English 1302: Composition II

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(please note: we will be using BlackBoard)
Office Hours: M-F 8:30-9:30 AM & by appointment

Class: ENGL 1302.W01 Online course

Course Description
Principles, techniques, and processes of written composition, with an emphasis on research and argument.

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.
• Identify position, claims, and evidence in arguments
• Evaluate position, claims, and evidence in arguments
• Construct arguments on more than one side of an issue
• Produce an introduction with a solid focus, direction, and purpose
• Integrate internal citations into the writer’s ideas
• Integrate a citation system that is identifiable, functional, and consistent
• Connect ideas across disciplines

The required textbooks English 1302 Online:
• Writing Spaces: Readings on Writing Vols. 1&2 (An open source text freely downloadable under Creative Commons License) from: http://writingspaces.org/essays

1302 will also require these other materials:
• Access to University Network, BlackBoard, and an active islander email account.
• Access to Microsoft Word and PowerPoint and Adobe Acrobat Reader
• Access to a consistently working internet connection

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Date Due</th>
<th>% of course grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance &amp; Participation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Current Event Discussion Facilitation</td>
<td>Sign up for date</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Weekly Current Event Responses</td>
<td>Respond to one/ week</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Activities/Course Readings</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project One: Exploratory Argument</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Draft</td>
<td>September 16</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Peer Review</td>
<td>September 23</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Final</td>
<td>September 30</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Two: Research Proposal</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Annotated Bibliography</td>
<td>October 14</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Draft of Proposal</td>
<td>October 21</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Peer Review</td>
<td>October 28</td>
<td>5%</td>
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Attendance & Participation (25%):

Because this is an online course and we will not be able to have conventional class discussions, you will be responsible for contributing to the class discussion every Monday & Wednesday on BlackBoard no later than 9 pm. BlackBoard will serve as the forum for discussions, drafts, readings, lessons, etc. There is no late work accepted for the following Attendance & Participation (A&P) assignments.

Current Event Discussion Facilitation:
In week two of the course, we will sign up for dates to facilitate a Current Event Discussion. Class responses to the facilitation will begin in Week Three.

Details:
On Monday of every week, Two people will post their Current Event topic to the designated discussion section in BlackBoard. There can be no duplicate topics, and please avoid topics such as abortion, religion, and legalization of marijuana. Sorry. © This assignment will be graded on a 5 pt scale using the following criteria:

1. The discussion facilitators are required to find a current event or hot topic found in credible newspapers, magazines, or other news sources. Please note: It is important to evaluate the source of the information before you decide whether it is a credible source. Random websites like about.com and similar sites are not acceptable.

2. Write an objective summary of the source (do not take a side/position) and post this in the designated discussion area. It should be at least one-page, double spaced.

3. Your summary must be posted by Monday at 9 pm on the date you signed up for. No late posts accepted.

4. Include a work cited (MLA) or reference (APA) at the bottom of your post. Please also include link to the original source so we may read the source before we respond to your current event/hot topic. Use Purdue OWL to help you if you are not familiar with either of these documentation styles.

5. The post must be relatively free of grammar and surface errors.

Note: On the day you have signed up to facilitate the Current Event Discussion Facilitation, you are not required to respond to the discussion—you only need to generate the topic for the class to discuss.

Weekly Current Event Responses
In week three of the course, we will begin our responses to our classmate’s Current Event/hot Facilitation. Since two people will post their topics/summaries on Mondays, we will have a choice of which we’d like to respond to. Responses must be submitted to the designated discussion area no later than 9 pm on every Wednesday unless otherwise indicated.
You will not be graded on your position (whether it is “right” or “wrong”), but to earn full credit you will need to support your position with outside support (outside sources). The response will be graded on a 10 pt scale using the following criteria:

1. Maintains a courteous, respectful, and professional tone (civil discourse).
2. At least one-page, double spaced
3. Use of at least one credible source (i.e, not Wikipedia, about.com, Joe Blow’s web page on cats)
4. In-text citation used to support your claims/opinions (APA or MLA). This is important. We value your opinion, but your response will be stronger when it is supported.
5. A work cited (MLA) or reference (APA) included at the bottom of the page.

Activities & Course Readings (Learning Modules in the Class Plans)
On Mondays I will post the activities and readings for the week. All of these assignments and activities will be due the following Sunday (six days later) at 9 pm after they are assigned. This means you will have six days to complete the Learning Modules.

Major Writing Projects (75%) :

You will complete three written projects throughout the semester that are worth a combined total of 75% of your grade. For a detailed breakdown of each project, please see the grid above. I will provide more detailed instructions for these assignments throughout the semester on our BlackBoard site. These will be due by 9 pm on Fridays.

Drafts

Individuals will have submitted a complete draft of their work via Blackboard by 9 pm on the days which drafts are due.

A completed draft is defined as a piece of work that has all sections completed; the sections of the paper have sufficient documentation and written materials to support the thesis and claims being made. Proper in-textual documentation is included, along with a properly formatted Reference (APA) or Works Cited (MLA) page.

Drafts will be evaluated on their completeness.
Note: This is one of those assignments that cannot receive an extension nor can it be turned in late. This is due to the peer review process.

Policies:

Late Work: Major assignments (Final versions of papers will be accepted late, but there is a 10% deduction. No A&P work/discussion postings are accepted late.

Extensions: If you must turn in a major assignment (final versions of papers) late, please email me at least 24 hours before the assignment is due and request an extension. I do not need to know the details of why an extension is being requested. I only need to have the request in to my faculty or Blackboard email 24 hours before the due date.

Academic Honesty: 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 possessions of examinations or examination materials, forgery, or plagiarism.
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. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Office of Student Affairs.

Important Dates:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 24</td>
<td>Classes Begin.</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 31</td>
<td>Last Day To Register.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 05</td>
<td>Labor Day Holiday- Campus Closed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 09</td>
<td>12th Class Day (Census Date).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 12-16</td>
<td>SA Grades for students who stopped attending.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 12-21</td>
<td>Mid-Term Grades</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 04</td>
<td>Last day to drop a course for the semester with an automatic grade of “W”.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 24-25</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Holidays-Campus Closed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 05</td>
<td>Last day to withdraw for the semester.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 6</td>
<td>Last day of classes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Deadline to change any temporary grade of incomplete “I” awarded during the previous semester to a letter grade. After this date, the Office of Registrar will automatically change a grade of “I” to a final grade of “F” unless a Grade</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Change Form has been submitted. This includes any extensions given by the instructors that are past due.

December 7  
Reading Day.

Dec 08-09 &12-14  
Final Examinations.  
http://registrar.tamucc.edu/exams.html

December 17  
Commencement (Saturday)- American Bank Center.

December 21  
Deadline to have all grades posted by 12 Noon.