
Calumet College



of Saint Joseph

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Calumet College of St. Joseph is a Catholic institution of higher learning dedicated to the academic, spiritual and ethical development of undergraduate and graduate students. Informed by the values of its founding religious community, the Missionaries of the Precious Blood (C.P.P.S.), the College promotes the inherent dignity of all people, social justice, an ethic of service, student empowerment, opportunity, and lifelong learning.

We are committed to the Five Pillars of a CCSJ Education: The CCSJ graduate will be Open to Growth, Intellectually Competent, Religious, Loving, and Committed to Doing Justice. This class, as outlined below, will help you to achieve those goals.

COURSE SYLLABUS, Fall 2019

EWPC 499: Senior Seminar in English

Instructor Information:	
Instructor Name	Chris Buczinsky, Ph.D.
Office Number:	Room 177
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Email:	cbuczinsky@ccsj.edu
Office Hours:	Mondays 7:00 a.m.-8:30.a.m. Wednesdays 7:00 a.m.-8:30.a.m. Thursday: 10:00-2:00 p.m.
Instructor Background:	I attended Northwest Nazarene College in Nampa, Idaho, earned my B.A. in English Education from Northern Arizona University, taught high school for two years in Flagstaff, Arizona, and then in 1994 I earned my Ph.D. from Northwestern. Before coming to CCSJ I was an associate editor of a trade magazine, and before that I was a writer, illustrator, and performer of children's poetry. This is my 17th year at CCSJ. I am director of the English, Writing, and Professional Communication Program. In my spare time I paint, do yoga, and hike.

Course Information:	
Course Time:	TBA with Individual Students
Classroom:	Room 177
Prerequisites:	Senior Standing Required
Required Books and Materials:	<i>The War of Art</i> by Steven Pressfield

Learning Outcomes/ Competencies: Students in this course will

1. Reflect on their educational journey in an autobiographical narrative that will help clarify where they were when they started CCSJ's EWPC Program, where they are now, and where they want to go.
2. Know the job requirements for their chosen field, prepare an effective resume, and make a career plan for their future.
3. Synthesize their knowledge in an individualized, long-form writing project of their choice.
4. Demonstrate their level of mastery in a variety of English-specific skills (including interpreting, editing, and writing under time constraints) in an intensive English Major's Senior Survival Week.

This course meets the following **EWPC program learning objectives:**

3. Apply their knowledge of rhetoric and grammar to creating and editing a variety of literary, journalistic, and business texts.
4. Analyze a variety of complex nonfiction, literary and professional communications on both global-structural and local-sentence levels.
5. Synthesize their knowledge of the English language and its literary and professional forms in clear, well-organized, rhetorically-effective English prose, including nonfiction essays, literary texts, and professional communications.
6. Evaluate the success of literary, journalistic, and business texts according to a clear set of rhetorical standards.

Course Description

In the Senior Seminar in English students prepare a large writing project designed in cooperation with his or her advisor, perform the variety of tasks necessary to enter the job market: doing industry research and job searches, writing resumes and cover-letters, and preparing writing portfolios. Students must pass the "Senior Survival Week" English Program Exam, which is the final assessment of all English majors. Senior standing is required.

Learning Strategies

The Senior Seminar in English is a largely self-directed course. It provides one-on-one, faculty-student mentoring in a variety of end-of-program summary tasks. Students will meet with the instructor and their faculty-writing mentors at mutually agreed on times so that students can successfully complete the course requirements in one semester.

Experiential Learning Opportunities:

Students in the Senior Seminar research jobs, prepare resumes, write application letters, create long-form writing projects, and put together portfolios that will benefit their entry into the job market.

Assessments:

Your final grade in this class will be assigned based on your performance in **five different areas:**

1. The Autobiographical Narrative	100 pts.
2. The Book Review	100 pts.
3. The Career Plan	100 pts.
4. The Writing Project	100 pts.
<u>5. Senior Survival Week</u>	<u>100 pts.</u>
Total	400 pts.

1. The Autobiographical Narrative. (100 pts.)

The Autobiographical Narrative is a **5-7 page narrative essay** describing your educational and career journey. It should recount why you became an EWPC major, what you gained from your education at CCSJ, an assessment of your strengths and weaknesses as you enter the job market, and a description of your hopes, dreams, and plans for your future--what you hope to accomplish, what you want to be, have, and do. The essay is your chance to reflect on how far you have come and where you want to go with your education.

2. The Book Review (100 pts.)

In this class we will be reading Steven Pressfield's *The War of Art*, an inspirational self-help book on the challenges of doing creative work. We will read the book as a group, and you will write your own review, response, and critique as preparation for class discussion.

3. The Career Plan (100 pts.)

The Career Plan is a **packet of materials** you will need to enter the job market, apply to graduate school, and pursue any of your post-graduation plans. It can include a **resume**, a **portfolio** of work (electronic and hardcopy), a general **letter of application** that can be tweaked for different specific jobs, and a **writing sample**—anything you need to hit the ground running when you leave school.

4. The Writing Project (100 pts.)

The Writing Project is a 10-20 page written project of your choice. It can be one large research paper, a collection of news and feature articles for your communications portfolio, a book of poems, the opening chapters of a novel, a script for a play or television show—any writing project that you are interested in pursuing or that might help you in your job search.

