

## **WR60 ONLINE: ANIMAL SCIENCE, RESEARCH AND ARGUMENT**

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**NOTE: This is an online asynchronous class. We will not have regularly scheduled Zoom meetings.**

### **REQUIRED TEXTS & RESOURCES**

- PDFs of reading materials are available either here on Canvas or at Connect (see below)

#### **Connect Master, McGraw-Hill**

- This is an online learning platform that we will use every week of the class. You must purchase the platform online, but you can get the first 2 weeks for free.
- The assignments from Connect will be listed here in Canvas--the first time you click on a Connect assignment here, you'll be taken to the Connect registration. After that, each time you click on a Connect assignment, you'll be taken directly into that assignment.
- **Software/Digital Platforms:** Canvas, [GoogleDocs](#), [Wix](#), [Twitter \(X\)](#), and (optional) iMovie, Canva, or another free video editing software that you already know how to use.
- [MLA Formatting and Style Guide from Purdue OWL](#) (OWL=online writing lab) and/or [Easybib](#)

**COURSE DESCRIPTION.** WR60, Argument and Research, is the second of UCI's two required writing courses that together fulfill the Lower Division Writing Requirement. WR60 focuses on critical reading and rhetoric and teaches you intellectual strategies for identifying, understanding, and then using various genres and rhetorical situations for important communicative purposes. WR60 deepens your understanding of rhetoric and communication by teaching you how to conduct research and to evaluate and use various types of evidence. The reading, composing, and researching practices you will learn in this course and the various intellectual strategies you develop will help you to succeed in your other courses, prepare you to engage in the university community and in your chosen discipline, and deepen your perspective on current issues and problems and the idea of social justice itself.

**DIGITAL RHETORIC.** This section of WR60 also focuses on digital rhetoric—that is, an understanding of how to use rhetorical principles when creating online texts, including a website portfolio, a blog, a social media campaign, an infographic, and a multimedia presentation/video. You will be asked to create an online text of some type each week in the class.

**ANIMAL SCIENCE.** Your section of WR 60 will use *Animal Science* as a central theme and foundation for classroom discussion and for research topics. We will read several texts that will motivate analysis of current and pressing issues and present us with opportunities to study the rhetorical and argumentative strategies of an established intellectual engaging political problems that challenge us to evaluate both our personal ethics and the broad values that define perspectives on social justice. As you read this material, you may agree with the author or you may vehemently disagree.

Either way your critical evaluation is expected, and your teacher and your peers will challenge you to deepen your arguments and claims through discussions and constructive feedback. Your WR60 teacher will not tell you *what to think*, but your instructor *will teach you how to communicate*, how to deliver your arguments and arrange your evidence so that your thoughts are clear and persuasive and capably anticipate the expectations and possible reactions of various audiences—scholars, public intellectuals, your peers and people in the UCI community—who are already discussing the same issues. Our hope is that you leave WR60 feeling empowered and confident as a college-level researcher and impassioned by the issues you’ve engaged.

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## Guiding Ideals & Outcomes

### Rhetoric & Composition:

- Recognize forms of rhetorical persuasion and understand the functions of generic forms, both academic and non-academic.
- Craft substantive, motivated, and balanced arguments.
- Plan, draft, and revise effectively; develop and skillfully employ a variety of revision strategies that attend to structure, arrangement, pacing, and transitions.
- Read with understanding and engagement across a variety of genres, mediated forms, and discourses.
- Write clear, correct, coherent prose.
- Evaluate and improve reading, writing, and organizing processes.
- Respond productively and constructively to the writing of others and learn to become a fair and rigorous critic.
- Attend to and control surface features and conventions including grammar, punctuation, syntax, and spelling.

**Multimodal Composition & Communication:**

- Understand the distinctive rhetorical properties and effects of delivering arguments in written forms, orally, and visually, with particular attention to audience/community, discourses/genres/contexts, and occasions/warrants.
- Arrange, display, and deliver arguments and evidence clearly and coherently.
- Create substantive, polished, persuasive, richly textured, and deeply researched multi-modal compositions.

**Research Methods and Ethics:**

- Comprehend the importance of Information Literacy, seen as both the act of researching and the skillful evaluation and use of evidence.
- Understand the definition of Information Literacy as the ability to discern and critically evaluate source materials of different types, in different media, genres, and discourses.
- Comprehend the communicative and rhetorical intentions of a source and use such understanding to determine a source's value as evidence.
- Learn to locate sources using a variety of tools, methods, and databases.
- Understand the purposes and methods of common citation systems.
- Learn research ethics and avoid plagiarism.

