



WISe 101 — **W**isdom **E**xperience at Wesleyan

Wesleyan Integrative Seminar Experience

Syllabus: Fall, 2015

WISe 101 and 102 are interdisciplinary seminars that introduce you to academic life at Wesleyan. They focus on honing your academic skills, especially writing and critical thinking. They model Wesleyan's diverse and challenging academic community, ask you to understand the value of a Wesleyan education, and help you make the transition to college. In WISe 101 and 102, you will learn from faculty; you will also teach each other—exploring divergent perspectives and deepening meaning in discussion, and working together to solve problems.

Goals: WISe 101 will enhance your academic skills in active reading, writing, and critical thinking, and will help you make the transition to college by learning how to study and manage your time so you can succeed academically. This course will develop your ability to communicate effectively your ideas and beliefs and to learn from the ideas and beliefs of others. At Wesleyan, we see learning as the active construction of knowledge in this learning community that values the free and open exchange of ideas. WISe 101 will connect you to this community by exploring our history, the value of the liberal arts, our role as a women's college, and our role as a Methodist college. We will use juxtaposed disciplinary methods, including literature, women's studies, philosophy, history and aesthetic perspectives to explore meaning and expose you to liberal arts traditions. This process will enhance your ability to reflect critically on your beliefs and frames of reference as women in the context of a diverse and rapidly changing world. We will explore what you want from college and how to get it, and begin the journey of discovering your talents and passions so that you can apply them here at Wesleyan and in the larger world beyond college.

Course Outcomes: After completing WISe 101, you should be able to:

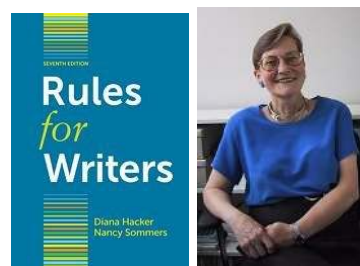
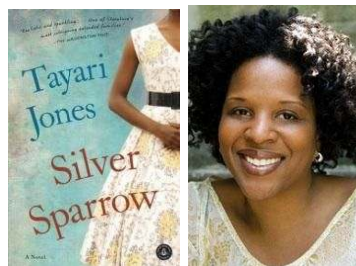
- Demonstrate thesis-driven summary, explanation, analysis, and synthesis in your writing.
- Use academic texts to promote self-reflection and to improve your critical thinking, writing, and speaking.
- Incorporate source material smoothly and correctly using MLA-style citation.
- Understand and practice the stages of writing assignments, including planning, drafting, revising, and editing.
- Analyze and critically evaluate the ideas presented in course texts.
- Recognize the value of becoming an engaged learner who fully participates in the campus community.
- Facilitate small group discussion in a way that encourages multiple viewpoints.
- Connect ideas across a variety of sources, giving consideration to perspectives that may differ from your own.
- Work together as a group to produce and present ideas.

General Education Category: Foundation building, 3 credit hours

Course Instructor: Small groups held in Tate 226 with Dr. Saralyn DeSmet, Professor of Modern Languages, office in Tate 209, 757-5222; sdesmet@wesleyancollege.edu

Lab Instructor: Lab meetings on Thursday mornings 8:30-9:30 in Tate 226 with Ms. Stefanie Swanger, Director of Residence Life, office in Huckabee, 757-5215; sswanger@wesleyancollege.edu

Peer Mentor: Madison Leary mnleary@wesleyancollege.edu



Requirements:

Texts:

Jones, Tayari. *Silver Sparrow*. Chapel Hill, NC: Algonquin, 2012. Print.

Hacker, Diana and Nancy Sommers. *Rules for Writers*. 7th Ed. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2012.

Attendance: Be on time and prepared for discussion for every class. You are allowed to miss class (lab meetings count as class) five times without grade penalty, but each additional absence will result in a 2% decrease of your final grade. You are responsible for contacting your professor or lab instructor to discuss the absence and what you missed, but cannot make up quizzes or other assignments completed during class. If you arrive late, enter quietly and sit in the first open seat you find to minimize disruption. If you are late (or leave class early) three times, it will count as one absence.

Honor Code and Academic Integrity: We expect you to uphold Wesleyan's Honor Code at all times. Plagiarism is the unauthorized or inappropriate use of others' words, images or ideas, when written, artistic or spoken material is borrowed, in whole or in part, without due credit. If you plagiarize, you will receive a zero on the assignment. You will also be reported to the Provost of the College and the Honor Court.

