

Dr. Rhonda Knight

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Course Description

ENG 215C Writing in the Social Sciences (3SH) In this course, students will investigate the circumstances and genres in which professionals in the social sciences write. This course combines readings from social science disciplines geared to general audiences. Such readings will serve as the basis of writing and addressing specific audiences in the disciplines. Prerequisite: ENG 112 or 210H.

This course is part of the Scholarship Pillar in Coker University's General Education Program. This pillar encourages students to identify their place in and critically develop their own ideas about liberal arts tradition. The goal of this pillar is to carefully explore existing modes of scholarship in order to identify and respond to inherited values and knowledge. This pillar emphasizes critically examining historical events and methods, developing intellectually sound standards, and evaluating data and information necessary for the production of future scholarly, societal, and professional work. Students will enhance their critical communication skills through engagement with different genres, audiences, and perspectives.

Learning Outcomes

- Critically evaluate data and information from scholarly fields and disciplines
- Describe accepted techniques and methods of research and effectively communicate the results of a research project
- Demonstrate effective oral and written communication skills to describe patterns of knowledge

Course Texts:

Course texts are available in Blackboard either as links or as .pdf files. Please either print out readings so that you can mark them up or make use of a mark-up program to allow you to mark works up digitally. Do not attempt to use your phone for this purpose; you will be better able to participate if you can read the work in a "normal" text size. Blackboard also provides alternative formats for those who may want to use a screen reader or may have additional needs.

Course Policies:

Communication: The most efficient way to contact me is by email (rknight@coker.edu). When you email, please be sure to give sufficient information so that I can answer your question. Begin your email with an address (Dear Dr. Knight); ask your question clearly and in detail; close by reminding me who you are and how to contact you. I will get back to you within 24 hours. The more you can tell me about your question or issue in your email, the better I will be able to help. Because this is an online class, you should also check your email regularly. I will send an email as well as putting up an announcement in the case of any changes to our schedule, but I will also communicate with you individually through email. Be on the lookout!

Attendance Policies: This course is designed to maximize your learning of the subject matter and advance your understanding through a variety of ways; therefore, attendance (in person or online, depending on the type of course) is vital for supporting your educational goals. The University is required to verify academic participation to remain in compliance with federal financial aid regulations. Those dates are **FILL IN**.

For this reason:

- Students who have not “attended” in seat or online by the end of the attendance verification period will be dropped from the course roster. For this online class attendance means that you have completed at least one weekly assignment for and you have responded to the Introduction post. Unavoidable absence for these activities should be discussed in writing in advance with the instructor.
- Students who stop attending a course after the verification period has ended and later seek to withdraw from the course should be aware that Coker is required to verify their last day of attendance or academic participation in the course and use that date as the withdrawal date. This could lead to federal financial aid penalties.
- Students who stop attending a course after the verification period has ended without officially withdrawing from the course and receive a grade of F should be aware that their last date of attendance or academic participation in the course is recorded and this could lead to federal financial aid penalties.
- Students will probably have a few “normal” absences this semester. They might get a little behind because of a minor sickness or another commitment. These are normal. I will not make any extraordinary accommodations for these one-off situations.
- The most important thing is for students to communicate clearly about their situation so that we can determine the best course of action.

Assignment Formatting: In this class all papers should be double-spaced with one-inch margins. The font should be set at Times New Roman 12 pt. All paragraphs should be indented. You should reset the “before” and “after” settings in the “Line Spacing” options to “0” to avoid gaps after paragraphs. Paper titles should be centered above the first paragraph and should be in the same font as the rest of the paper. Headings should be single-spaced and should include the following information: your name, my name, assignment title, date. All papers should also include page numbers on each page. All papers should be proofread and spell-checked. These are two different processes; don’t rely on spell-check to eliminate all types of writing errors.

Assignment Submission/Late Work: I will accept late work only up to one week after the due date, but you will lose 10% of the total points for every day that you take beyond the original deadline. Please note that some assignments depend on timely participation; if you haven’t done your work, then you make it harder for others to do their work.

Reading and Preparation: Be prepared to read selections more than once. You should read carefully and take notes on each assignment. Look up unfamiliar words or words whose meaning doesn’t make sense in the context. Keep a list of questions. If you have questions, ask, on the discussion board, by email, or during office hours. If you need information, please use a reputable source like Credo Reference. In no case will I be more interested in what any outside source has to say about the author or essay than in your thoughts. Read the assignments. Carefully. Multiple times. Then think about them. You should do this before trying to complete the assignments. I’m glad to help (this is a good kind of question to bring to office hours or an appointment), but I will be of more assistance if you’ve taken the time to read carefully and figure out where the author lost you.

Schedule of Assignments and Due Dates

Due Date	Assignment	Points
	Week 1	40 total

	Journal 1	10
	Discussion Forum 1	20
	Reading Quiz 1	10
	Week 2	20 total
	Journal 2	10
	Reading Quiz 2	10
	Week 3 into Week 4	100 total
	Writing Assignment 1 (Annotation)	20
	Writing Assignment 2 (Abstract)	30
	Writing Assignment 3 (Summary)	50
	Week 4	70 total
	Discussion Forum 2	40
	Journal 3	20
	Reading Quiz 3	10
	Week 5	100 total
	Interview Assignment 1	50
	Interview Assignment 2	50
	Week 6	165 total
	Document Assignment	45
	Journal 4	10
	Reading Quiz 4	10
	Writing Assignment 3 (Summary) Revision	100
	Week 7	150 total
	Interview Assignment 3 (Draft)	100
	Evaluation of a Critical Essay	50
	Week 8	455 total
	Final Exam	220

	Interview Assignment 3 Final (Copy)	235
	Total Points Available	1100

Points

A	968 or above
B	875 to 967
C	765 to 874
D	655 to 764
F	Below 655