



**ENG 1301: College Reading and Writing
COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2015**

Instructor: Dr. Frank Alexander

Office Location: HL 215

Office Hours: MWF 8 - 9 am, 3:00 - 4: 00 pm

Office Phone: (903) 886.5908

Office Fax: (903) 886.5980

University Email Address: Frank.Alexander@tamuc.edu

PLEASE NOTE: This is a common syllabus used in the teaching of this course

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings:

Textbook(s) Required:

Problem Posing: Readings for Democratic Learning. Eds. Mary J. Couzelis, J.D. Isip, and Tabetha Adkins. Fountainhead Press, 2013.

ENG 1301 Course Pack- available online:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/colleges/humanitiesSocialSciencesArts/departments/literatureLanguages/firstYearWriting/informationForStudents.aspx>

Course Description:

English 1301 - (formerly ENG 101) - Introduces students to writing as an extended, complex, recursive process and prepares students for English 1302, which more rigorously examines the forms and structures of argument and means to approaching multiple audiences. In 1301 students will write weekly, and will work on essay organization and development. The course will emphasize close reading, summarizing, and analysis of expository texts, including student writing.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Students will be able to use rhetorical terminology to describe writing.

Students will be able to identify instances of plagiarism and explain why it is a serious offense in academic writing.

Students will be able to interpret texts written for academic audiences.

Students will be able to use academic writing conventions in their own writing.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Instructional / Methods / Activities Assessments

Major Writing Assignments (WAs):

WAs must be turned in by midnight of the assigned due date to dropbox. All major writing assignments are to be typed, margins all around should be 1-inch, and the font should be Times New Roman 12 point. I strongly advise NOT waiting until the last minute. I do not accept late papers unless under dire circumstances and I have been contacted before the paper is due.

WA1

What you are doing in this paper: you are entering the academic conversation concerning writing through reflecting on your own experience

You have considered the experience of different writers and student writers in general. You have also begun to examine some important areas of writing knowledge. In this paper analyze who are you as a writer and the ways that you are experiencing change as a writer. In this paper you should reflect on your experience and also demonstrate knowledge that you have gained in this course. Thus, your paper should demonstrate your own sense of identity, awareness of discourse communities, understanding of rhetoric, and your own experiences with literacy and literacy sponsors.

WA2

Enter the academic conversation concerning an area of social concern in which you are personally interested

In your WA 2 you get to research an area of personal interest and that is also important to society as a whole. Examples of interests include, but are not limited to, racial, gender, sexuality, and social justice studies. In this paper you will enter the scholarly conversation concerning this interest by making an argument about your findings. In making your argument you will show your ability to integrate scholarly sources (peer reviewed articles or professionally recognized texts) to demonstrate that you know what other authorities have said about your area interest and your aspects of your particular argument.

WA3, WA4 - TBA

Reading Responses:

Reader Responses – Reading responses are responses to the articles that have been assigned for reading. For these assignments I will ask that you type a *full page response* to the article before class. These responses are more organized than freewrites, which means I will be looking for well thought out critical responses, as well as organization, grammar and punctuation. They are to be a full page (250 words), double-spaced, typed in 12-point font

Times New Roman and have at least one citation done in MLA style, with a MLA style heading. These papers will also be turned in on dropbox.

Participation

Every day you will receive at least one participation grade. Your participation includes

1. Participating constructively in class discussions and in group work
2. Quizzes over the assigned homework readings Talking in class in an intelligent way shows you have read the homework assignments.
3. Work done in class (such as journaling) or small homework assignments that will you will turn in during class time.

If you miss a class for any reason, whether you have a good excuse or not, you will receive a participation grade. If you are absent, this grade will be 0. Quizzes and assignments done at the beginning of class, if missed, cannot be made up. However, your four lowest daily *participation* grades will be dropped when your course grade is averaged at the end of the semester. In other words, you can receive up to four 0s for absences and have all four of the 0s dropped.

