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Program Website: [http://www.tamucc.edu/wiki/KristenRuggles/Home](http://www.tamucc.edu/wiki/KristenRuggles/Home)  
Office Hours: MW 1pm – 2:30 pm ; TR 10 am – 11am & by Appointment  
Class Meeting Time & Location: TR 3:30pm – 4:45pm CCH 208  
Fall semester: August 26-December 9, 2015

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

First-Year Writing Program Description
The First-Year Writing Program (English 1301 and 1302) introduces students to the discipline of writing studies. Students will read, apply, and reflect on the current research and scholarship in writing studies, especially threshold concepts and specific kinds of knowledge (see below) about writing. Students will learn how to transfer, deepen, and extend their ability to use writing in future academic and non-academic contexts and situations.

English 1301 Textbook
- *Writing about Writing*, 2nd Edition, by Elizabeth Wardle and Doug Downs

1301 will also require these other materials:
- Access to Islander email and Blackboard.
- Appropriate / compatible media to save and transport computer files among computers on campus and / or between home and campus (or cloud space).
- A SandDollar card with money on it for printing in the classrooms/computer labs.

Core Outcomes
As part of the University Core Curriculum, the First-Year Writing Program helps students achieve these Core Curriculum Outcomes
- CT 3: Analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information.
- CS 1: Develop, interpret, and express ideas through written communication.
- TW 1: Integrate different viewpoints as a member of a team.
- PR 1: Evaluate choices and actions, and relate consequences to decision making.

Student Learning Outcomes for English 1301
Upon completion of this course, students will be able to
- Demonstrate understanding of threshold concepts in writing studies by applying their knowledge in composing and presenting texts for different rhetorical situations, self-assessing, and reflecting on their work,
• Demonstrate understanding of how the five kinds of knowledge about writing apply to their own work as composers, by self-assessing and reflecting;
• Plan and conduct research for specific rhetorical situations;
• Use results of research in texts they compose and present to achieve specific purposes with specific audiences.

TAMUCC-FYWP Threshold Concepts of Writing Studies (Wardle & Downs, 2014, adapted)
These are the threshold concepts of writing studies. These are concepts that writers must understand in order to develop and progress as writers. "They are gateways to [further] learning" (W&D vii).

1. Writing performance is informed by literacy experiences;
2. Writing and reading mediate activity, are knowledge-making, and are recursive processes;
3. Writing is not perfectible; we are always expanding our knowledge of how to use writing;
4. Effective ("good") writing is context-specific; its value depends on the extent to which it achieves its purpose in the situation and with the audience for which it is used; and it is the result of writers knowing about and using appropriate strategies for planning, drafting, and revising; and
5. Writing is a malleable tool used within specific activity systems, which are goal-directed, historically situated, and cooperative human interactions.

Kinds of Knowledge about Writing (Beaufort, 2007, adapted)
English 1301 will introduce writers to the kinds of knowledge they need to understand how to use writing effectively. Writers compose within and for specific groups (discourse communities), whose expectations, values, and activities determine writers' choices about appropriate content / subject matter and genres. Writers also need to know how to apply knowledge of rhetoric (considering the relationships among the writer, the readers, and the purpose of writing) as they compose. As they consider these kinds of knowledge, writers make choices about the most appropriate process to use in order to compose effective texts.

Learning about and applying these kinds of knowledge will help writers expand their ability to use writing in their college courses and beyond.

