## **English 1302: Rhetoric and Composition II**

Spring 2016

Instructor**:** Joul Smith

Course Information: [**2162-ENGL-1302-074-RHETORIC-AND-COMPOSITION-II--2016-Spring**](https://elearn.uta.edu/webapps/blackboard/execute/launcher?type=Course&id=_272507_1&url=)

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**ENGL 1302 RHETORIC AND COMPOSITION II: This course satisfies the University of Texas at Arlington core curriculum requirement in communication**. Continues ENGL 1301, but with an emphasis on advanced techniques of academic argument. Includes issue identification, independent library research, analysis and evaluation of sources, and synthesis of sources with students’ own claims, reasons, and evidence. This course focuses on critical engagement with ethical and social issues and the development of academic arguments that communicate a specific point of view.**Prerequisite: Grade of C or better in ENGL 1301.**

***Core Objectives:***

***Critical Thinking Skills:*** *To include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.*

***Communication Skills:*** *To include effective development and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication.*

***Teamwork:*** *To include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal.*

***Personal Responsibility:*** *To include the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making.*

**ENGL 1302 Expected Learning Outcomes**

In ENGL 1302, students build on the knowledge and information that they learned in ENGL 1301. By the end of ENGL 1302, students should be able to:

*Rhetorical Knowledge*

* Identify and analyze the components and complexities of a rhetorical situation
* Use knowledge of audience, exigence, constraints, genre, tone, diction, syntax, and structure to produce situation-appropriate argumentative texts, including texts that move beyond formulaic structures
* Know and use special terminology for analyzing and producing arguments
* Practice and analyze informal logic as used in argumentative texts

*Critical Reading, Thinking, and Writing*

* Understand the interactions among critical thinking, critical reading, and writing
* Integrate personal experiences, values, and beliefs into larger social conversations and contexts
* Find, evaluate, and analyze primary and secondary sources for appropriateness, timeliness, and validity
* Produce situation-appropriate argumentative texts that synthesize sources with their own ideas and advance the conversation on an important issue
* Provide valid, reliable, and appropriate support for claims, and analyze evidentiary support in others’ texts

*Processes*

* Practice flexible strategies for generating, revising, and editing complex argumentative texts
* Engage in all stages of advanced, independent library research
* 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’ arguments

*Conventions*

* Apply and develop knowledge of genre conventions ranging from structure and paragraphing to tone and mechanics, and be aware of the field-specific nature of these conventions
* Summarize, paraphrase, and quote from sources using appropriate documentation style
* Revise for style and edit for features such 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,* 3rd edition ISBN:0393935841

First Year Writing: Perspectives on Argument, 3rd edition       ISBN: 1256744506 (You can purchase an EText of this textbook at http://www.pearsoncustom.com/tx/uta\_writing . Once you are on the site, click on "Purchase Access". If you experience technical or logon issues while purchasing your text, please visit the Pearson tech support website at http://www.pearsoncustom.com/\_global/productinfo/websites/\_24\_7/ or call 1-800-677-6337.))  
Ruszkiewicz, et al, The Scott Foresman Writer, 1st edition  ISBN: 1256291935  
Pearson Writer (APP and Computer Access) -- ValuePack Access Card, 1st edition  ISBN: 032197235X

**Description of Major Assignments.**

**Issue Proposal (Due Feb. 22):** This semester you’ll be conducting research on an issue that you select. For this paper, you will take stock of what you already know about the issue you select, organize and develop your thoughts, and sketch a plan for your research.

**Annotated Bibliography (Due Mar. 7):** For this assignment you will create a list of at least 10 relevant and appropriately chosen sources that represent multiple perspectives on your issue. You will include a summary of each source and a discussion of how you might use the source in your next essays.

**Mapping the Issue (Apr. 4):** For this paper, you will map the controversy surrounding your issue by describing its history and summarizing at least three different positions on the issue—all from a completely neutral point of view.

**Researched Position Paper (May 2):** For this paper, you will advocate a position on your issue with a well-supported argument written for an audience that you select.

