ENG 100: Introduction to College Reading and Writing  
COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2015

Instructor: Amanda McCain  
Office Location: HL 215  
Office Hours: W 1-3pm, R 1-3pm and by appointment  
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PLEASE NOTE: This is a common syllabus used by all graduate students teaching sections of this course.

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings:

Textbook(s) Required:

3. Your ENG 1301 books

Course Description:
This course is designed to support you in successfully completing your ENG 1301 class. You’ll work with your small groups and ENG 100 instructor to strengthen your drafts for ENG 1301, better understand your writing process, and work individually on the challenges you may face when writing academic texts. You will also work on your reading skills in this class.

Student Learning Outcomes- From THECB:
Students will be able to:

1. Locate explicit textual information, draw complex inferences, and analyze and evaluate the information within and across multiple texts of varying lengths.
2. Comprehend and use vocabulary effectively in speaking, reading, and writing.
3. Identify and analyze the audience, purpose, and message across a variety of texts.
4. Describe and apply insights gained from reading and writing a variety of texts.
5. Compose a variety of texts that demonstrate reading comprehension, clear focus, logical development of ideas, and use of appropriate language that advance the writer’s purpose.

6. Determine and use effective approaches and rhetorical strategies for given reading and writing situations.

7. Generate ideas and gather information relevant to the topic and purpose, incorporating the ideas and words of other writers in student writing using established strategies.

8. Evaluate relevance and quality of ideas and information in recognizing, formulating, and developing a claim.

9. Develop and use effective reading and revision strategies to strengthen the writer’s ability to compose college-level writing assignments.

10. Recognize and apply the conventions of standard English in reading and writing.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Instructional / Methods / Activities Assessments

Feedback Sessions:

Be prepared to talk about your own writing and the writing of others in the group as we workshop papers. You will share drafts of your writing with other readers, they will respond. We will frequently workshop your papers and you should always be prepared to participate by contributing enthusiastically, knowledgably, and productively to all discussions. The purpose for the workshop sessions is to help you develop habits of reflection and effective ways to “see” others’ work in order to help them revise it, even as you learn to revise your own work with the same strategies. You will respond regularly, respectfully, and diplomatically, to the work of other members of your group through workshopping papers.

Journals

Conferences:

These conferences are one-on-one conferences scheduled between the instructor and student. ENG 100 instructors are required to hold conferences at least three times during the semester: once early in the semester (by the end of week 3), around midterm, and near the end of the semester.

Writing Memoir:

In this class, you read Stephen King’s memoir of his writing. For the final project of this class, you will write your own writing memoir. Obviously you will be very creative in this document while also utilizing strategies you have learned in this class and ENG 1301, but there are also some required elements of this text. You must include a section that talks about your writing process this semester and what steps you took to improve
your papers for ENG 1301. You should use a lot of detail (like King does) and describe your process as thoroughly as possible. Quote the feedback you received for your ENG 1301 and 100 teachers, feedback from peers, feedback from the Writing Center, and other resources you employed to become a better writer this semester. This paper challenges you to examine your improvement as a writer this semester, but also to look back at past experiences with writing to see how those experiences shaped who you are as a writer today. Be sure to critically examine the way you are describing yourself in this memoir—Bronwyn Williams’ article will help you critically analyze the metaphors you create in this text.

### TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

You will need:

- A valid, working email address that you check often (everyday)
- Regular internet access (additional readings available online)
- Access to a computer with a word processing program and a printer (assignments must be typed and printed, and you will print approximately 100 pages for this class.)
- Some instructors of ENG 100 may choose to utilize an eCollege course shell.

### ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

Some texts for this course may exist exclusively online, so you must have Internet access to read and/or view these texts.

### COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

**Interaction with Instructor Statement:**

Please contact your instructor with any questions you may have. Your instructor’s communication preference is e-mail, and her address is: Amanda.mccain@tamuc.edu. Also, each instructor in the department of literature and languages is required to keep at least three office hours per course per week.

**Grievance Procedure:**

If you have concerns about the class or about me as an instructor, please speak to me about those concerns. If you are not satisfied with the outcome of our conversation, the next person in the chain of command is the Director of the Writing Program, Dr. Tabetha Adkins. Her e-mail address is Tabetha.Adkins@tamuc.edu (Tabetha dot Adkins at tamuc dot edu).

Please see this site for more information on the grievance procedures: http://web.tamuc.edu/academics/colleges/humanitiesSocialSciencesArts/departments/literatureLanguages/firstYearWriting/informationForStudents.aspx
Course Specific Procedures:

Attendance Policy
The university has no policy for “excused absences” except for university sanctioned events, so please save your absences for illness, court appearances, child care arrangements, and other situations when you must miss class.

There is no such thing as “partial attendance”—students are either present for the entire course or they are absent. If you are asked to leave the class for disruptive or disrespectful behavior, the day will be counted as an absence regardless of how much class time is left.

This class meets three times a week (MWF). You may miss up to six (6) times without penalty. On and after the seventh (7) absence, your final grade will drop by one letter. After the ninth (9) absence, you cannot pass the course.

Excessive tardiness will be penalized as an absence.

Academic Honesty
The official departmental policy: “Instructors in the Department of Literature and Languages do not tolerate plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty. Instructors uphold and support the highest academic standards, and students are expected to do likewise. Penalties for students guilty of academic dishonesty include disciplinary probation, suspension, and expulsion. (Texas A&M University-Commerce Code of Student Conduct 5.b [1,2,3])

If you ever have any questions about a particular use of a source, always ask your instructor. They want you to avoid plagiarism, too, so they will help you do so whenever and wherever they can. Do what you can to take advantage of this support—to look innocent in addition to being innocent when it comes to charges of plagiarism.

Students guilty of academic dishonesty of plagiarism can expect to fail the assignment in question or the entire course depending on the nature of the incident.

On University-Sanctioned Activities
To accommodate students who participate in university-sanctioned activities, the First-Year Composition Program offers sections of this course at various times of the day and week. If you think that this course may conflict with a university-sanctioned activity in which you are involved--athletics, etc.--please see your instructor after class on the first day.

University Specific Procedures:
On Behalf of Students with Disabilities:

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services  
Texas A&M University-Commerce  
Gee Library 132  
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835  
Fax (903) 468-8148  
StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu  
Student Disability Resources & Services

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See Code of Student Conduct from Student Guide Handbook).

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Weekly Schedule:
The instructor reserves the right to adjust this schedule throughout the semester to accommodate for class needs, unexpected weather, etc.

Week one:
Introductions  
Getting Started in ENG 100

Spring Break- March 16-20

Week twelve: draft of Memoir Due

Week fifteen: You are encouraged to attend the Celebration of Student Writing, 10AM until 2PM, Friday, May 8 in the Student Center Conferences A, B, & C