Classroom Decorum: You are expected to conduct yourself in a professional manner. Turn off your cell phone; even if it does not ring, it is distracting. Texting, sleeping, working on non-related material or being disrespectful is unacceptable. Appropriate classroom decorum is your responsibility in small group sessions, common sessions, convocations, and WISE Lab sessions. If you behave in a disruptive manner during a common session, small group, or lab session, you will be marked absent for the day, and you may be asked to leave the session.

Late Assignments: Assignments are due at the moment class begins on the due date. After that time, they are considered late, and your score will drop 10%, with additional 10% grade reductions for each day past the due date that your instructor receives the assignment. In cases of illness or family emergency, students must contact faculty members by email before the assignment is due. Electronic submissions will not be accepted without prior approval.

Disabilities: Wesleyan College is committed to equal education, full participation and access to facilities for all students. Any student who requires reasonable academic accommodations, use of auxiliary aids or facility access for a class must first register with Disability Resources by contacting Christy Henry, Assistant Dean of Academic Resources at chenry@wesleyancollege.edu or (478) 757-5219. If reasonable accommodations are established, students should request Accommodation Letters from Disability Resources then schedule an appointment to meet with the professor to determine how the accommodations will be implemented for each class as early in the semester as possible. Accommodations require advance notice to implement and will not be retroactively administered for the semester. Accommodations that decrease the integrity of a course will not be approved.

Writing Center: You may schedule appointments with writing tutors through the Writing Center (downstairs in OSP) at any point during the semester for help with reading or writing tasks.

Grade distribution:

- 35% Essays (3 essays)
- 15% Online Posts (12 posts; drop 2 lowest grades)
- 15% Lab Assignments
- 15% IF Facilitation and Participation
- 10% IF Group PechaKucha (2% draft, 4% final draft and presentation, 4% average of peer evaluations)
- 10% Reading Quizzes (12 quizzes; drop 2 lowest grades)

A = 90% – 100%

B = 80% – 89%

C = 70% – 79%

D = 60% – 69%

F = 59% and below

WISe 101 Lab: WISe lab is designed to help you make a successful transition to Wesleyan. It is an opportunity for students to assess, gain, and practice skills necessary for success in college. Through WISe Lab you will learn:

- How to evaluate information critically, in and out of the classroom, in order to achieve your maximum potential.
- The importance of serving as a responsible and involved community member.
- The value of healthy habits and how to develop them.
- How to live and work with people of diverse backgrounds and beliefs.
- About resources available at Wesleyan and how to use them.
- How to develop a network of supportive peers, faculty, and staff.

Unless otherwise noted, Lab meets Thursdays from 8:30 am - 9:30 am; Common Sessions will be held in Taylor Amphitheatre, Small Group sessions in your WISe 101 classroom, and Library sessions in Willet Library. The location of rotating sessions will be announced. Your Lab grade is worth 15% of your WISe 101 grade. You can earn up to 150 points as follows:

20 points for class participation

- 20 points for attending 4 CLASS Sessions: Tuesdays at 9 am; minimum 2 before fall break
- 20 points for participating in WOW! A Day or another service opportunity
- 20 points for completing the library orientation and assignment
- 20 points for attending 1 Community and Cultural Event (CCE)
- 10 points for completing the Success Navigator Inventory
- 10 points for attending the Plagiarism Workshop
- 10 points for attending the MAC party downtown on September 18th
- 10 points for completing Title IX on-line assignment
- 10 points for attending 2 Leadership Success Series Workshops

Daily Schedule

- Mon, Aug 17 Common Session (always meet in Taylor Amphitheatre). Identity: What is your story?
Texts Due – For each class meeting that lists an assigned text due that day, you should have thoroughly and carefully read, watched, or listened to those texts; unannounced reading quizzes throughout the semester will test whether you are prepared for class. Written texts are provided in your Course Readings packet, and backup copies are available on WesPortal.
Text Due: Watch Chimamanda Adichie’s TED talk, “The Danger of a Single Story,” (www.ted.com/talks/chimamanda_adichie_the_danger_of_a_single_story.html)
Success Navigator On-Line Work Due by 9 A.M.
-
- Wed, Aug 19 Small Group (always meet in your advisor’s classroom): Syllabus questions; Identity
Online Post #1 Due: Posts are designed to develop your ideas as you prepare to write your essays. Posts should use quotations to convey important ideas from the texts, summarize the texts’ arguments, and then respond to those arguments. You will write your posts on WesPortal, under the Collaboration tab, where you can read what others have written and add your response to the prompt. By prompt, we mean the questions or issues in that assignment to which you will respond. This post is **due by 6:00 A.M.** today; late submissions will not be accepted.
Text due: Watch Pico Iyer’s TED talk, “Where is Home?” (http://www.ted.com/talks/pico_ayer_where_is_home?language=en) Review syllabus.
-
- Thu, Aug 20 Lab Small Group: Welcome and Overview
-
- Fri, Aug 21 Common Session: Introduce IF, Model IF Discussion by Peer Mentors
-
- Sun, Aug 23 **7:00 pm – *Mona Lisa Smile*** in Taylor Amphitheater
-
- Mon, Aug 24 Common Session: Wesleyan’s Identity
Online Post #2 Due

