

**WRITING 2213G-650**  
LOL: HUMOUR WRITING  
Fall 2020  
Instructor: Mark Kearney

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**Office Hours: Via Zoom Tuesdays 1:30 to 3 pm or by appointment.**

**Text:** In lieu of a text, there will be a range of handouts and/or links to websites posted on the syllabus and the course OWL site for you to read.

**Recommended Texts:**

***Writing Humor: Creativity and the Comic Mind***, by Mary Ann Rishel, Wayne State University Press, 2002. (This can be found on Google Books if you type in the title and author)

**Course Requirements**

LOL: Humour Writing is designed to help you write for greater impact while introducing you to different aspects of the genre, using a blend of online lecture and workshop. You will have the opportunity to write something funny for most weeks, get feedback from me and fellow students, read and critique a variety of humorous stories and watch and critique humorous videos. You should also develop skills in the ability to communicate information, arguments, and analyses accurately and reliably.

5. Online Discussion/Exercises/Workshopping 5% Ongoing

Although this is an online course, you are expected to check into the OWL site on a regular basis, to participate in online discussions and to interact online with your fellow classmates by workshopping your drafts as much as online allows you. This policy will be waived only for medical or compassionate reasons. If your absence is extended and prolonged (over one week of continuous non-attendance), then you should discuss it with your academic advisor in your home faculty, who may require documentation. That advisor may then contact all of your instructors. See also: ‘**Medical Accommodation Policy**’ below.

**Note:** a class meeting missed in order to write a test, exam, or other form of ‘make-up class’ in another course **will** count as non-attendance, and **will** attract penalties as defined above if applicable. Instructors at the University of Western Ontario **shall not require** a student to write a make-up test or similar at times which conflict with that student’s other scheduled class times. If you are asked or ‘required’ to do this, you should immediately contact an academic counsellor in your Dean’s office. If you elect to miss a class in order to write such a test, that is **your** choice; your absence will not be excused.

### **Scholastic Offences, including Plagiarism**

The University Senate requires the following statements, and Web site references, to appear on course outlines:

“Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site: [http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage of text from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see Scholastic Offence Policy as above).

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).”

### **Prerequisites**

The University Senate requires the following statement to appear on course outlines:

“Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.”

*The prerequisite for registration in this course is: At least 65% in one of 40F>00003006W( )ITfornis30057ual p6 onreW(ast*

The link to the official Western/Writing Studies Medical Accommodation Policy appears below. This remains in effect, but may be modified temporarily by the university during the academic year as conditions change. Western has a comprehensive policy covering requests for accommodation by

instructor, who will – in his or her discretion – elect either to make a decision on the request directly or instruct the student to follow the procedures set out in .

**Please note** that individual instructors will



Workshop your personal experience  
drafts.

