Eng 100.09L Introduction to College Reading & Writing  
COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2015

Instructor: Charles A. Stephens  
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COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Textbook(s) Required  
http://web.tamuc.edu/academics/colleges/humanitiesSocialSciencesArts/departments/literatureLanguages/firstYearWriting/informationForStudents.aspx  
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  
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:

There will be a journal due nearly every week. These journals will help you in putting together your essays for your Eng 1301 class, as well as for your memoir in this class.

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.

**Participation:**

We may have quizzes, in-class writing assignments, group work, and other tasks during classtime. Be here and take part in a meaningful way and you should have no problem getting full credit for participation.

**GRADING**

Your grade is figured as follows:

- Feedback Sessions 20%
- Journals 20%
- Conferences 20%
- Writing Memoir 20%
- Participation 20%

**TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS**

- To fully participate in online courses, you will need to use a current, Flash enabled browser. For PC users, the suggested browser is Internet Explorer 9.0 or 10. For Mac users, the most current update of Firefox is suggested.

- You will need regular access to a computer with a broadband Internet connection. The minimum computer requirements are:
  - 512 MB of RAM, 1 GB or more preferred
  - Broadband connection required courses are heavily video intensive
  - Video display capable of high-color 16-bit display 1024 x 768 or higher resolution
• You must have a:
  o sound card, which is usually integrated into your desktop or laptop computer
  o speakers or headphones.

• Depending on your course, you might also need a:
  o webcam
  o microphone

For courses where interactive tools are used, like VoiceThread or ClassLive Pro, headphones are suggested for use with recording and playback. We recommend a webcam with an integrated microphone, such as the Microsoft LifeCam Cinema. All devices should be installed and configured before class begins.

• Both versions of Java (32 bit and 64 bit) must be installed and up to date on your machine. Java can be downloaded at: http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp

• Current anti-virus software must be installed and kept up to date.

• You will need some additional free software for enhanced web browsing. Ensure that you download the free versions of the following software:
  o Adobe Reader
  o Adobe Flash Player

• At a minimum, you must have Microsoft Office 2013, 2010, 2007 or Open Office. Microsoft Office is the standard office productivity software utilized by faculty, students, and staff. Microsoft Word is the standard word processing software, Microsoft Excel is the standard spreadsheet software, and Microsoft PowerPoint is the standard presentation software. Copying and pasting, along with attaching/uploading documents for assignment submission, will also be required. If you do not have Microsoft Office, you can check with the bookstore to see if they have any student copies.

• For additional information about system requirements, please see: https://secure.ecollege.com/tamuc/index.learn?action=technical

**ACCESS AND NAVIGATION**

**Pearson LearningStudio (eCollege) Access and Log in Information**

This course will be facilitated using Pearson LearningStudio, the learning management system used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. To get started with the course, go to: http://www.tamuc.edu/myleo.aspx.

You will need your CWID and password to log in to the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact Technology Services at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.
It is strongly recommended that you perform a “Browser Test” prior to the start of your course. To launch a browser test, login to Pearson LearningStudio, click on the ‘myCourses’ tab, and then select the “Browser Test” link under Support Services.

**Pearson LearningStudio Student Technical Support**

Texas A&M University-Commerce provides students technical support in the use of Pearson LearningStudio.

Technical assistance is available 24 hours a day/ 7 days a week.

If at any time you experience technical problems (e.g., you can’t log in to the course, you can't see certain material, etc.) please contact the Pearson LearningStudio Help Desk, available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The student help desk may be reached by the following means 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

- **Chat Support**: Click on ‘Live Support’ on the tool bar within your course to chat with a Pearson LearningStudio Representative.
- **Phone**: 1-866-656-5511 (Toll Free) to speak with Pearson LearningStudio Technical Support Representative.
- **Email**: helpdesk@online.tamuc.org to initiate a support request with Pearson LearningStudio Technical Support Representative.

**Accessing Help from within Your Course**: Click on the ‘Tech Support’ icon on the upper left side of the screen inside the course. You will then be able to get assistance via online chat, email or by phone by calling the Help Desk number noted below.

**Note**: Personal computer problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend’s home, the local library, office service companies, an Internet cafe, or a bookstore, such as Barnes & Noble, etc.

**Policy for Reporting Problems with Pearson LearningStudio**

Should students encounter Pearson LearningStudio based problems while submitting assignments/discussions/comments/exams, the following procedure **MUST** be followed?

1. Students must report the problem to the help desk. You may reach the helpdesk at helpdesk@online.tamuc.org or 1-866-656-5511
2. Students **MUST** file their problem with the helpdesk and obtain a helpdesk ticket number
3. Once a helpdesk ticket number is in your possession, students should email me to advise me of the problem and to provide me with the helpdesk ticket number.

4. At that time, I will call the helpdesk to confirm your problem and follow up with you.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Your personal computer/access problems are not a legitimate excuse for filing a ticket with the Pearson LearningStudio Help Desk. You are strongly encouraged to check for compatibility of your browser **BEFORE** the course begins and to take the Pearson LearningStudio tutorial offered for students who may require some extra assistance in navigating the Pearson LearningStudio platform. **ONLY** Pearson LearningStudio based problems are legitimate.

**Internet Access**
An Internet connection is necessary to participate in discussions and assignments, access readings, transfer course work, and receive feedback from your professor. View the requirements as outlined in Technology Requirements above for more information.

**myLeo Support**
Your myLeo email address is required to send and receive all student correspondence. Please email helpdesk@tamuc.edu or call us at 903-468-6000 with any questions about setting up your myLeo email account. You may also access information at https://leo.tamuc.edu.

**Learner Support**
Go to the following link One Stop Shop- created to serve you by attempting to provide as many resources as possible in one location.
Go to the following link Academic Success Center- focused on providing academic resources to help you achieve academic success.

**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: cstephens2@leomail.tamuc.edu. Also, each instructor in the department of literature and languages is required to keep at least two office hours per course 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: Students may miss up to four times without penalty. After the fifth absence, the student’s final grade will drop by one letter. After the seventh absence, the student cannot pass the course.

There is no such thing as “partial attendance”—students are either present for the entire course or they are absent.

Excessive tardiness can be penalized as an absence.

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.

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.

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

ADA Statement

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- Room 132
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

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). Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html

Texas A&M University-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.

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

We will craft our course calendar within the first two weeks of class. Our course will follow closely your English 1301 class, as the main focus of this class is to help you with your English 1301 class. Make sure to always bring your syllabus, books, notes, and work from English 1301 with you to this class, as well as the King book.