Texts Due: The Wesleyan College Mission Statement (<http://www.wesleyancollege.edu/about/missionstatement.cfm>), the China Room in Willet Library (<http://www.wesleyancollege.edu/academics/library/archives/chinaroom.cfm>), article “Paying Tribute” to the First Five on page 31 of *Wesleyan Magazine* from Summer 2009 (<http://issuu.com/wesleyancollege/docs/wesmagspring09bla>)

Wed, Aug 26 Small Group: Identity

Online post #3 Due; IF Group Contract Due

Text due: Read the article, “Body Ritual Among the Nacirema” by Horace Miner.

Thu, Aug 27 Lab Small Group: College Success

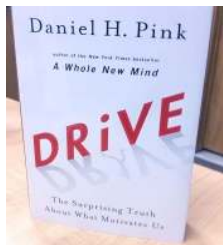
Fri, Aug 28 Small Group: IF Discussion #1 – What does it mean to be wise?

No texts due on IF days.

Mon, Aug 31 Common Session: Active Reading; Mastery

During class, we will introduce the first essay assignment (complete instructions for Essay #1 will be handed out and are also available on WesPortal).

Bring Hacker and Pink article to class. Text due: Read chapter 5 – “Mastery” from Daniel Pink’s *Drive: The Surprising Truth About What Motivates Us*.

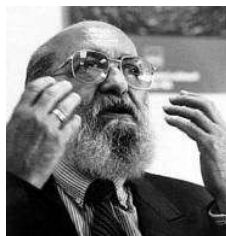
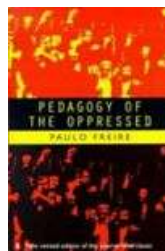


7:00 pm Avoiding Plagiarism convo in Taylor Amphitheater

Wed, Sep 2 Small Group: Revolutionary Education

Online Post #4 Due

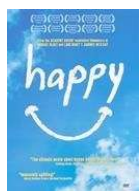
Texts Due: Watch Sir Kenneth Robinson’s RSA Animate on YouTube called “Changing Education Paradigms” (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zDZFcdGpL4U>) and read chapter 2—“The ‘Banking’ Concept of Education” from Paulo Freire’s *Pedagogy of the Oppressed*.



Thu, Sep 3 Lab Small Group: Ethical Decision Making and Integrity

Fri, Sep 4 Small Group: IF Discussion #2 – What does education mean to you?

Mon, Sep 7 No Class – Labor Day



Tue, Sep 8 **7:00 pm** Screening of *Happy* in Taylor Amphitheater

Wed, Sep 9 Small Group: Happiness

During class, we will introduce the first essay assignment (complete instructions for Essay #1 will be handed out and are also available on WesPortal).

Online Post #5 Due

Text Due: Watch *Happy* at the group screening in Taylor Amphitheater on Tue, Sept. 8 at 7 pm (also available on reserve in the library or online).

Thu, Sep 10 Lab Rotation: Appreciating Differences, Leadership and Communication, College is an Investment, Planning for Your Future

Fri, Sep 11 Small Group: IF Discussion #3 – How can we be happy?

Sun, Sep 13 **CCE:** Film Guild and Second Sunday Concert

Mon, Sep 14 Common Session: Success

Online Post #6 Due

Text due: Watch Sarah Lewis' TED Talk, "Embrace the Near Win"

(http://www.ted.com/talks/sarah_lewis_embrace_the_near_win), and Alain de

Botton's TED talk, "A Kinder, Gentler Philosophy of Success"

(http://www.ted.com/talks/alain_de_botton_a_kinder_gentler_philosophy_of_success?language=en).