**Final Presentation (May 3):** Every student will be required to complete a visual presentation on the work they have done for the Reasearched Position Paper.

**Analytical Writings/Quizzes/Daily Work/Class Participation: Students must complete all discussions, assignments, and activities outlined in the weekly schedules.**

**All assignments must be**:

* MLA formatted;
* Turned in as .doc, .docx, or .pdf files (Please do not copy and paste assignments into the text box field); and
* Submitted before midnight Central Daylight Time (CDT) on the date specified.

**An Important Note about Blackboard Assignment Submissions**: All students are responsible for making sure their submissions have correctly posted to Blackboard. In order to check if an essay/assignment has been submitted correctly, click on the “Grades” tab located on the left-hand side of the course home page and then look for the green exclamation point icon in the appropriate assignment column (Note: for discussion activities and peer review, a ball icon confirms your submission.).  If an exclamation point is not present after your essay/assignment has been submitted, you should resubmit following the steps above to make sure the essay/assignment is properly submitted.

If your essay/assignment still isn’t posted after several attempts, you should email the essay/assignment (work submitted incomplete will be graded accordingly) as an attachment to your instructor **BEFORE** the specified deadline.  Your instructor will contact you about your emailed submission within 24 hours and specify a timeframe for submitting the essay/assignment to Blackboard. Failure to submit your work within the designated timeframe will result in a zero.  Also, you must submit the same essay/assignment to Blackboard that you submitted to your instructor via email. Failure to submit the same work will result in a zero for the assignment.

Again, keep in mind that it is your responsibility to submit your work on time and ensure that it is submitted to Blackboard properly. Failure to do so will result in a late penalty or zero. As the submission process in Blackboard allows students to ensure that their assignments have been submitted correctly and an alternative means of submitting assignments is available to all students, **NO** assignments will be accepted for full credit after the deadline due to failed submission attempts (See the late assignment policy for more information on late work).  Please be aware that technical errors in Blackboard are very rare and tech support has sophisticated tools to determine if students have actually submitted assignments or posted to discussion activities.

**Peer Reviews.** Each essay will include mandatory and graded peer review workshops and evaluations of your own and your peer group members’ participation It is **very important that you participate in peer review, as you will not be able to make up these points.**

**Grades.** Final grades in ENGL 1302 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 participate actively in class, and/or do not complete assigned work.

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

Issue Proposal 15%

Annotated Bibliography 10%

Mapping the Issue 20%

Researched Position Paper 30%

Final Presentation 5%

Analytical Writing/Quizzes/Daily Work/Participation 20%

Final grades will be calculated as follows: A=90-100%, B=80-89.99%, C=70-79.99%, F=69.99%-and below; Z=see the Z grade policy above.

**All major essay projects (IP, AB, MI, and RPP) 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.

**Choosing a Topic:** The assignments in English 1302 are set up to build upon one another throughout the course of the semester. Because of this, you will need to pick a topic for the Issue Proposal and then you will stay with that topic for the entire semester. You may not change your topic without permission from me. If you feel at some point after choosing a topic that you want to change topics, then you will need to make an appointment to see me so that we can discuss what this will require; however, if this happens you will be required to rewrite every assignment you have submitted to reflect the new topic. The new assignments would be graded and that grade would replace the grade you made on your first assignments, regardless of whether that grade is higher or lower.

**Turning in Assignments to Blackboard:** All work (IP, AB, MI, and RPP) in this course will be submitted to Blackboard. I will not accept any assignments via e-mail. All assignments submitted to Blackboard must be saved as a .doc or .docx file to ensure that I am able to open them on my computer. It is your responsibility to ensure that all of your work is saved in this way and submitted in the correct format. If you submit work in the wrong format, then you will receive a zero for the assignment.

