

English 1301: Rhetoric and Composition I

Instructor: Dianne Pearman

Course Information: ENGL 1301.039 MW: 4-5:20 SH 315

Office/Hours: Monday 2-4 p.m., Wednesday 1-2 p.m. Carlisle Hall Rm. 620

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Please note: ENGL 1301.039 is a hybrid course. A hybrid course combines traditional classroom learning with on-line learning in an effort to offer students the *best of both worlds.* The success of the course, as well as the success of each student, depends on 100% participation by each class member. This means arriving on time to each class meeting and submitting all assignments on time. This class will meet every Monday (except for Labor Day) at 4:00 p.m. All assignments will be electronically submitted and graded through Blackboard. To access the course, go to: <https://elearn.uta.edu> enter your Net ID and password provided to you by **UTA**. This is the same login ID and password that you use to access your MyMav email. Upon login, you should see the course listed.

ENGL 1301 RHETORIC AND COMPOSITION I: Introduction to college reading and writing. Emphasizes recursive writing processes, rhetorical analysis, synthesis of sources, and argument.

ENGL 1301 Expected Learning Outcomes. By the end of ENGL 1301, students should be able to:
Rhetorical Knowledge

- Use knowledge of the rhetorical situation—author, audience, exigence, constraints—to analyze and construct texts
- Compose texts in a variety of genres, expanding their repertoire beyond predictable forms
- Adjust voice, tone, diction, syntax, level of formality, and structure to meet the demands of different rhetorical situations

Critical Reading, Thinking, and Writing

- Use writing, reading, and discussion for inquiry, learning, communicating, and examining assumptions
- Employ critical reading strategies to identify an author's position, main ideas, genre conventions, and rhetorical strategies
- Summarize, analyze, and respond to texts
- Find, evaluate, and synthesize appropriate sources to inform, support, and situate their own claims
- Produce texts with a focus, thesis, and controlling idea, and identify these elements in others' texts

Processes

- Practice flexible strategies for generating, revising, and editing texts
- Practice writing as a recursive process that can lead to substantive changes in ideas, structure, and supporting evidence through multiple revisions
- Use the collaborative and social aspects of writing to critique their own and others' texts

Conventions

- Apply knowledge of genre conventions ranging from structure and paragraphing to tone and mechanics
- Summarize, paraphrase, and quote from sources using appropriate documentation style
- Control such surface features as syntax, grammar, punctuation, and spelling
- Employ technologies to format texts according to appropriate stylistic conventions

Required Texts.

Graff and Birkenstein, *They Say/I Say* 2nd edition

First-Year Writing: Perspectives on Argument (2012 UTA custom 3rd edition)

The Scott, Foresman Writer (UTA custom edition)

In addition to the above required texts, we will be using the 2012 Presidential Campaign as a *text* in this course. Because the campaign and the issues involved change frequently, I will be adding readings, videos and daily assignments to the course in order to stay current with the campaign. I will clearly announce all additions. You are responsible for keeping your syllabus and course calendar updated.

Description of Major Assignments:

- **Discourse Community Analysis (due 10/5)**
- **Video and Rhetorical Analysis of a 2012 Campaign Ad (that you create) (due 11/5)**
- **Synthesis Essay (due 12/5)**

Class Participation: You will be graded daily on class participation, which includes coming to class prepared, making thoughtful contributions in response to the readings, asking and answering questions, and presenting a general attitude of interest in the course content.

Grades. Final grades in FYC are A, B, C, F, and Z. **Students must pass ENGL 1301 and ENGL 1302 with a grade of C or higher in order to move on to the next course.** This policy is in place because of the key role that First-Year English courses play in students' educational experiences at UTA.

The Z grade is reserved for students who attend class regularly, participate actively, and complete all the assigned work on time but simply fail to write well enough to earn a passing grade. **This judgment is made by the instructor and not necessarily based upon a number average.** The Z grade is intended to reward students for good effort. While students who receive a Z will not get credit for the course, the Z grade will not affect their grade point average. They may repeat the course for credit until they do earn a passing grade.

The F grade, which does negatively affect GPA, goes to failing students who do not attend class regularly, do not participate actively, or do not complete assigned work.

