

**Advanced Writing and Peer Tutoring
WRT 245/ENG285**

TR 9:40a.m.-10:55a.m., Rush Rhees G-108A
Deborah F. Rossen-Knill

Requirements for Fall 2013

- Seek out feedback on a piece of writing for WRT 245 from 1) an in-person writing fellow, 2) a writing consultant, and 3) an online writing tutor. Write a session summary for each of your experiences being tutored. Submit two session summaries with your mid-semester assessment.
- Complete three works related to writing and tutoring writing: Autobiography of a Communicator, Unconventional Essay or Scientific Essay, Final Project on an interesting writing or tutoring problem.
- Revise each work two times: once to shape and sharpen your own meaning, once to make it responsive to readers' expectations.
- Complete all assignments: readings, observations, peer critiques, and informal writing.
- Lead two class discussions/workshops on assigned readings (one may be done with a partner).
- Complete preparation questions for class discussions.
- Complete observations of tutoring and attend all mentor meetings.
- Submit Final portfolio.

See "Assignments," button on blackboard, for more information.

Assessment and Grading

Throughout the semester, your peers, mentors, and I will provide feedback on your course work: this includes your writing, reading, speaking, listening, peer critiques, and work in mock tutoring and co-tutoring sessions. This feedback is meant to help you strengthen your communication and thinking skills, as well as develop a critical stance toward your work. You'll document your level of success in these areas through a mid-semester assessment, an end-of-semester assessment, and a final portfolio that presents and comments on a selection of your semester's work.

Your grade for the course results from your success in completing all course requirements, your success in working with your peers and mentors, and your mid-semester and end-of-semester self- assessments. This grading method has been designed to account not only for your performance as a writer and critical responder, but also for your engagement in the process of becoming a flexible, conscious communicator and Writing Fellow *and* your ability to own and be responsible* for your work.

* I include responsible behavior among the things to be graded because the Writing Fellows' success depends on their ability to act responsibly toward students, faculty, the Writing Fellow Group, and the Writing Program.

In the context of the work of a Fellow, this involves such things as being on time and reliable, being fully present during tutoring interactions (no use of cell phones, personal email, or social networking sites), interacting respectfully, responding promptly to communications, completing required paperwork, and, more generally, being aware of the extent to which your behavior affects individual Fellows and the group as a whole.

In the context of this course, acting responsibly involves attending all classes and meetings; arriving on time to class and to out-of-class meetings with classmates, mentors or me; being fully present during class and during mentor meetings (no use of cell phones, personal email, or social networking sites), responding promptly to communications from classmates, mentors, or me; completing all assignments on time; providing and listening to feedback in a thoughtful manner;

and generally being a good citizen. Please do not underestimate the impact of professional, responsible conduct on your course grade. If you fail to fulfill your responsibilities to class members, then this failure will count heavily in your final grade.

Grading Guidelines

C	Complete all assignments on time and fulfill all course requirements.
B	Complete all assignments on time, fulfill all course requirements, and complete 5 additional activities across at least two of the categories in the "Going Above and Beyond" table.
A	To earn an A-, complete all assignments on time, fulfill all course requirements, and complete 10 additional activities across at least two categories in "Going Above and Beyond." Additionally, to earn an A, end-of-semester work in writing and tutoring should be outstanding.

	Going Above and Beyond	
Writing	Reading	Tutoring
Revise for writer's meaning	Read and write a reflection on an optional reading	Do additional observations
Revise for reader	Lead extra class discussion/workshop	Co-Tutor
Participate in a writing group	Complete extra credit	
Attend WSAP workshop	Other?	Attend WSAP workshop
Other?		Other?

No incomplete will be given, except in the case of medical or other emergency.

Academic Honesty

I work on the assumption that we will communicate and work together honestly, but still ask that you re-familiarize yourself with the University of Rochester's Academic Honesty Policy: <http://www.rochester.edu/College/CCAS/AdviserHandbook/AcadHonesty.html>. Please understand that an incident of dishonesty in this course or in the college will affect your course grade and prevent you from becoming a Writing Fellow.

Required Texts

- Elbow, Peter, and Pat Belanoff. *Sharing and Responding*. New York: Random House, 1989. (available through Writing Program or Amazon)
- Murray, Donald. *The Craft of Revision*. 3rd ed. Forth Worth: Harcourt Brace, 1991. (available through Writing Program or Amazon)
- Rafoth, Ben. *A Tutor's Guide: Helping Writers One to One*. 2nd ed. Portsmouth: Heinemann, 2005.
- ***Note: *Sharing and Responding* and *The Craft of Revision* may (with a deposit) be borrowed from the Writing Program for the semester, provided that copies are available.