Habits of Mind
English 1301 will encourage the development of the eight habits of mind that are essential to students' success in college writing (The Framework for Success in Postsecondary Writing):
  o Curiosity – the desire to know more about the world.
  o Openness – the willingness to consider new ways of being and thinking in the world.
  o Engagement – a sense of investment and involvement in learning.
  o Creativity – the ability to use novel approaches for generating, investigating, and representing ideas.
  o Persistence – the ability to sustain interest in and attention to short- and long-term projects.
  o Responsibility – the ability to take ownership of one’s actions and understand the consequences of those actions for oneself and others.
  o Flexibility – the ability to adapt to situations, expectations, or demands.
  o Metacognition – the ability to reflect on one’s own thinking as well as on the individual and cultural processes used to structure knowledge.
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>In-Class Participation, Homework, Reflective</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portfolios</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project 1 Literacy Narrative</td>
<td>Sept. 18th</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project 2 Discourse Community Ethnography (AB,</td>
<td>Nov. 17th</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multimodal Presentation, etc.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>First Year Symposium</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam Reflective Writing</td>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>week</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>1000</td>
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Classroom/Professional Behavior
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, as an academic community, requires that each individual respect the needs of others to study and learn in a peaceful atmosphere. Under Article III of the Student Code of Conduct, classroom behavior that interferes with either (a) the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or (b) the ability of other students to profit from the instructional program may be considered a breach of the peace and is subject to disciplinary sanction outlined in article VII of the Student Code of Conduct. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior may be instructed to leave the classroom. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including classrooms, electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

In-class Conduct
In general, treat each other and the instructor with respect and follow standards of common courtesy. Here are a few specifics:

- Please turn off all cell phones or other electronic communication devices and place them out of sight (in a bag, purse, pocket) while in class.
- Do not use your time in English 1301 to work on assignments for other classes.
- Computers are to be used for English 1301 work only.
- Hate speech will not be tolerated. We are all of differing opinions and it is important to learn how to speak with others about their differing opinions in a respectful tone.

In-class Participation
To earn daily, in-class writing points, you must be on time, come to class prepared, participate in all class activities, and remain in class for the entire period. Leaving early, coming in late, or refusing to participate in in-class work may result in the loss of points. In class participation is an important aspect of your grade in this class.

Writing Center
The CASA Writing Center at TAMUCC, located in Room 112 of the Glasscock Student Success Center, provides free help for students at any stage of their writing process. Writing Consultants are trained to support writers in planning, outlining, drafting, organizing, and/or revising their writing and are also knowledgeable in citing sources in various documentation styles used in academic writing. It offers both
face-to-face and online appointments for both undergraduate and graduate students. The Writing Center works closely with faculty across the TAMUCC campus to understand writing in different disciplines and to help students meet these expectations. The Writing Center encourages students to make a 30-minute appointment; however, if Writing Consultants are available, they do accept walk-in appointments. Visit casa.tamucc.edu/wc.php to create an account using your @islander.tamucc.edu email address. Once you have an account, you can log-on to make an appointment.

Extra Credit Opportunities
I am in favor of extra credit and there will be many opportunities during this semester to earn extra credit. The biggest way of earning it will be visiting the Writing Center and/or Reading Lab. For each major assignment, you will make one mandatory trip to the writing center, but each trip after that will earn 2 points on the final grade of the assignment. To earn those points, however, you must show me the signed slip that you went to the writing center and show me a draft where you made the suggested changes on the document. They do not have to be extensive changes, but I probably won’t award points on a draft where one spelling error has been corrected, so make use of the tutoring.

There will also be extra credit opportunities that crop up during the semester that I will mention in class.

Late Work/Extensions
I will offer you extensions on your late work, provided that you email me 24 hours in advance with a new, reasonable, due date provided in that email. That being said, because I offer extensions, I will not accept late work. Keep this in mind while planning your semester.

Academic Honesty/Plagiarism
Definition: In an instructional setting, plagiarism occurs when a writer deliberately uses someone else’s language, ideas, or other original (not common-knowledge) material without acknowledging its source. This definition applies to texts published in print or on-line, to manuscripts, and to the work of other student writers. Most current discussions of plagiarism fail to distinguish between:

1. Submitting someone else’s text as one’s own or attempting to blur the line between one’s own ideas or words and those borrowed from another source, and
2. Carelessly or inadequately citing ideas and words borrowed from another source.

