English 1301: Freshman Composition I

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Office Hours: MWF 1-2 & Thurs 8-11

Class: ENGL 1301.444, TR 8:00-9:15 CCH 232
ENGL 1301.203, TR 9:30-10:45 CCH 230

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

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

- Apply 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
- Cohesively integrate academic research to support the writer's purpose
- Connect ideas across courses

The required textbook for all English 1301 classes
- Writing about Writing, by Elizabeth Wardle and Doug Downs

1301 will also require these other materials
- Access to University Network and an active "Islander" e-mail account.
- Access to a computer with Microsoft Word.
- Appropriate / compatible media to save and transport computer files among computers on campus and / or between home and campus.
- Sanddollar card and money in your account to print on campus, if needed.
- Be sure and always bring a pen and paper to class.

Grade Distribution (dates, nature of assignments, assignment weight)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Date Due</th>
<th>% of course grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journal</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-class/Participation</td>
<td>Daily</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper 1 (Analyses of DC Genres)</td>
<td>Sept 15</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper 2 (Community Literacy Narrative)</td>
<td>Oct 11</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portfolio One</td>
<td>Oct 14</td>
<td>15%</td>
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Brief Description
The course will be divided into four units, each covering specific aspects within the study of writing. You will be asked to write an essay for each unit covered, a total of 4 major writing assignments in the course of the semester. You will also be asked to submit 2 major portfolios: 1 midterm, and 1 final. Specific guidelines will be posted to the class website for these as well as other writing assignments.

First 8 weeks
Readings from Chapters 1-4 will be used during the first 8 weeks before the midterm portfolio. The first half of the semester will focus on getting students to examine how their own personal histories (past writing/reading experiences as well as community involvements) have influenced their writing today. Further, this will get them to reshape their own writing strategies and methods. There will be 2 major writing assignments in this section, along with “feeder assignments” that lead up to the major essays.

Second 8 weeks
During the second half of the semester, students will focus their energy toward understanding research and the research process in order to help situate them within academic discourse. They will examine how texts communicate ideas and authors obtain authority. They will be given 2 major writing assignments during this half.

Class Policies

Class Discussion
Much of the learning in class will occur during in-class activities and discussion of material/homework. I understand, though, that it is often difficult to speak up in front of peers, and for this reason, participation will not be evaluated by how often or how "well" a student may speak. It is my hope, however, that discussions are engaging, and that student responses are reflective in nature, bearing in mind that each student is respectful/mindful of classmates' feelings, beliefs, thoughts, opinions, and questions as well.

Late Work/Resubmissions
Assignment/Portfolio due dates for the semester are already posted. Note them on your calendar. No late work or resubmissions will be accepted. If you must miss a deadline, contact me in writing 36-48 hrs ahead of time to make arrangements for a revised due date.

Attendance Points and Make-up/Extra Credit
As a blended course, we will meet both online and in person. During week 2 of the course, we will determine a meeting schedule for the rest of the semester. Attendance points will be calculated based on group discussions of topics and readings--both online and in-class.

Students have the opportunity to make up attendance points by making an appointment at the University Writing Center, and meeting with a writing consultant to discuss works in progress. You will be able to make-up up to 3 absences per 8 weeks, a total of 6 for the semester. These may also be redeemed for extra-credit in the course. No other extra-credit opportunities will be made available.
**ESL Students**

Studies show that it takes a non-native language speaker of any language up to 7 years of study and immersive practice in order to become fluent in that language. For this reason, I will be available to whomever may desire to work on developing specific guidelines that will help you gain the most of your experience in the course. For more information, you can meet with me during office hours or schedule an appointment to meet another time.

**University Policies**

**Academic Integrity/Plagiarism**

University students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, falsification, forgery, complicity or plagiarism.

**University Rule: 13.02.99.C3.01 Procedure for Academic Misconduct Cases**

Disciplinary action for academic misconduct is first the responsibility of the faculty member assigned to the course. The faculty member is charged with assessing the gravity of any case of academic misconduct and with giving appropriate sanction to any student involved. The faculty member must file a record (an Academic Misconduct Incident Form) for each case of academic misconduct, along with any materials involved. Any student who has been penalized for academic misconduct has the right to appeal the judgment or the penalty assessed, unless the student chooses not to sign the Academic Misconduct Incident Form within the time constraints indicated below. (Further details are available the University website: [http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html](http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html), or from the Division of Student Affairs at 825-2612.

Plagiarism includes:

1. using the work of another as your own,
2. downloading or purchasing ready-made essays off the web and using them as your own,
3. using resource materials without correct documentation,
4. using the organization or language of a source without using quote marks and proper citation.

Be aware that there are other ways to use sources incorrectly, or to plagiarize. When in doubt, visit me or the Writing Center for help on correct use of sources, how to paraphrase, and how to document correctly.

**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).

**Students with Disabilities and Veterans**

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 Driftwood 101.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

**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. The Academic Advisor will set up a degree plan, which must be signed by the student, a faculty mentor, and the department chair. The College's Academic Advising Center is located in Driftwood 203E, and can be reached at 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](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.