Final Project

What you are doing in this paper: Entering the academic conversation concerning your area of academic and/or professional interest

In your final project you get an opportunity to bring together all of the writing skills and knowledge that you have developed over the course of the semester. In this paper you will research an area of personal academic and/or professional interest. In this paper you will enter the scholarly conversation concerning this interest by making an argument about your findings. In making your argument you will show your ability to integrate scholarly sources (peer reviewed articles or professionally recognized texts) to demonstrate that you know what other authorities have said about your area interest and your aspects of your particular argument.

Grading

Here's a breakdown of how your grade will be calculated:

WA1 - 10%

WA2 - 15%

WA3 - 15%

WA4 - 20%

Reading Responses - 20%

Participation - 20%

Grading Scale:

90-100	A
89-80	B
79-70	C
69-60	D
59 and below	F

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

You will need:

- Flash drive or other means (dropbox.com account, for example) of storing digital versions of the essays and other written material you generate (always, always keep a backup of everything you turn in!)
- 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)
- Ability to print 30-50 pages throughout the semester (funds, ink, paper, etc.)
- Ability to access a Learning Studio (formerly known as eCollege) course shell for supplemental course information
- Notebook and pens for freewriting, journaling, and in-class assignments

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

Some texts for this course 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 you instructor with any questions you may have. Your instructor's communication preference is e-mail, and his address is: Frank.Alexander@tamuc.edu. Also, each instructor in the department of literature and languages is required to keep at least four office hours per week.

Grievance Procedure:

Students who have concerns regarding their courses should first address those concerns with the assigned instructor in order to reach a resolution. Students who are unsatisfied with the outcome of that conversation or have not been able to meet individually with their instructor, whether in-person, by email, by telephone, or by another communication medium, should then schedule an appointment with the Director of First-Year Writing, Dr. Tabetha Adkins, by completing a student grievance form available on the program website:
<http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/colleges/humanitiesSocialSciencesArts/departments/literatureLanguages/firstYearWriting/informationForStudents.aspx>).

Where applicable, students should also consult University Procedure 13.99.99.R0.05 (“Student Appeal of Instructor Evaluation”).

Departmental Chain of Command for ENG 100/1301/1302 courses: Instructor -> Dr. Tabetha Adkins, Director of First-Year Writing -> Dr. Susan Stewart, Assistant Department Head or Dr. Hunter Hayes, Department Head

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

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. Email me ahead of time when you know you will not be able to be at class.

Any absence will likely cause a student to miss out on important learning since all of our classes build knowledge toward writing assignments. Since you will receive a daily participation grade, any absence will affect your grade. Additionally, after the fifth absence, the student’s *final grade* will automatically drop by one letter. After the **eighth** absence, the student cannot pass the course.

Excessive tardiness will be penalized as an absence. If you come to late 3 times that will count as an absence. “Late” is when I have completed taking roll and class has begun. It is your responsibility to make sure your presence is accounted for accurately; therefore, if you do come in late, then it is your responsibility to make sure I have you marked as late instead of absent.

Any student who is late more than 15 minutes for a class or who leaves more than 15 minutes early will be counted as absent for that class period and subject to the absence rules. This rule applies even if there is "a good reason" for being tardy.

Scheduled conferences with the instructor (for which regular class meetings are cancelled) count as class meetings when counting attendance. (In other words, if you skip your conference with me, it counts as an absence.)

Assignments are due at the designated time whether a student is absent or not.

You are responsible for obtaining the information you missed when you are absent. Refer to the calendar or syllabus or ask a peer from class in order to know what you missed.

If you miss a class for any reason, whether you have a good excuse or not, you will receive a participation grade. If you are absent, this grade will be 0. Quizzes and assignments done at the beginning of class, if missed, cannot be made up. However, your four lowest daily *participation* grades will be dropped when your course grade is averaged at the end of the semester. In other words, you can receive up to four 0s for absences and have all four of the 0s dropped.

