**English 1301.282**  
Composition I – Fall 2011

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**Office Hours:** M 11:30-1:30, TR 3:00-5:00, and by appointment  
**Note:** If you need to reach me outside office hours, please send me an e-mail.

ENGL 1301.282, MW 3:30-4:45  
ENGL 1301.283, MW 2:00-3:15  

**Course Description**  
Principles, techniques, and processes of written composition, textual analysis, and critical thinking.

Welcome to English 1301, Composition I, the first of two writing courses you will complete as part of the University Core Curriculum. English 1301 introduces you to college-level writing, reading, thinking, and learning.

English 1301 emphasizes writing for different audiences, purposes, and contexts, using appropriate genre and conventions. You will deepen your understanding of and develop your use of writing processes that include invention, multiple drafts, sharing and responding to work in progress, revising, editing, and publishing. You will develop information literacy and engage in critical thinking as you work through writing and reading assignment sequences that require ongoing inquiry and problem solving.

**1301 Student Learning Outcomes**  
Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Apply general principles of the writing process, including drafting, editing, and revision, to generate academic/professional documents.
- Analyze complex issues/ideas in research-based academic writing.
- Analyze and interpret a variety of texts.
- Write in several genres.
- Produce an introduction with a solid focus, direction, and purpose.
- Connect ideas across courses.

**The required textbook for all English 1301 classes is:**  
- *Writing About Writing*, by Elizabeth Wardle & Doug Downs
Other necessities:
- Access to University Network and an active islander email account.
- USB drive to save and transport computer files between home, class, and/or labs.
- SandDollar card for printing in computer labs (costs $$) and checking out items from the library.

Grade Distribution

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Date Due</th>
<th>% of course grade</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project 1</td>
<td>F 9/16</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project 2</td>
<td>F 10/14</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project 3</td>
<td>M 10/31</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project 4</td>
<td>M 12/5</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendance/Participation</td>
<td>Daily</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Attendance/Participation: sign-in sheets, journals, group work, in-class writing, drafts, peer reviews, quizzes, homework

Major Projects. For full descriptions of each project, see links on my wiki.

Project 1: Typology Analysis
5 page paper – discussion and analysis of your results from the Pew Research Typology Survey as well as other political typology categories.

Project 2: Rhetorical Analysis
6-7 page paper – analysis of an approved song of your choice, with a focus on the rhetorical strategies that are employed as well as the rhetorical situation of the song.

Project 3: Research 101
Three assignments – a 15 source annotated bibliography, two source reviews, and an APA assignment. These assignments can contribute to your research focus for P4.

Project 4: Ethnography of a Discourse Community
8-10 page paper – building on your knowledge of discourse communities and using ethnographic research methods (i.e. observation, interviews, surveys, data analysis), this paper asks you to explore a discourse community that has made an impact on you or one that interests you.
Policies

Professionalism & Class Expectations
As a member of the university community, you may or may not be familiar with the general rules for acceptable college-level conduct. All instructors have their “do’s” and “don’ts,” which will vary from course to course. Here are mine:

• BE PUNCTUAL. Attendance will be recorded for each class meeting, including peer reviews, conferences, and workshop days. After your first absence, each absence will deduct from your attendance/participation grade (20% of your course grade).

• COME TO CLASS PREPARED. Read all assigned readings, complete all assigned work, and come to class fully prepared to write and talk about the day’s topics, readings, and writings.

• BE RESPECTFUL: Treat your peers and me with respect, even if our worldviews, values, and opinions are wildly different from yours. Please be tolerant and respectful of others.

• COMMUNICATE WITH ME. If there is something going on in your life that is affecting your work, please let me know as soon as possible. If you don’t understand or are having trouble completing an assignment, please let me know so I can work with you to help you.

• MEET DEADLINES. While I shouldn’t have to tell you this, it is your responsibility to turn in your assignments at the designated time and date.

• DO NOT BRING IN FOOD OR DRINKS. The computer labs do not allow food or drinks unless they are closed bottles kept on the floor.

Late Work
I will not accept late homework, in-class writing assignments, quizzes, or journals. These daily assignments are directly related to your participation and attendance in class. Paper and portfolio due dates are already posted – please note them in your calendar and plan ahead. Final papers and portfolios will not be accepted late without an extension granted at least three days before the due date. In the event that you are unable to turn in your paper or portfolio on time, you must e-mail or meet with me (at least three days before the due date – if the project is due on F 10/14, you must contact me by T 10/11) stating your reasons as well as a proposal for when you will be submitting your work.

