

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON // ENGLISH 1301.044

RHETROIC AND COMPOSITION I // FALL 2017

Trimble Hall 21 Tuesday-Thursday 12:30-1:50 pm

Instructor: Dr. Wayne Gay wgay@uta.edu

(817)500-4962

Instructor profile: https://mentis.uta.edu/public/#profile/profile/edit/id/11521/category/1

Office and hours: Preston Hall 201, 11:30 am-12:15 pm Tues-Thurs

and by appointment

Course Content: Introduction to college reading and writing, emphasizing recursive writing processes, rhetorical analysis, synthesis of sources, and argument.

Required Texts: (students must have the following editions)

Graff and Birkenstein, *They Say/I Say*, third edition

Lunsford, Ruszkiewicz, and Walters, *Everything’s an Argument* with 2016 MLA Update, seventh edition (2017 UTA Custom first edition)

Additional materials: Students should own and bring to class a 1-inch three-ring binder with writing paper; the binder will provide space for storage of printouts, handouts, and hard copies of papers.

**ENGL 1301 Expected Learning Outcomes**

*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

**Description of Major Assignments:**

**Pro-Con Essay:** A short essay demonstrating the student’s ability to competently defend opposite viewpoints on controversial topics.

**Discourse Community Analysis.** For this essay, you will make an argument explaining how you became part of a discourse community.

**Rhetorical Analysis.** For this essay, you will write a rhetorical analysis of a designated essay from a chosen reading cluster.

**Synthesis Essay.** For this essay, you will continue your writing on the chosen topic cluster. After reading multiple sources about your chosen topic, you will develop a clear central claim and use multiple sources to support your claim.

**Peer Reviews.** Each essay will include mandatory peer review workshops.

**Participation Policy and Attendance.** 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 in order to receive an alternative daily grade/participation grade assignment***. In terms of lecture notes, should you miss class (even with an excused absence), I will not supply what you miss by email or phone. It is your responsibility to conference with a peer to get this material or make an appointment to see me in person.

The final grade for the semester will include a participation score, which will be revised on a regular basis throughout the semester. At the University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required. However, each faculty member is free to develop his or her own methods of evaluating students’ academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance. Thus, there is no “attendance” grade in my course. However, lack of participation due to unexcused absence on five occasions will result in a lowering of the final grade for the course by at least one letter grade; lack of participation due to unexcused absence on seven or more occasions will result in the lowering of the final grade for the course by at least two letter grades; lack of participation due to absence on nine or more occasions due to unexcused absence will result in lowering of the final grade for the course by three letter grades.

Students should make every reasonable to effort to be on time; students who find they are late in arriving should enter the classroom quietly. The instructor reserves the right to give full or partial credit for participation for late students. Adults over the age of eighteen should be physically and emotionally able to sit for eighty minutes without leaving the room, and, because of the distraction and disturbance of leaving and reentering, should plan not to reenter after leaving, and to be counted for an unexcused absence.

***Illness is not an excused absence.*** Please observe that the participation policy as outlined above allows the student the personal discretion of four unexcused absences without a negative effect on his or her grade. Students are advised not to use their free unexcused absences frivolously early in the semester, since illness or other unanticipated events may occur at a later time in the semester.

**Late Assignments.** All major writing projects are due on Blackboard at the specified due date and time. I do not accept late assignments for any reason without prior arrangement due to an excused absence.

**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

**Grades.** Final grades in English 1301 are A, B, C, F, and Z. **Students must pass English 1301 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 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:

Pro-Con Essay 10%

Major Essay No. 1: Discourse Community Analysis 25%

Major Essay No. 2: Rhetorical Analysis 25%

Major Essay No. 3: Synthesis Essay 40%

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 of the assignments in this course must be completed to pass the course.** If you fail to complete an essay project, you will fail the course, regardless of your overall grade average. **Keep all papers** until you receive your final grade from the university. You cannot challenge a grade without evidence.

In addition, the coursework will include several zero-credit projects, including punctuation and formatting exercises, a diagnostic writing project, and a plagiarism tutorial. Failure to complete any of these exercises in a timely manner will result in lowering of the final grade by one full letter.