Your final grade for this course will consist of the following:

Major Writing Assignments: 25% each (75% of final grade), Daily Grades 10%, In-Class Essay 5%, Peer Reviews 10%.

Final grades will be calculated as follows: A=90-100%, B=80-89%, C=70-79%, F=69%-and below; Z=see the Z grade policy above.

All major essay projects must be completed to pass the course. If you fail to complete an essay project, you will fail the course, regardless of your average. **Keep all papers** until you receive your final grade from the university. You cannot challenge a grade without evidence. Students are expected to keep track of their performance throughout the semester and seek guidance from available sources (including the instructor) if their performance drops below satisfactory levels.

Expectations for Out-of-Class Study: A general rule of thumb is this: for every credit hour earned, a student should spend 3 hours per week working outside of class. Hence, a 3-credit course might have a minimum expectation of 9 hours of reading, study, etc. Beyond the time required to attend each class meeting, students enrolled in this course should expect to spend at least an additional 9 hours per week of their own time in course-related activities, including reading required materials, completing assignments, preparing for exams, etc.

Grade Grievances: Any appeal of a grade in this course must follow the procedures and deadlines for grade-related grievances as published in the current undergraduate / graduate catalog.
http://www.uta.edu/catalog/content/general/academic_regulations.aspx#10

Late Assignments: No late assignments will be accepted.

Attendance Policy: Because this course only meets once a week, **no unexcused absences** will be allowed. If you do not attend the class meeting on Monday of a given week, you will not receive credit for the week's assignments.

Absences will be excused for school-sponsored events and in cases of serious illness. These absences must be accompanied by documentation. Likewise, habitual tardiness will not be tolerated. If you are late for class on more than two occasions, you will receive a 3 point deduction from your final grade for each incidence of tardiness.

Classroom Behavior: Class sessions are short and require your full attention. All cell phones, pagers, iPods, MP3 players, laptops, and other electronic devices should be **turned off and put away when entering the classroom**; all earpieces should be removed. Store newspapers, crosswords, magazines, bulky bags, and other distractions so that you can concentrate on the readings and discussions each day.

Bring book(s) and e-reserve readings (heavily annotated and carefully read) to every class. Students are expected to participate respectfully in class, to listen to other class members, and to comment appropriately. I also expect consideration and courtesy from students. Professors are to be addressed appropriately and communicated with professionally.

According to *Student Conduct and Discipline*, "students are prohibited from engaging in or attempting to engage in conduct, either alone or in concert with others, that is intended to obstruct, disrupt, or interfere with, or that in fact obstructs, disrupts, or interferes with any instructional, educational, research, administrative, or public performance or other activity authorized to be conducted in or on a University facility. Obstruction or disruption includes, but is not limited to, any act that interrupts, modifies, or damages utility service or equipment, communication service or equipment, or computer equipment, software, or networks" (UTA Handbook or Operating Procedures, Ch. 2, Sec. 2-202). Students who do not respect the guidelines listed above or who disrupt other students' learning may be asked to leave class and/or referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Academic Integrity. All students enrolled in this course are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington's tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.

I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.

Instructors may employ the Honor Code as they see fit in their courses, including (but not limited to) having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System *Regents' Rule* 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university's standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University.

It is the philosophy of The University of Texas at Arlington that academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form. All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures. Discipline may include suspension or expulsion from the University. "Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts" (Regents' Rules and Regulations, Series 50101, Section 2.2)

You can get in trouble for plagiarism by failing to correctly indicate places where you are making use of the work of another. It is your responsibility to familiarize yourself with the conventions of citation by which you indicate which ideas are not your own and how your reader can find those sources. Read your textbook and/or handbook for more information on quoting and citing properly to avoid plagiarism. If you still do not understand, ask your instructor. All students caught plagiarizing or cheating will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Americans with Disabilities Act. The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including the *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Any student requiring an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

Drop Policy. Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance. Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. Contact the Financial Aid Office for more information.