Wed, Sep 16 Small Group: Workshop Your Draft of Essay #1

Draft of Essay #1 Due : Bring a complete printed draft of Essay #1 to class, including a Works Cited page. You will exchange your paper with another student and provide each other feedback.

Thu, Sep 17 Lab Rotation

Title IX On-Line Assignments Due

Fri, Sep 18 Small Group: IF Discussion #4 – What is success and how do we achieve it?

4 pm-9 pm MAC party downtown

Sat, Sep 19 CCE: Ocmulgee National Monument Indian Celebration

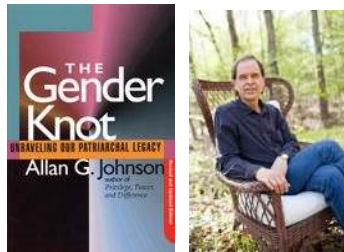
Mon, Sep 21 Common Session: Successfully Incorporating Sources into Your Writing
No texts due.

Wed, Sep 23 Small Group: Finding Purpose in Life
Essay #1 Due: Turn in your final draft for grading, along with your first draft and worksheet from the workshop.
Texts Due: Watch Rick Warren’s TED talk, “A Life of Purpose,” (www.ted.com/talks/rick_warren_on_a_life_of_purpose.html), and Alain de Botton’s TED talk, “Atheism 2.0” (www.ted.com/talks/alain_de_botton_atheism_2_0.html)

Thu, Sep 24 Lab Small Group: Thriving in College

Fri, Sep 25 Small Group: IF Discussion #5 – How can we live with purpose?

Mon, Sep 28 Common Session: Identity: Gender as a Text
Online Post #7 Due
During class, we will introduce the second essay assignment (complete instructions for Essay #2 will be handed out and are also available on WesPortal).
Texts Due: Read chapter 3 – “Ideology, Myth, and Magic” from Allan G. Johnson’s *The Gender Knot: Unraveling our Patriarchal Legacy*.



Wed, Sep 30 Small Group: Identity: Women’s Voices
Online Post #8 Due
Texts Due: Watch TED talks: Kavita Ramdas’s “Radical Women, Embracing Tradition” (www.ted.com/talks/kavita_ramdas_radical_women_embracing_tradition.html) and Eve Ensler’s “Suddenly, My body” (http://www.ted.com/talks/eve_ensler). Read Kitty Tsui’s “A Chinese Banquet” and Jamaica Kincaid’s “Girl.”



Thu, Oct 1 Lab Common Session: Introduction to WOW-a-Day for Macon at 11:15 in Taylor Amp

Fri, Oct 2 Small Group: IF Discussion #6 – How gender matters?
CCE: The Lost Keys Literary Festival

Mon, Oct 5 Common Session: Identity: Race and Class
Online Post #9 Due
Texts due: Read bell hooks' "Learning in the Shadow of Race and Class."

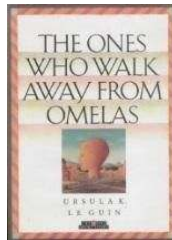
Wed, Oct 7 Small Group: Workshop Your Draft of Essay #2
Draft of Essay #2 Due – Bring a complete printed draft with Works Cited of Essay #2 to class for peer review.

Thu, Oct 8 No Class - Lab Library Orientation: Sign up to attend one session between October 5-9

Fri, Oct 9 Small Group: IF Discussion #7 – Exploring Intersections of Gender, Class, and Race

Mon, Oct 12 No Class – Fall Break

Wed, Oct 14 Small Group: Responsibility to Others
Essay #2 Due: Turn in your final draft for grading, along with your first draft and worksheet from the workshop
Texts Due: Read Ursula K. Le Guin's, "The Ones Who Walk Away From Omelas."



Thu, Oct 15 Lab Common Session: Advising and Registration Overview
Library Assignment Due

Fri, Oct 16 Small Group: IF Discussion #8 – How are we connected to others?

