



**JOHN FELICE
ROME CENTER**

UCWR 110
WRITING RESPONSIBLY
John Felice Rome Center
Fall 2026
Mondays & Wednesdays | 9:00-10:15pm
Prof. Anna Dalton
Email: adalton3@luc.edu
Office Hours: by appointment, Mon 10:20-11:20

Course Description:

In the beginning, there was the Word. (John 1:1) Everything originates from words. Words create reality. Things exist the moment we articulate them, not the other way around. This course aims to highlight the role of language and writing in today's context. Linguistic themes are becoming increasingly significant, reflecting the thoughts of our era and, above all, its changes. The course will focus on the fundamentals of writing: grammatical accuracy, linguistic register, appropriateness of terminology, but it will also delve much deeper. What are the new ways of reading, of acquiring information? How can we defend ourselves against the excess of inputs and learn to recognize the valid ones?

Learning Outcomes:

Writing empowers us to structure our thoughts, fully express emotions and desires, and rationalize our choices. It helps us transform the intricacies of reality into a well-articulated and controlled form that others can comprehend and share. Indeed, we live in a society characterized by the dominance of images and the notion of instantaneity, driven by the desire for "everything now". Social media, dominated by the language of likes, has condensed judgments into fanatic extremes. While communicative power has expanded, the element of control is lacking, and manipulation can become devastating. The primary aim of this course is to revisit the profound value of words, rediscovering their meaning. During the course, various themes related to the effectiveness of different types of writing will be analyzed, and participants will learn how to use them correctly by citing sources, conducting research, and engaging in proper editing. Writing in 2026 is vastly different from writing in 1986, and we will explore how and why this is the case.

Required Materials:

- Various readings will be given to you in class
- They Say I Say 6th Edition
- Writing Responsibly August 2024 version
- Frankenstein by Mary Shelley - Penguin
- Assignments will be given at the end of each lesson



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Evaluation

Grades will be based upon the following:

- 20% Writing assignments
- 20% Reading assignments
- 20% Class participation
- 20 % Midterm Exam
- 20% Final Exam

Grading 94-100 A

- 90-93 A-
- 87-89 B+
- 84-86 B
- 80-83 B-
- 77-79 C+
- 74-76 C
- 70-73 C-
- 67-69 D+
- 60-66 D
- 59 or lower = F

Attendance Policy

In accordance with the Rome Center mission to promote a higher level of academic rigor, and in compliance with full-time student visa status, all courses adhere to the following attendance policy. Prompt attendance, preparation and active participation in course discussions are expected from every student and synonymous with academic success. Attendance is mandatory at every class meeting for each course. Lateness or leaving class early will impact the course grade at the professor's discretion.

All absences, including medical absences, will be treated the same, unless they are documented long-term conditions or emergencies. Such situations will be evaluated case-by-case by the Academic Affairs office.

Once-a-week classes:

- After 1 absence, a 2% final grade reduction will be applied for each missed class.
- Missing 3 classes or more will result in an automatic failure (F).

Twice-a-week classes:

- After 2 absences, a 2% final grade reduction will be applied for each missed class.



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- Missing 6 classes or more will result in an automatic failure (F).

Three-times-a week classes:

- After 2 absences, a 2% final grade reduction will be applied for each missed class.
- Missing 6 classes or more will result in an automatic failure (F).

Academic Integrity

Plagiarism and other forms of academic misconduct are unacceptable at the Rome Center and will be dealt with in accordance with Loyola University Chicago's guidelines. Please familiarize yourself with Loyola's standards here: <https://catalog.luc.edu/academic-standards-regulations/undergraduate/>. You are responsible to comply with the LUC University Catalog.

Late or Missed Assignments & Exam Policy

Late or missed assignments will not be accepted for grading without the authorization of the instructor. ***As per the JFRC academic policies, students who miss any scheduled exam or quiz, including a final exam at the assigned hours will not be permitted to sit for a make-up examination without approval of the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs. Permission is given rarely and only for grave reason; travel is not considered a grave reason. Make-up exams will only be given for documented absences.***

Accessibility Accommodations

Students registered with the Student Accessibility Center (SAC) requiring academic accommodations should contact the Academic Affairs office at the John Felice Rome Center during the first week of classes.

Statement on Title IX

The Rome Center follows Loyola's [Comprehensive Policy and Procedures for Addressing Discrimination, Sexual Misconduct, Retaliation](#) and will comply with those as indicated and instructed.



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COURSE ASSIGNMENTS WEEK BY WEEK

<p>WEEK1</p>	<p>Monday, August 31</p> <p>Course Introduction Reading and writing are not distinct activities; they are tightly interwoven components of the same process. This process involves learning and the generation of new meaning. It might appear that reading and writing are diametrically opposed, adhering to the conventional notion that reading involves "consuming" texts while writing involves "producing" them. In reality, reading is an active and dynamic process of constructing meanings and acquiring new knowledge. Likewise, writing does not emerge in isolation but is typically rooted in, or at least influenced by, other ideas, theories and narratives derived from reading.</p> <p>Wednesday, September 2</p> <p>Meeting faculty librarian Anne Wittrick will be a fundamental first step to approach the thousands of possibilities hidden in the books you will have at your disposal. Each student will borrow a book from the library at the end of the first lesson.</p>
<p>WEEK2</p>	<p>Monday, September 7</p> <p>First academic genre: SUMMARY</p> <p>Wednesday, September 9</p> <p>Textbook : The Art of Summarizing</p>
	<p>Monday, September 14</p> <p>A new tool: Peer-review</p> <p>Friday, September 18</p>



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<p>WEEK 3</p>	<p>Formatting Styles : MLA</p> <p>How to cite sources correctly</p>
<p>WEEK4</p>	<p>Monday, September 21</p> <p>Second academic genre: ANALYSIS</p> <p>Wednesday, September 23</p> <p>Understanding Literary Analysis</p> <p>Mary Shelley and the Geography of Frankenstein</p>
<p>WEEK 5</p>	<p>Monday, September 28</p> <p>Writing and communicating</p> <p>Public writing and communication skills are universally recognized as fundamentally important in all professional fields to share one's work outcomes. The ability to showcase one's endeavors is crucial for effectiveness in any work environment. It's not just about what we convey but, more importantly, how we express it. To capture and retain the attention of others, to be persuasive and credible—these are key practical aspects that the course will emphasize.</p> <p>Wednesday, September 30</p> <p>Public speaking – TED videos</p>
<p>WEEK 6</p>	<p>Monday, October 5</p> <p>The diversity approach: Our language is influenced by the roles we have in society and the way we interact socially with others.</p> <p>Wednesday, October 7</p>



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	Plagiarism and AI
WEEK 7	Monday, October 19 <u>MID-TERM EXAM : TEDxLUC</u> Wednesday, October 21 Fake News and Political Propaganda
WEEK 8	Monday, October 27 Third academic genre: SYNTHESIS Wednesday, October 29 Post-Truth and Real Sources
WEEK 9	Monday, November 2 Logical Fallacies Wednesday, November 4 How to write a Proposal
WEEK 10	Monday, November 9 Fourth academic genre: Researched Argument Wednesday, November 11 Annotated Bibliography Academic Sources Databases



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WEEK 11	Monday, November 16 Audience Analysis Wednesday, November 18 Newspapers and Podcasts
WEEK 12	Monday, November 23 Tips for writing an argumentative essay Wednesday, November 25 Final Exam Review
WEEK 13	FINAL EXAM