**Expectations for Out-of-Class Study:** 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.

**Grade Grievances:** First Year English has a specific procedure that must be followed in order for a student to appeal a grade or any other matter related to their 1301/02 class. First, the student must communicate with the instructor in an attempt to resolve any matter in question. The next step is for students to communicate with the Director of First Year English. The Director will then advise students on the next official steps in any appeal process. 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://wweb.uta.edu/catalog/content/general/academic_regulations.aspx#10>.]

**Late Enrollment Policy:** Though I realize that at times enrolling in a course after the start date is unavoidable, please be advised that you will be held responsible for the class periods that you have missed even if you were not enrolled in the course. I will not allow you to make up missed opportunities for participation points or any other assignments that occurred before you enrolled. If you enroll in class after the start date it is your responsibility to contact your peers in order to get caught up on the schedule and any announcements that might have been delivered in your absence. This policy also applies to students who drop and add.

**Late Assignments.** All assignments are due at the beginning of class on the due date specified. The only assignments accepted late will be the final drafts of the four major assignments in this course (IP, AB, MI, and RPP). Analytical Writings/Homework **will not** be accepted late. The four major assignments turned in after the class has begun will receive a ten-percent deduction unless the instructor has agreed to late submission *in advance of the due date*. For each calendar day following, the work will receive an additional ten percent deduction. Work is not accepted after three late days. If you must be absent, your work is still due on the assigned date.

**Paper Reuse Policy** – You are not allowed, under any circumstances, to reuse papers from prior classes in this course or any other course that you have taken at any institution. Reusing papers does not demonstrate any advance in knowledge or skill, and so would not be helpful for you either in terms of your learning this semester, or for me in terms of assessing this learning. If you feel your situation constitutes a clear or significant exception to this rule, you must discuss this with me prior to the due date of the first draft.

**Participation Policy.** Improvement in writing is a complex process that requires a great deal of practice. Successful college students come to class and participate regularly. Excused absences include official university activities, military service, and/or religious holidays. Students must inform the instructor in writing at least one week in advance of an excused absence.

**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.*

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 or colluding with another to prepare assignments. 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](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

**Title IX:** The University of Texas at Arlington is committed to upholding U.S. Federal Law “Title IX” such that no member of the UT Arlington community shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity. For more information, visit [www.uta.edu/titleIX](http://www.uta.edu/titleIX).

### 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 English Writing Center is located in Room 411 Central Library.  Hours are 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Fridays and Noon to 5 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Students must register and can make appointments online at [http://uta.mywconline.com](http://uta.mywconline.com/). Face-to-Face and online appointments for undergraduate students are scheduled for 20, 40, or 60 minutes. Writing Center consultants assist with any aspect of academic writing, from understanding an assignment, brainstorming, revising an early draft, to polishing a final draft. However, the Writing Center is not an editing service; consultants will not correct grammar or rewrite assignments during our long sessions. Please see [www.uta.edu/owl](http://www.uta.edu/owl) for more information about services and guidelines.

### Workshops: The Writing Center offers three series of workshops: grammar, ENGL1301/02, and graduate students. A detailed list with descriptions is available at the start of each semester online at [www.uta.edu/owl](http://www.uta.edu/owl).

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>.

# 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: 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. Other helpful information may be found at links provided below:

Library Home Page <http://www.uta.edu/library>

Ask A Librarian [http://ask.uta.edu](http://ask.uta.edu/)

**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](mailto:resources@uta.edu), or view the information at [www.uta.edu/resources](http://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.

**Conferences and Questions:** I have 1.5 regularly scheduled office hours each week. These times are reserved for students to drop by or to make an appointment to discuss course assignments, grades, or other class-related concerns. I will be happy to make other appointment times for you if your class schedule conflicts with regular conference times or if I am not available on certain days. If you receive a grade on an assignment or quiz about which you have questions, please wait twenty-four hours before discussing it with me. This gives you time to process the assignment comments and to think about how your course work meets the requirements set forth for each assignment. I do not discuss individual student issues in the classroom before, during or after class.

**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.

**Course Schedule.** Assignments are due on the day they are listed. For the full course calendar, log on to blackboard.