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**GENERAL INFORMATION****DROPPING / ADDING**

The Drop/Add policies for UC Online are the same as the policies for your home campus.

Students who wish to change their grade option to P/NP should first check with their academic counselors to make sure this choice is available to them

**REQUIREMENTS / COURSE POLICIES**

- For all UCI writing courses, final grades of C or above satisfy the writing requirement. If you earn a final grade of C- or lower in any writing course, you must repeat that course and you must drop your enrollment in the next course in the sequence.
- If you are repeating WR 60, you may NOT resubmit the same papers. Resubmitted papers from a previous WR 60 will receive a non-passing grade.
- All assigned work must be completed to qualify for a final grade. In other words, you may not omit an assignment.
- Final submissions of all major projects must be submitted to Turn It In.
- Your instructor may choose to lower your grade on an assignment by 1/3 of a letter grade for each day it is late. If you are having trouble making deadlines, please see your instructor who will help you with organization and strategy.
- All assigned work, graded and ungraded must be completed. Draft(s) must be submitted in order to receive a grade on the final paper.
- Grades for formal assignments are final: revisions for higher grades are not allowed.

## PLAGIARISM

***Plagiarists fail the course and have their offense recorded in their School and in the School of Humanities. Plagiarism cases also go through the Office of Student Conduct.***

***Using ChatGPT or any AI to write or to rewrite your sentences to polish them is cheating. This is a writing class in which the grade is based on the quality of your own writing. Please do not use any AI to assist you for any part of any assignment.***

If you don't think you understand what plagiarism is, you can watch the UCI Academic Honesty Tutorial: [UCI Academic Honesty Tutorial](#)

You might also consult the [plagiarism links](#) found on the website of the UC Academic Senate. Submitting a paper that is based on the words and/or structure of another student's work or submitting a paper that includes researched information that is not properly cited is plagiarism, and thus, grounds for failure in the course. All information borrowed from print or electronic sources must be identified. Failure to do so is theft. Copying a sentence and changing a word or two does not make the ideas or the information yours. Deliberately altering data to fit your thesis is also a form of cheating.

Violations of academic honesty can affect a student's graduation, financial aid, and eligibility for honors. The Composition Program deals with plagiarism cases every quarter, even though most people do not hear about them. No matter how pressured you feel, do not plagiarize; it is not worth it. Note: submitting the same work for more than one class without notifying the instructor is considered plagiarism at UCI.

## **IMPORTANT FORMS FOR WR60**

There are some important forms that you need to fill out for this class that are available online:

[Consent to Reproduce and Publish / Academic Honesty, Plagiarism, Turnitin](#)

Please make sure you complete these forms by the end of the first week of class.

## **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

- [Connect to UCI Library from Off Campus](#)
- Researching from off campus? Set up your access to [UCI's Databases and Resources](#)
- Need help from a UCI Librarian with a research question? [Go to Ask a Librarian](#).
- Want in-depth feedback and an additional perspective on your work? [Consult a Writing Specialist or a Peer Tutor](#) from the Center for Excellence in Writing and Communication either in person or online.

## **OVERVIEW OF ASSIGNMENTS & GRADING**

[Please read the Grade Contract](#)

- **Part 1: Scicomm Article**
  - Weeks 1-5
  - Process work: Research, reading assignments, annotations/source evaluation, collaboration/participation, exploratory writing (discussions at Canvas), essay drafts, blogs, creating content for online posting (infographics, charts, illustrations)
  - Social Media: individual work to learn/build your expertise
  - Scicomm Article based on the Research Study you have identified through research
- **Part 2: Advocacy Project**

- Weeks 6-10
- Process work: Connect, research, annotations/source evaluation, collaboration/participation, exploratory writing (discussions at Canvas), essay drafts, blogs, creating content for online posting (infographics, charts, illustrations)
- Social Media Campaign on Twitter (7 day posting 3 times per day)
- The Advocacy Project is an online multimedia Problem-Solution style Argument Essay
- **Final ePortfolio**
  - Weeks 1-10 (we will add work on this portfolio each week, and in some weeks revise earlier pages)
  - Website (built on Wix, a free website building tool) where you will collect and curate the highlights of your WR60 journey
  - 2 pages of your website will provide an illustrated reflective narrative of your journey in 39C, commenting on how well you reached your goals