Writing Center. The Writing Center, Room 411 in the Central Library, offers tutoring for any writing you are assigned while a student at UT-Arlington. During Fall 2012, Writing Center hours are 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Thursday; 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Friday; and 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday. You may register and schedule appointments online at uta.mywconline.com or by visiting the Writing Center. If you need assistance with registration, please call 817-272-2601. If you come to the Writing Center without an appointment, you will be helped on a first-come, first-served basis as consultants become available. Writing Center consultants are carefully chosen and trained, and they can assist you with any aspect of your writing, from understanding an assignment to revising an early draft to polishing a final draft. However, the Writing Center is not an editing service; consultants will not correct your grammar or rewrite your assignment for you, but they will help you become a better editor of your own writing. I encourage each of you to use the Writing Center.

In addition to one-on-one consultations, the Writing Center will offer FYC and grammar workshops periodically throughout the semester. For more information on these, please visit us at <http://www.uta.edu/owl>.

Writing Center Workshops: Fall 2012

Sept. 18, 5 p.m. – ENGL1301: Discourse Community Analysis (DCA)

Sept. 19, Noon – ENGL1301: Discourse Community Analysis (DCA)

Sept. 25, 5 p.m.—Assignment Comprehension

Sept. 26, Noon—Assignment Comprehension

Oct. 2, 5 p.m.—Establishing a Writing Process

Oct. 3, Noon—Establishing a Writing Process

Oct. 16, 5 p.m.—ENGL1301: Rhetorical Analysis Essay (RAE)

Oct. 17, Noon.—ENGL1301: Rhetorical Analysis Essay (RAE)

Oct. 23, 5 p.m.—Common Grammar Errors

Oct. 24, Noon—Common Grammar Errors

Oct. 30, 5 p.m.—Style and Voice

Oct. 31, Noon—Style and Voice

Nov. 6, 5 p.m.—Editing and Revising

Nov. 7, Noon—Editing and Revising

Nov. 13, 5 p.m.—ENGL1301: Synthesis Essay

Nov. 14, Noon—ENGL1301: Synthesis Essay

Nov. 27, 5 p.m.—ENGL1301: Synthesis Essay

Nov. 28, Noon—ENGL1301: Synthesis Essay

Library Research Help for Students in the First-Year English Program. UT Arlington Library offers many ways for students to receive help with writing assignments:

- *Research Librarians:* Second floor of Central Library
- *Course-Specific Guides.* All First-Year English courses have access to research guides that assist students with required research. To access the guides go to <http://libguides.uta.edu>. Search for the course number in the search box located at the top of the page. The research guides direct students to useful databases, as well as provide information about citation, developing a topic/thesis, and receiving help.

Student Support Services: UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to resources@uta.edu, or view the information at www.uta.edu/resources.

Student Feedback Survey: At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as lecture, seminar, or laboratory shall be directed to complete a Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student's feedback enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. UT Arlington's effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law; students are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

Electronic Communication Policy. All students must have access to a computer with internet capabilities. Students should check email daily for course information and updates. I will send group emails through Blackboard. I am happy to communicate with students through email. However, I ask that you be wise in your use of this tool. Make sure you have consulted the syllabus for answers before you send me an email. Remember, I do not monitor my email 24 hours a day. I check it periodically during the school week and occasionally on the weekend.

The University of Texas at Arlington has adopted the University “MavMail” address as the sole official means of communication with students. MavMail is used to remind students of important deadlines, advertise events and activities, and permit the University to conduct official transactions exclusively by electronic means. For example, important information concerning registration, financial aid, payment of bills, and graduation are now sent to students through the MavMail system. All students are assigned a MavMail account. **Students are responsible for checking their MavMail regularly.** Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/email/>. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, and it remains active even after they graduate from UT Arlington.

Syllabus and Schedule Changes. Instructors try to make their syllabuses as complete as possible; however, during the course of the semester I may be required to alter, add, or abandon certain policies/assignments. Instructors reserve the right to make such changes as they become necessary. Students will be informed of any major changes in writing.

Syllabus Abbreviations	
TSIS: <i>They Say/I Say</i>	
SFW: <i>The Scott, Foresman Writer</i>	
FYW: First-Year Writing: Perspectives on Argument (Capital “P” followed by numbers indicates a page from Preface to textbook)	