Such discussions conflate plagiarism with the misuse of sources. Ethical writers make every effort to acknowledge sources fully and appropriately in accordance with the contexts and genres of their writing. (Quoted from “Defining and Avoiding Plagiarism: The WPA Statement on Best Practices”)

Plagiarism is a serious violation of departmental and University policies, but it is sometimes difficult to understand what plagiarism actually is. Often, students commit unintentional plagiarism (not citing sources properly, for example), because they are unaware of the standards that apply. Plagiarism includes:

- Using the work of another as your own,
- Downloading or purchasing ready-made essays off the web and using them as your own,
- Using resource materials without correct documentation,
- Using the organization or language of a source without using quote marks and proper citation.
- Turning in a researched project without citing sources in an appropriate documentation style.

When you are confused about citation of quotes or ideas, please visit the Writing Center or me to get help. Information on MLA documentation rules and APA documentation rules is available at Purdue University’s OWL: http://owl.english.purdue.edu/, and from our local Writing Center at CASA.
That being said, I **WILL NOT** tolerate plagiarism. If you have questions, ask me, go to the Writing Center, Google it. Any assignments turned in to me that are in blatant violation of this policy will not be graded, resulting in an immediate zero for the assignment. I have to report all instances of plagiarism to the University so let’s just skip the drama and ask for help on the sources. Reiteration: IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT A CITATION OR THE USAGE OF A QUOTATION IN YOUR PAPER, ASK FOR HELP.

**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. Degree plans are prepared in the CLA Academic Advising Center. The University uses an online Degree Audit system. Any amendment must be approved by the Department Chair and the Office of the Dean. All courses and requirements specified in the final degree plan audit must be completed before a degree will be granted. The CLA Academic Advising Office is located in Driftwood #203. For more information please call 361-825-3466.

**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 Corpus Christi Hall, Room #116.

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.

**GRADE APPEALS PROCESS**
Students who feel that they have not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in this class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details on the process of submitting a formal grade appeal, please visit the College of Liberal Arts website, clatamucc.edu/students/studentinfo.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Associate Dean’s Office.

**Dropping a Class**
I hope that you never find it necessary to drop this or any other class. However, events can sometimes occur that make dropping a course necessary. Please consult with me before you decide to drop to be sure it is the best thing to do. Should dropping the course be the best course of action, you must initiate the process to drop the course by going to the Student Services Center and filling out a course drop form. Just stopping attendance and participation WILL NOT automatically result in your being dropped from the class. Please be aware that you are allowed 6 drops in your entire undergraduate career, so these decisions must be made carefully. **November 6** is the last day to drop a class with an automatic grade of “W” this term.

**Provisional Course Outline**
Please see the course website for the most updated plans and deadlines.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weeks</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Topics/Assignments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>Aug 27</td>
<td>Introduction to the course. Prior knowledge writing. Introduce concepts.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>Sept. 8-11</td>
<td>*No class Monday for Labor Day holiday. Invention, drafting, and readings for literacy narrative. Draft due.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>Sept. 14-18</td>
<td>Conference. Literacy Narrative Due.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 5</td>
<td>Sept. 21-25</td>
<td>Introduce Discourse Community Ethnography</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 6</td>
<td>Sept. 28-Oct. 2</td>
<td>Proposal due. Workshops, readings, research for DCE.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 7</td>
<td>Oct. 5-9</td>
<td>Annotated Bibliography due.</td>
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<td>Week 8</td>
<td>Oct. 12-16</td>
<td>Portfolio midterm</td>
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<td>Week 9</td>
<td>Oct. 19-23</td>
<td>Conferences. Literature Review due.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 10</td>
<td>Oct. 26-30</td>
<td>Research for DCE. 1st draft of DCE due. Presentations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 11</td>
<td>Nov. 2-6</td>
<td>Explain FY Symposium. Nov. 6 drop day.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 12</td>
<td>Nov. 9-13</td>
<td>Multimodal composing. 2nd draft of DCE due.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 13</td>
<td>Nov. 16-20</td>
<td>Presentations. First-Year Symposium (11/19-20). DCE Final Draft Due.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 14</td>
<td>Nov. 23-25</td>
<td>DCE presentations. *No class Thursday/Friday for Thanksgiving holiday.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 15</td>
<td>Nov. 30-Dec. 1</td>
<td>DCE presentations. last day of regularly scheduled classes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>Schedule posted on SAIL. Final reflective portfolio due.</td>
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