Sun, Oct 18 CCE: Theatre Macon – Calendar Girls

-
- Mon, Oct 19 Common Session: Music and video as texts
Texts Due: Watch Adele’s video, “Someone Like You” on YouTube (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hLQI3WQOoO0>), listen to “The Ballad of the Tearful” on npr.org (<http://www.npr.org/2012/02/13/146818461/the-ballad-of-the-tearful-why-some-songs-make-you-cry>), read “Anatomy of a Tearjerker” from the *Wall Street Journal* on online.wsj.com (<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052970203646004577213010291701378.html>), and read “To Tug Hearts, Music First Must Tickle the Neurons” from the *New York Times* (http://www.nytimes.com/2011/04/19/science/19brain.html?_r=2&pagewanted=all&)
-
- Wed, Oct 21 No Class – Individual spring advising appointments with your WISE 101 instructor.
-
- Thu, Oct 22 Lab Common Session: Living Well
-
- Fri, Oct 23 No Class – Individual spring advising appointments with your WISE 101 instructor.
-
- Sat, Oct 24 WOW-a-Day for Macon

CCE: Macon Symphony Orchestra – Symphonic Tricks and Orchestral Treats
-
- Mon, Oct 26 Common Session: Reading *Silver Sparrow*
During class, we will introduce the third essay assignment (complete instructions for Essay #3 will be handed out and are also available on WesPortal)
Texts Due: Tayari Jones’s *Silver Sparrow* (a double reading quiz will be given).
-
- Wed, Oct 28 Small Group: Discuss *Silver Sparrow*
Online Post #10 Due
-
- Thu, Oct 29 Lab Rotation
-
- Fri, Oct 30 Small Group: IF Discussion #9 – Exploring gender in *Silver Sparrow*.
Last day to withdraw from a course. See your professors or advisor immediately if you have questions about whether or not you should withdraw from a course.
-
- Mon, Nov 2 Common Session: Panel Discussion with Wesleyan Graduates
-
- Wed, Nov 4 Small Group: Workshop Your Draft of Essay #3
Draft of Essay #3 Due – Bring a complete printed draft of Essay #3 to class. You will exchange your paper with another student and provide each other feedback.
-
- Thu, Nov 5 Lab Rotation
-
- Fri, Nov 6 Small Group: IF Discussion #10 – How can we create a diverse community?
-
- Mon, Nov 9 Common Session: Presentation Matters.

During class, we will introduce the PechaKucha assignment, your final group assignment for the IF component of the class (complete instructions for the PechaKucha will be handed out and are also available on WesPortal). **To start you thinking about the PechaKucha project, bring one visual image to class that connects one of the ideas we have touched on this semester to the larger idea of wisdom and write a 20-second script to accompany it.**

No texts due.

Wed, Nov 11 Small Group: Mindfulness

Essay #3 Due: Turn in your final draft for grading, along with your first draft and worksheet from the workshop.

Texts Due: Watch “Martin Scorsese and Ray Dalio on Creativity, Meditation and Success” (<https://www.davidlynchfoundation.org/videos.html#video=5-kJvsQh8Ak>) and listen and participate in a beginner’s meditation (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IzV6J4WCwRM>).

Thu, Nov 12 Lab Small Group: Wrap Up

Fri, Nov 13 Small Group: IF Discussion #11 – How can we practice mindfulness?

Mon, Nov 16 Common Session: Vocation and Work

Guest Speaker: Rev. Debra Williams

Online Post #11 Due

Texts Due: Read chapter 1 - “Recovering Calling” from Bryan Dik and Ryan Duffy’s *Make Your Job a Calling: How the Psychology of Vocation Can Change Your Life at Work*.

Wed, Nov 18 Small Group: PechaKucha IF Workshop (20 minutes IF to focus on thesis, then style – 15 minutes of division of labor – all will need to have 5 slides and texts by the Monday after Thanksgiving.)

PechaKucha Draft Thesis Due by the end of class

Thu, Nov 19 No Lab Meeting

Fri, Nov 20 Small Group: IF Discussion #12 – How do we find our vocation?

No texts due.

Mon, Nov 23- Fri, Nov 27 No Class - No Lab – Thanksgiving Break

Mon, Nov 30 Small Group: PechaKucha Workshop

To help your group develop its PechaKucha, each member should bring 5 images that you think show an aspect of wisdom and a 20-second script for each one to the workshop.

Wed, Dec 2 PechaKucha Conferences with Your Instructor
PechaKucha Draft due: Email your instructor a complete draft of your group's PechaKucha by 5:00 pm.

Thu, Dec 3 No Lab meeting

Fri, Dec 4 Small Group: PechaKucha Workshop

Mon, Dec 7 Common Session: Assessment
Online Post #12 Due

Wed, Dec 9 Small Group: PechaKucha Presentation
Final Draft of PechaKucha Due.
Each group will formally present their PechaKucha in class.

Fri, Dec 11 Common Session – PechaKucha Showdown
PechaKucha Group Peer Evaluations Due.
The best PechaKucha from each section will compete for PechaKucha supremacy. A group of guest judges will select the winner.