Other course policies:

1. I do not accept late work unless the situation is dire. You must talk to be beforehand to have any chance of receiving credit on late work.
2. I do not accept papers submitted via e-mail unless we previously agreed upon that arrangement.
3. Turn your cell phone ringer off and put it away during class. If you're experiencing some kind of emergency in your personal life that requires access to a cell phone during class, let me know before class begins.
4. You must turn in all assignments in order to pass the course.
5. Please be courteous to me and to your classmates; come to class on time. See attendance policy for more information.
6. All assignments must be typed in 12pt Times New Roman font and double-spaced.

Academic Honesty

The official departmental policy: "Instructors in the Department of Literature and Languages do not tolerate plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonestly. 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. See your *Writing at Texas A&M University-Commerce* Guide (a required text for this course) for more information.)

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:

All students enrolled at the university shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See current Student Guidebook)

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, Gee Library, Room 132 (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835 phone (903) 468-8148 fax Email: Rebecca.Tuerk@tamuc.edu 1.11

Nondiscrimination notice: A&M – Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Units and readings:

“Academia is a conversation about ideas, and you are able to contribute ideas to a conversation as well as anyone else.” -Foss & Waters.

The calendar below is likely to change in order to accommodate learning needs. Major changes in the syllabus will be announced in class and/or via email. *It is your responsibility to keep up with and appropriately respond to modifications to the schedule:*

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

The subject matter	The readings: subject to change to reflect learner needs	Major assignments and student conferences
Week 1 Key terms: Literacy/Burkean Parlor	<i>Course Pack</i> , 4 - 8, 10.	
Week 2 Key terms: literacy sponsor, discourse community, genre	"Learning to Read," 304 - 311 "The Concept of Discourse Community" pdf; <i>Course Pack</i> , 12 - 15.	RR#1
Week 3 Key terms: writing process, rhetoric, CARS model	"Becoming a Writer" 194 - 195; "What Writing Is" 294-296; "Superman and Me," 41 - 43 "Sponsors of Literacy," 140- 161	WA1 first draft Student conferences
Week 4 Key terms: bibliography, reference, citation	"Rhetoric," 6 - 27; <i>Course Pack</i> , 11 - 15.	WA1
Week 5 Key terms: photo essay, argument, intertextuality	"Shitty First Drafts" 297-300;	Student Conferences/RR#2
Week 6 Key term: subjectivity	"All Writing Is Autobiography" 342 - 349. Critical pedagogy	RR#3
Week 7 Key terms: peer group, workshopping	"What Should Colleges Teach? Part 1, Part 3," 231 - 239, and TBA Critical pedagogy	RR#4
Week 8 Key term: Critical pedagogy	<i>Course Pack</i> , 16-26	WA2
Week 9 Exploring your interests and practical instruction	"Everyday Use," 467-474 "Inventing the University," 55 - 71 Chapter 3, p 20 Coursepack	Student Conferences/RR#5
Week 10 Exploring your interests and practical instruction	"Freshman Composition as a Middle-Class Enterprise," 98 - 120.	WA3 rough draft
Week 11 Exploring your interests and practical instruction	"50 Years of Stupid Grammar Advice" 429-434	WA3 due
Week 12 Exploring your interests and practical instruction	"How to Tame a Wild Tongue," 44 - 54 "From Outside In," 319 - 328	Student Conferences RR #6
Week 13 Exploring your interests and practical instruction	University closes Wednesday at noon for Thanksgiving. "The Composing Processes of Unskilled College Writers," "Blue Collar Brilliance," 442-448.	WA4 rough draft
Week 14 Exploring your interests and		Reading Response #7

<p>Week 14 Exploring your interests and practical instruction</p>		<p>Reading Response #7</p>
<p>Week 15 Exploring your interests and practical instruction</p>	<p>"Teaching About Writing, Righting Misconceptions," 197 - 227</p>	<p>WA4 due Celebration of Student Writing on Friday, December 11 from 11:00 AM until 1:00 PM in the Student Center Conference rooms A, B, & C.</p> <p>December 11 is the last class day.</p>
<p>Week 16</p>	<p>NO ENGLISH CLASS during Finals Week (No formal exam for ENG 1301)</p>	<p>NO ENGLISH CLASS during Finals Week (No formal exam for</p>