

Carleton University  
Winter 2016  
Department of English

**ENGL 2200: *Creativity, Imagination, and Writing***

*Online only*

*Prerequisite(s): second-year standing*

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*\*Preliminary Outline: subject to change*

DESCRIPTION: Do you have problems starting your written assignments? What are tried and true strategies for stimulating imaginative thought? How can online resources facilitate quality brainstorming? Have you ever examined and explored your own creative processes? **If you have found yourself with too many books and not enough ideas, this online course is definitely for you.** Simply put, it addresses the question: "What do I do to generate strong ideas for my writing?" To achieve that goal, it brings together research on creative processes, theoretical discussions on the imagination, little known and little understood digital media, and challenging exercises so that students can generate the ideas necessary for jump-starting essay work and written assignments across the disciplines. Students from all disciplines are welcome.

Designed entirely from scratch, ENGL 2200 is a new online course in rhetoric--the discipline of writing and communicating. It dwells exclusively upon rhetoric's first stage of writing called "invention," otherwise known as prewriting or brainstorming, and grapples with the daunting initial task of producing exciting ideas upon which effective and compelling composition depends.

DELIVERY AND ASSIGNMENTS: This course is delivered fully online and consists of 10 modules, each module having a set of learning activities and one main assignment. The course's 10 assignments help students to build up a creativity profile in cuPortfolio and to explore invention processes for generating ideas. The assignments fall into two types: invention exercises for sparking your imagination and short, informal reflections upon those exercises and creativity. There will be no tests, final examination, or formal essays.

At the heart of the course is the invention technique--a method for sparking your imagination. Modules ultimately help you to personalize invention-techniques according to your own desires,

ambitions, and strengths. An imagination is a personal thing, as unique as you are, and, what you will soon discover is that activities that stimulate thoughts for some students don't work for others. This course will empower you to reflect upon your personal creative processes so that you can customize invention-techniques that will work for you.

## **PLAGIARISM**

The University Senate defines plagiarism as “*presenting, whether intentionally or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.*” This can include:

- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- handing in "substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs."

Plagiarism is a serious offence that cannot be resolved directly by the course’s instructor. The Associate Dean of the Faculty conducts a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They can include a final grade of "F" for the course. For more information please go to: <http://www2.carleton.ca/studentaffairs/academic-integrity>

### **Academic Accommodation**

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:

Pregnancy obligation: write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details see the Student Guide

<http://carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/academic/students/>

Religious obligation: write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details see the Student Guide above.

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism

Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or [pmc@carleton.ca](mailto:pmc@carleton.ca) for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (if applicable).