5. Senior Survival Week (100 pts.)

Senior Survival Week is a week-long exam on a variety of EWPC program education goals that enables us to measure how well you have mastered the knowledge and skills key to being a successful wordsmith in the real world. To earn the whole 100 points for this course, students must complete the entire survival week (though that is very different from their scores on the particular sections of the exam itself).

Grading Scale:

100% – 92%: A	91% – 90%: A-	
89% – 88%: B+	87% – 82%: B	81% – 80%: B-
79% – 78%: C+	77% – 72%: C	71% – 70%: C-
69% – 68%: D+	67% – 62%: D	61% – 60%: D-
59% and below:	F	

Responsibilities

Class Policies

This class has **5 Basic Rules**.

1. **Be on time.** This is a small class. If you are tardy, we all have to wait for you before we begin. This is unfair to other students, and it wastes time. I reserve the right to mark you absent for the whole class if you develop a habit of arriving late or leaving early.

	<p>2. Respect everyone at all times. Listen when someone else is talking (especially Dr. Buczinsky). Turn in your seat. Listen to what your classmates are saying. Think about what they say. And respond.</p> <p>3. Come prepared. I expect you to bring to our weekly meetings the work we have agreed upon that you will be doing. Come ready to show, share, and discuss.</p> <p>4. Display Professional Work Ethic. I expect you establish your own to read the assignments completely and regularly.</p>
Attending Class	<p>You cannot succeed in this class if you do not attend. We believe that intellectual growth and success in higher education occur through interaction in the classroom and laboratories. Being absent doesn't excuse you from doing class work; you have more responsibilities to keep up and meet the objectives of this course.</p> <p>In accordance with English program policy, any student missing more than NINE (9) hours of class will receive an F. These nine hours include both excused and unexcused absences; it also includes all tardies of more than 15 minutes. Please be aware these hours include birthdays, sport events, illness, work, etc. If a problem arises with your absences, please come and talk to me immediately.</p>
Turning In Your Work	<p>You cannot succeed in this class if you do not turn in all your work when due. Work will be docked one letter grade for every week it is late, unless some mutually agreeable arrangement has been made with the professor beforehand. Late work beyond three weeks is not accepted.</p>
CCSJ Student Honor Code	<p>This course asks students to reaffirm the CCSJ Student Honor Code:</p> <p>I, as a student member of the Calumet College academic community, in accordance with the college's mission and in a spirit of mutual respect, pledge to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuously embrace honesty and curiosity in the pursuit of my educational goals; • Avoid all behaviors that could impede or distract from the academic progress of myself or other members of my community; • Do my own work with integrity at all times, in accordance with syllabi, and without giving or receiving inappropriate aid; • Do my utmost to act with commitment, inside and outside of class, to the goals and mission of Calumet College of St. Joseph.
Doing Your Own Work	<p>If you turn in work that is not your own, you will be subject to judicial review by the Faculty-Student Grievance Committee. These procedures can be found in the Student Planner. The maximum penalty for any form of academic dishonesty is dismissal from the College.</p> <p>Using standard citation guidelines to document sources avoids plagiarism. You'll find guides to the major citation methods at the CCSJ Specker Library Web page at http://www.ccsj.edu/library/subjectsplus/subjects/guide.php?subject=cite</p> <p>PLEASE NOTE: All papers may be electronically checked for plagiarism.</p>

Sharing Your Class Experience	Your voice matters! At the end of the term, you will have the opportunity to evaluate your classroom experience. These confidential surveys are essential to our ongoing efforts to ensure that you have a great experience that leaves you well prepared for your future. Take the time to complete your course evaluations – we value your feedback!
Withdrawing from Class	After the last day established for class changes has passed (see the College calendar in the CCSJ Course Catalog), you may withdraw from a course by following the policy outlined in the Course Catalog.

Resources	
CCSJ Book Rental Program	The CCSJ Book Program ensures that everyone has the right course materials on the first day of class to be successful. You pay a book rental fee each semester, and in return, receive all the materials for all your classes prior to the beginning of classes. At the end of the semester, simply return the books. For traditional students, the Book Rental Program is conveniently located in the library, where students can pick up and return their books. For students in accelerated programs and graduate programs, books will be delivered to their homes and they can return them by mail. For more information, see http://www.ccsj.edu/bookstore . All books must be returned at the end of the semester or you will incur additional fees, which will be charged to your student account.
Student Success Center	The Student Success Center provides faculty tutors at all levels to help you master specific subjects and develop effective learning skills. It is open to all students at no charge. You can contact the Student Success Center at 219 473-4287 or stop by the Library.
Disability Services	Disability Services strives to meet the needs of all students by providing academic services in accordance with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) guidelines. If you believe that you need a “reasonable accommodation” because of a disability, contact the Disability Services Coordinator at 219-473-4349.
Student Assistance Program	Through a partnership with Crown Counseling , Calumet College of St. Joseph provides a free Student Assistance Program (SAP) to current students. The SAP is a confidential counseling service provided to students for personal and school concerns which may be interfering with academic performance and/or quality of life. The SAP counselor is available on campus once a week and off-site at the Crown Counseling offices in Crown Point or Hammond. For more information, contact Kerry Knowles SAP Counselor , at 219-663-6353 (office), 219-413-3702 (cell), or kerryk@crowncounseling.org .
CCSJ Alerts	Calumet College of St. Joseph’s emergency communications system will tell you about emergencies, weather-related closings, or other incidents via text, email, or voice messages. Please sign up for this important service annually on the College’s website at: http://www.ccsj.edu/alerts/index.html .

