

Portland State University
CR 407/507 Academic Writing
Fall 2007, Tuesdays, 12 - 1:20

Instructor: Amanda Byron
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Required Texts

APA Handbook

Graff, G., & Birkenstein, C. (2006). *They say/I say: The moves that matter in academic writing*. New York: WW Norton & Company, Inc.

Course Description

Graduate work requires a significant amount of what is commonly described as academic writing. This class is designed to instruct students about just what that means, and how to adapt their own writing to the requirements of PSU in general, and the expectations of the academic world in general. To that end, we will use the papers you write in your other classes for this class. There is no extra writing required for this class, however you **MUST** provide the instructor with an electronic copy of 1-2 pages of writing on the day prior to each class to receive full credit.

Course Goals

- To improve students' ability to write persuasive, clear, and reasoned prose.
- To enlarge students' repertoire of pre-writing and writing strategies.
- To increase students' ability to revise, edit, and proofread for errors in grammar, punctuation, and syntax.
- To enhance students' ability to communicate effectively with their writing.
- To increase students' awareness of audience and rhetorical strategies for reaching that audience.
- To instruct students in the use of MLA and APA modes of in-text citing and referencing.

Timeliness and attendance

Because there is no outside work assigned for this class, students must attend every class in order to receive a good grade. If you come to nine or more classes, and participate (which includes submitting writing for each class), you will receive an A. If you miss more than two classes, but still do the above, you will receive a B, etc.

Evaluation

Grades are based entirely on your participation in class.

Please notify instructor if you need special accommodation