Special Examination, the date of the next Special Examination (if granted) normally will be the scheduled date for the final exam the next time this course is offered. The maximum course load for that term will be reduced by the credit of the course(s) for which the final examination has been deferred. See the Academic Calendar for details (under [Special Examinations](#)).

Religious Accommodation

Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give notice in writing to the instructor and Academic Advising Office if a course requirement will be affected by a religious holiday/observance. Notice must be given as early as possible, and no later than two weeks prior to an examination, and one week prior to a midterm test date. It is the responsibility of such students to inform themselves concerning the work done in classes from which they are absent and to take appropriate action.

2. Support Services

Accessibility, Counselling and Student Development at King’s University College:

<https://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/student-services/>

Students experiencing emotional or mental health distress can access services at King’s University College:

<http://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/campus-services/student-support-services/personal-counselling/>

Good2talk is a good online and phone 24/7 resource for students and is available in English, Mandarin, and French: <https://good2talk.ca>, 1-866-925-5454

MentalHealth@Western provides a complete list of options about how to obtain help:

https://www.uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/

Academic Support Services at King’s University College:

<https://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/academic-resources/>

GBSV Support:

King's is committed to reducing incidents of gender-based and sexual violence and providing compassionate support to anyone who has gone through these traumatic events. If you have experienced sexual or gender-based violence (either recently or in the past), you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts at: <https://www.kings.uwo.ca/about-kings/safe-campus/gender-and-sexual-violence/>

You can reach someone supports at Kings by emailing Care@kings.uwo.ca or calling 519-930-4640 to reach a social worker who can offer help.

You can also reach Western's Gender-Based Violence & Survivor Support Case Manager by [email](#) or by calling 519-661-3568.

Further supports can be found on this website: <https://www.kings.uwo.ca/about-kings/safe-campus/gender-and-sexual-violence/>

See also https://www.uwo.ca/health/student_support/survivor_support/get-help.html

University Students' Council offers many valuable support services for students, including the health insurance plan: <http://westernusc.ca/services/>

3. Statement on Use of Electronic Devices

Use of Electronic Devices: Unless explicitly stated otherwise, you are not allowed to have a cell phone, or any other electronic device, with you during tests or examinations. Unauthorized possession of such a device during a test or examination constitutes an academic offence.

Use of Laptops, Tablets, and Smartphones in the Classroom: King's University College at Western University acknowledges the integration of new technologies and learning methods into the curriculum. The use of electronic devices such as laptop computers, tablets, or smartphones can contribute to student engagement and effective learning. At the same time, King's recognizes that instructors and students share jointly the responsibility to establish and maintain a respectful classroom environment conducive to learning.

The use of electronic devices by students during lectures, seminars, labs, etc., shall be for matters related to the course at hand only. Students found to be using electronic devices for purposes not directly related to the class may be subject to sanctions under the Student Code of Conduct; see <https://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/student-affairs/code-of-student-conduct1/>

Inappropriate use of electronics (e.g., laptops, tablets, smartphones) during lectures, seminars, labs, etc., creates a significant disruption. As a consequence, instructors may choose to limit the use of electronic devices in these settings. In addition, in order to provide a safe classroom environment, students attending in-person class sessions are strongly advised to operate laptops with batteries rather than power cords.

4. Statement on Academic Offences

King's is committed to academic integrity. Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, is posted at http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

It is expected that students will submit work that is truly their own, completed without external assistance (human or artificial) except as explicitly permitted by the course instructor. Check with your instructor on what tools, including generative AI (ChatGPT, translation tools, grammar-checking tools) are permitted in the course. Because a tool is permitted in one course, that does not mean it is permitted in other courses.

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system; see [https://elearningtoolkit.uwo.ca/tools/Originality Reports - TurnItIn.html](https://elearningtoolkit.uwo.ca/tools/Originality_Reports - TurnItIn.html).

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

5. Copyright of Course Material

Lectures and course materials, including PowerPoint presentations, tests, outlines, and similar materials are protected by copyright. Faculty members are the exclusive owner of copyright in those materials they create. Students may take notes and make copies for their own use. Students may not allow others to reproduce or distribute lecture notes and course materials publicly (whether or not a fee is charged) without the express written consent of a faculty member. Unauthorized sharing of class content is subject to academic discipline.

Similarly, students own copyright in their own original papers and exam essays. If a faculty member wishes to post a student's answers or papers on the course website, they should ask for the student's written permission.

6. Use of Recordings

Participants in this course are not permitted to record the sessions, except where recording is an approved accommodation and/or the participant has the prior written permission of the instructor. Unauthorized recording and/or sharing of class content is subject to academic discipline.

7. Policy on Attendance

Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course, will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course, after due warning has been given. On the recommendation of the department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course.