Plagiarism and Honesty
All students are expected to conform to college-level standards of ethics, academic integrity, and academic honesty. By enrolling in this course, you agree to be bound by the Regulations and Procedures published in the TAMUCC Student Code of Conduct, published in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism or academic dishonesty will not be tolerated in any form. This includes but is not limited to:

• Claiming someone else’s work as your own,

• Downloading, purchasing, or “borrowing” pre-written essays off the internet or from friends and using them as your own,

• Using resource materials without correct citation, (i.e. APA or MLA)

• Using the organization or language of a source without using quotation marks and/or proper citation.

When in doubt, visit with me or a consultant in the Writing Center for help on how to use sources correctly and effectively within your paper.
Penalties for plagiarism (from An Islander's Guide to Writing): No plagiarized paper will be accepted for credit in any First-Year Writing Program course at TAMUCC. This includes partially plagiarized papers. A plagiarized paper will receive an “F” grade. If the instructor feels that the plagiarism was unintentional , he or she may ask the student to rewrite the paper for credit. Instructors who suspect that a student has plagiarized will submit a letter explaining the reasons for their suspicions and a copy of the student’s paper to the Coordinator of the FYWP, who will keep them on file. All cases of suspected plagiarism that occur in the FYWP courses will be reviewed by the Coordinator. Any student who is suspected of plagiarism will have the opportunity to discuss the matter with the Coordinator of the FYWP. Repeat offenders may be dismissed from the University, per the Student Code of Conduct.

**Academic Dishonesty**

Other forms of academic dishonesty include falsification (the intentional alteration of information), fabrication (the intentional invention of information), multiple submission (using the same material for two separate assignments or courses without permission from the instructors), and abuse of academic materials (the intentional destruction of resource materials).

**Technology and Cell Phones**

- Our class is held in a computer lab, so you will have full access to the internet and any other online resources you will need during our class meetings.
- Computers: During class time, do not use the computer (either in the lab or your own laptop) to login to Facebook, MySpace, Twitter, play games, chat, check your e-mail, or anything else personal and not related to class work. I find this to be extremely rude because they are cutting into class activities. **Inappropriate use of technology may result in my asking you to leave class, resulting in an absence for the day.**
- Cell phones, iPads, iPods, etc.: A ringing cell phone during class time is extremely disrespectful and disruptive. Please disable all electronic devices BEFORE class begins – whether it be switched off, silenced, or switched to vibrate mode. Do not text or answer phone calls during class. If it is necessary for you to take a call during class on a particular day, come and speak to me before class and I will excuse you as needed. **If I see you with your cell phone out during class, I will ask you to leave class, resulting in an absence for the day.**

**Resources**

**The Center for Academic Student Achievement (CASA)**
The consultants at the Writing Center invite any individual at TAMUCC who wants assistance or guidance with any type of writing project to come and meet with them. Throughout the semester, if I believe that your writing needs additional work or attention, I may suggest that you make an appointment with a consultant at the Writing Center. The Writing Center is located in the Glasscock Building 112 (GSSC 112). CASA also provides tutoring in the sciences, mathematics, history, political science, psychology, and Spanish. Visit [http://casa.tamucc.edu/](http://casa.tamucc.edu/) for more information.
Disability Services
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 believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in CCH 101. Visit http://disabilityservices.tamucc.edu for more information.

University Counseling Center
We all encounter stress, problems, and difficult decisions in our daily lives. Sometimes, these problems may seem overwhelming or it might be difficult to talk about certain issues with your friends or family. The University Counseling Center is available for all students enrolled at TAMUCC. Students seek counseling for a multitude of reasons and the University Counseling Center offers individual therapy, group counseling, psychiatric services, psychological testing, consultation, outreach services, alcohol and drug education and prevention programs, and personal skills training. If you are in need of counseling services or just someone to talk to, please call or visit the University Counseling center at (361) 825-2703 in the Driftwood Building. Visit http://counseling.tamucc.edu for more information.

Academic Advising
The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. Your academic advisor will set up a degree plan, which must be signed by the student, a faculty mentor, and the department chair. The Academic Advising Center is located in Driftwood 203E, and can be reached at (361) 825-3466.

Grade Appeal Process
As stated in University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Rule

- 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, and University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student
- Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules
- Web site at http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Office of Student Affairs.