

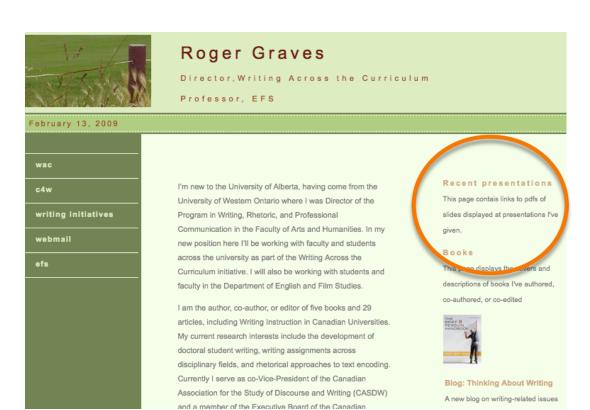
Scholarly Paper Assignment: Exploratory Paper

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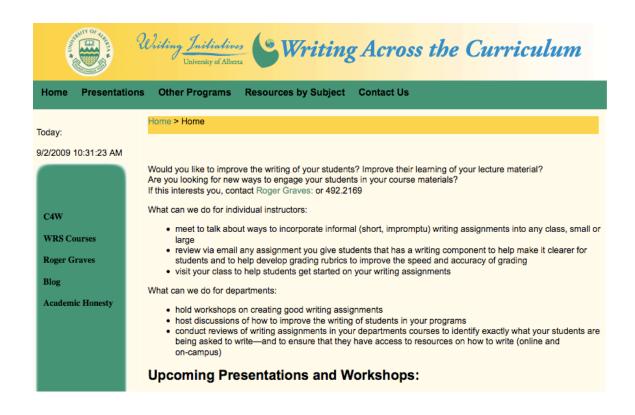
Roger Graves





http://www.ualberta.ca/~graves1/index.html-

Writing Across the Curriculum



http://www.humanities.ualberta.ca/WAC/

The writing process

Getting started

- Explore the assignment
- Make rough notes
- Pick a tentative topic

Getting feedback

- Make an appointment at a writing centre
- Get feedback on your draft/revise

Revising

- Work on style and lower order concerns
- Proofread, consult checklist for assignment



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Due Monday March 4

Organizing an Exploratory Paper

- ▶ Cover page: APA 6th
- ▶ Abstract
- Introduction
- ▶ Body:
- Conclusion: Summary of key points in body; connect to thesis, relate to the scenario

Genre: Exploratory paper

- Not persuasive (not arguing a position)
- Find out about an issue/problem
- Form preliminary conclusions about what resources might be available to address the issue/problem
- Conduct an inquiry into a topic
- Gather information and share it
- Look for causes and factors contributing to the problem, the people/institutions, and possible solutions

Your assignment Topic

- Find an example of someone you consider to be an influential **Registered Nurse**.
- Focus on an aspect of this nurse's practice that you would like to learn more about (e.g. area of practice, scope of practice, nursing values, or other).
- Find scholarly and professional literature that explores this particular aspect of nursing practice within the Canadian context.

Assignment (continued)

- Reflect on the qualities and/or traits of this nurse, and respond to the following questions in the form of a scholarly essay*:
 - What have you learned about nursing from this nurse?
 - What questions does this raise for you about nursing?
 - ▶ How has knowing about this nurse's experience changed your understanding of nursing?

* A scholarly essay is an essay that explores ideas drawing on credible sources to support and extend your own ideas.



Influential RNs:

- Dr. Helen K. Mussallem (1915-2012)
- List of fictional nurses
- Dr. Anita Molzahn
- Nurse to Know:



NURSE TO KNOW

Nursing practice

- area of practice
- scope of practice
- nursing values
- other

Exploratory paper questions

Topic	Nursing values
Researchable question	How can art help me with my patients and my career as a nurse?
Why important?	Exposure to art provides benefits to both the patients and the nurse who makes it available to them.

Research

What have you learned about nursing from this nurse?

- Art has therapeutic powers for McLeod
- Research supports this
- The 2005 National Survey of the Work and Health of Nurses pointed to problems with nurses health because of stressful work environments
- Started website called Art by Nurses:
- "Art is an important outlet utilized by many nurses. We believe that nurses engage in the meditative process of art in order to make meaning of the experiences they encounter as healers. These nurses transcend the stress and sorrow that is sometimes associated with the profession and travel to another plane where they creatively channel their energies."



Research

What questions does this raise for you about nursing?

- How stressful is it?
- Does this mean I should take electives in fine arts?

Research

How has knowing about this nurse's experience changed your understanding of nursing?

- It is a hard job—or can be
- I'll need to think hard about work/life balance strategies
- As I go through my life and career, my work as a nurse is likely to change and develop from one aspect of nursing to many others

Introductions for exploratory papers

Reader questions:	Writer responses
What is this?	Set the context; general info Explain the situation
Why am I reading it?	State why this is an important issue
What do you want me to do?	State your research question Explain why you are interested in this issue

http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/728/1/

Thesis



Drafting/Revising

- ▶ Get a "trusted reader" to get feedback
- Consider using other students in the course or the writing centre for this
- Ask readers to read for specific purposes: thesis, structure, transitions, development of a particular paragraph or idea

Don't hand in a first draft

Towards the due date, switch your focus from

higher-order concerns (arrangement, arguments, evidence) to

lower-order concerns: proofreading, grammar, citation format, grammar/spelling