**Turning in Assignments to Blackboard.** All four essay projects (pro-con, DCA, RA, SE) will be submitted to Blackboard. **I will not accept any assignments via e-mail or paper**. 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.

**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.

**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.

**Classroom Behavior.** Class sessions are short and require your full attention. All cell phones, laptops, and other electronic devices should be turned off and put away when entering the classroom; all earpieces should be removed. Store materials from other classes, reading not related to this class, bulky bags, and other distractions so that you can concentrate on the readings and discussions each day. Bring book(s) and any other required materials 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. Instructors 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 may be referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Students may discreetly consume appropriate drinks; food in general is not a good idea in the classroom.

**Grade Grievances**: An appeal of a grade in this course must follow the procedures and deadlines for grade-related grievances as published in the current University Catalog. For undergraduate courses, see <http://catalog.uta.edu/academicregulations/grades/#undergraduatetext>

**Classroom Visitors.**Only students officially enrolled in this section are allowed to attend class meetings. Students may not bring guests (children, spouses, friends, family) to class unless an academic request has been submitted and approved by the instructor well in advance of the proposed class visit. Children are not allowed in class as visitors at any time.

**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 he or she does 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. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://wweb.uta.edu/aao/fao/>).

**Disability Accommodations:** UTArlington 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), The Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA),* and *Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.* All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide “reasonable accommodations” to students with disabilities. Students are responsible for providing the instructor with official notification in the form of **a letter certified** by the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD).Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Students experiencing a range of conditions (Physical, Learning, Chronic Health, Mental Health, and Sensory) that may cause diminished academic performance or other barriers to learning may seek services and/or accommodations by contacting:

**The Office for Students with Disabilities, (OSD)** [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or calling 817-272-3364. 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).

Counseling and Psychological Services, (CAPS) [www.uta.edu/caps/](http://www.uta.edu/caps/) or calling 817-272-3671 is also available to all students to help increase their understanding of personal issues, address mental and behavioral health problems and make positive changes in their lives.

**Non-Discrimination Policy:** *The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in its educational programs or activities it operates. For more information, visit*[*uta.edu/eos*](http://www.uta.edu/hr/eos/index.php)*.*

**Title IX Policy:** The University of Texas at Arlington is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment that is free from discrimination based on sex in accordance with Title IX of the Higher Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII), which prohibits sex discrimination in employment; and the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE Act). Sexual misconduct is a form of sex discrimination and will not be tolerated.*For information regarding Title IX, visit* [www.uta.edu/titleIX](http://www.uta.edu/titleIX) or contact Ms. Jean Hood, Vice President and Title IX Coordinator at (817) 272-7091 or <jmhood@uta.edu>.

**Academic Integrity:** Students enrolled all UT Arlington courses 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.*

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code in their courses by 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. Additional information is available at <https://www.uta.edu/conduct/>.

**Electronic Communication:** UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

**Campus Carry:** Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes as prohibited. Under the new law, openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/news/info/campus-carry/>

**Student Feedback Survey:** At the end of each term, students enrolled in face-to-face and online classes categorized as “lecture,” “seminar,” or “laboratory” are directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately ten days before the end of the term. Each student’s feedback via the SFS database is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. Students’ anonymity will be protected to the extent that the law allows. UT Arlington’s effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law and aggregate results are posted online. Data from SFS is also used for faculty and program evaluations. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

**Final Review Week:** For semester-long courses**,** a period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week *unless specified in the class syllabus*. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered. They may, however, introduce new concepts as appropriate.

**Emergency Exit Procedures.** Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist individuals with disabilities.

**Emergency Phone Numbers.** In case of an on-campus emergency, call the UT Arlington Police Department at **817-272-3003** (non-campus phone), **2-3003** (campus phone). You may also dial 911.

**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 <http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/index.php>

**The IDEAS Center (**Second Floor of Central Library) offers **free** tutoring to all students with a focus on transfer students, sophomores, veterans and others undergoing a transition to UT Arlington. To schedule an appointment with a peer tutor or mentor email [IDEAS@uta.edu](mailto:IDEAS@uta.edu) or call (817) 272-6593.

**The English Writing Center (411LIBR).** The English Writing Center offers free tutoring in

20-, 40-, or 60-minute face-to-face and online sessions to all UTA students on any phase of their UTA coursework. Their facilities are 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 6 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Students must register and can make appointments online at [http://uta.mywconline.com](http://uta.mywconline.com/).

Be judicious in choosing your appointment length! For instance, 20-minute Quick Hits appointments are specifically for “quick” or minor concerns such as grammar, citations, or thesis construction. Longer appointments are for higher order concerns such as organization, structure, cohesion, or even just brainstorming and assignment comprehension. Know what you want to work on prior to your appointment and choose your time slot accordingly. 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.

The Library’s second floor Academic Plaza offers students a central hub of support services, including IDEAS Center, University Advising Services, Transfer UTA and various college/school advising hours. Services are available during the library’s hours of operation. <http://library.uta.edu/academic-plaza>

CLASS SCHEDULE

Thursday 24 August: intro. to course material and colleagues in class

Tuesday 29 August: intro. to course material and colleagues in class

Thursday 31 August: continued intro. to course material and colleagues in class

Saturday 2 September: Diagnostic essay and plagiarism tutorial due on Blackboard at

12 noon

Tuesday 5 September: Introduction to Pathos, Ethos, and Logos; Introduction to MLA formatting

Thursday 7 September: Continued Introduction to Pathos, Ethos, Logos

Saturday 9 September: Formatting exercise due on Blackboard at 12 noon

Tuesday 12 September: Punctuation review; introduction to argument

Thursday 14 September: Continued introduction to Argument

Saturday 16 September: Punctuation exercise due on Blackboard at 12 noon

Tuesday 19 September: Introduction to Pro-Con essay

Thursday 21 September: Continued discussion of Pro-Con essay

Saturday 23 September: Paragraph structure exercise due on Blackboard at

12 noon

Tuesday 26 September: Peer edit of Pro-Con essay

Thursday 28 September: Continued Peer edit of Pro-Con essay

Saturday 1 October: Pro-Con essay due on Blackboard at 12 noon

Tuesday 3 October: Introduction to Discourse Community Analysis (aka Major Essay No. 1 or DCA)

Thursday 5 October: Continued Discussion of DCA

Tuesday 10 October: Peer edit of DCA

Thursday 12 October: Peer edit of DCA continued

Saturday 14 October: Final draft of Discourse Community Analysis due on Blackboard

at 12 noon

Tuesday 17 October: Introduction to Rhetorical Analysis Essay (aka Major Essay No. 2 or RAE)

Thursday 19 October: Continued discussion of RAE

Tuesday 24 October: Peer edit of RAE

Thursday 26 October: Peer edit of RAE, continued

Tuesday 31 October: Introduction to Synthesis Essay (aka Major Essay No. 3 or SE or Signature Assignment)

Thursday 2 November: Continued discussion of Synthesis Essay

Tuesday 7 November: Continued discussion of Synthesis Essay, as needed

Thursday 9 November: Continued discussion of Synthesis Essay, as needed

Tuesday 14 November: Peer edit of Synthesis Essay

Thursday 16 November: Peer edit Synthesis Essay, as needed

Tuesday 21 November: Dr. Gay will be available for conference in his office; students may use this time for final revision of Major Essay No. 3 (Signature Assignment)

Thursday 23 November: Thanksgiving

Saturday 25 November: Final draft of Major Essay No. 3 is due on Blackboard at 12 noon.

Tuesday 28 November: Discussion and viewing of selected cinema

Thursday 30 November: Continued discussion and viewing of selected cinema

Tuesday 5 December: Continued discussion and viewing of selected cinema

CLASSES END AS OF 6 DECEMBER. Student feedback survey should be submitted on or before that date. If necessary, consult your email for the exact deadline time on that date.

Final Exam Period Thursday 14 December, 11 a.m.-1:30 pm. There will be no final exam or meeting of this class during exam week. Dr. Gay will be available for conference in his office at 201 Preston Hall during this designated exam period.