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

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**ENGL 1301 RHETORIC AND COMPOSITION 2:** is a course that builds on the skills learned in English 1301 by providing a more extensive introduction to rhetorical and argument theories. Students learn to identify a controversial issue independently, research that issue by navigating library databases, compile a bibliography of relevant sources, map the conversation surrounding the issue, and advocate their own position by developing claims supported by good reasons and evidence. Students continue to practice recursive reading and writing processes and develop a more sophisticated awareness of context and audience.

***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.**

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 Course Materials**

* *First Year Writing: Perspectives on Argument.*UTA 3rd Custom Edition (You can purchase an EText of this textbook at [http://www.pearsoncustom.com/tx/uta\_writing](https://owa.uta.edu/owa/rechelle%40exchange.uta.edu/redir.aspx?C=GN50cBEysEmgPCSHa5xEXSdzFGMJ_c9IcB9zvAzGnXCBVjSj5pFO0qQnkvBFalLHjcWwbOrBa0k.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.pearsoncustom.com%2ftx%2futa_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.))
* Graff, Gerald, and Cathy Birkenstein. *They Say/I Say: The Moves That Matter in Academic Writing.*2nd Ed.
* Scott Foresman Handbook

**Description of Major Assignments**

This semester, you’ll be conducting research on an issue of interest to you. Since you’ll be reading and writing extensively on the issue, it’s important that you choose a research topic that you really want to know more about. In addition to choosing an issue that interests you, you need to choose an issue that is current (sources published within the last two years), one that is likely to have sources available, and one that has generated some discussion and debate. The **Research Project**includes these assignments:

* Issue Proposal
* Annotated Bibliography of sources related to your topic (at least 10 entries)
* Exploratory Essay that analyzes the rhetorical situation and discusses the multiple perspectives on the issue
* Researched Position Paper (Signature Assignment) that makes a well-supported argument about the issue.

All parts must be completed in order to receive credit for each one. That means if you change the topic along the way, you’ll need to do *all*of the writing assignments for the new topic, even if you have already completed them for a previous topic.

**Please keep in mind that assignments incorrectly posted (submitted to the wrong location) in Blackboard will not receive credit.**

Also, all assignments must be:

* MLA formatted;
* Turned in as .doc, .docx, or .rtf 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 column. (Note: for discussion activities and peer review, a ball icon confirms your submission.) If an exclamation point icon is not present after your assignment has been

submitted, you should resubmit following the steps above to make sure it 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.

**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:

15% Discussion Posts

15% Issue Proposal

15% Annotated Bibliography

25% Exploratory Essay

30% Researched Position Paper (Signature Assignment)

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.

**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.

**Class Policies**

**Late Assignments.** Papers are due on the specified due date.  Late essays/assignments will incur a penalty, unless the student meets the following condition: she must contact the instructor or academic coach a week ahead of the assignment due date and provide documentation of a conflict accepted by the University of Texas at Arlington as a reason to miss class or an assignment (These accepted conflicts include military service, religious holidays, and school- sponsored activities such as participation in sporting events. See <http://www3.uta.edu/catalog/content/general/academic_regulations.aspx#5> for further information.). Students presenting documentation are required to complete assignments in the timeframe prescribed by their instructor; otherwise, the assignment(s) will incur a late penalty. Late work submitted without a university excuse will incur a10pt deduction for each day it is submitted past the specified submission deadline (for example, 10pts off for one day late, 20pts off for two days late, etc.). Essays/assignments beyond 10 days late will not be accepted for credit. Please note that discussion activities and peer reviews cannot be submitted past the specified deadline. Also, final papers (Position Papers) will not be accepted late or past the specified due date.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.

**Revision Policy:**Revision is an important means for improving both the writing process and

the final product. Students have the option of revising two major essays—the Issue

Proposal and Exploratory Essay—after they have been graded. The original grade and

revision grade will be averaged to arrive at the student’s final grade for the essay. The last

major paper, after it has been submitted for grading, cannot be revised for a higher grade.

**Participation Policy:**Improvement in writing is a complex process that requires a great deal of practice and feedback from readers. Regular participation is thus necessary for success in ENGL 1302.

**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.

**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.

**Disability Accommodations:** UT 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), 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, so as not to discriminate on the basis of disability. 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 (“University”) 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](file:///C:\Users\rowntreem\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary%20Internet%20Files\Content.IE5\IGVYXPA0\jmhood@uta.edu).

### 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 (<http://wweb.uta.edu/aao/fao/>).

**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](http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/current/academic-support/learning-center/tutoring/index.php), [major-based learning centers](http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/college-based-clinics-labs.php), developmental education, [advising and mentoring](http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/advising.php), personal counseling, and [federally funded programs](http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/current/academic-support/mcnair/index.php). 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 English Writing Center (411LIBR)**: The 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. Our hours are 9 am to 8 pm Mon.-Thurs., 9 am-3 pm Fri. and Noon-6 pm Sat. and Sun. Register and make appointments online at http://uta.mywconline.com. Classroom Visits, workshops, and specialized services for graduate students are also available. Please see [www.uta.edu/owl](http://www.uta.edu/owl) for detailed information on all our programs and services.

The Library’s 2nd 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>

**The IDEAS Center (**2nd 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.

**Library Research Help** UT Arlington Library offers many ways for students to receive help with writing assignments: ***Course-Specific Guides.***All First-Year English courses have access to [research guides](http://libguides.uta.edu/) that assist students with required research. 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.

***Virtual Office Hours.***Librarians who specialize in first-year students will be available online two evenings each week to assist students with research and citation. The ENGL 1301 and ENGL 1302 research guides include a chat box that makes it possible to IM a librarian without logging in to your own account. This page will also indicate the exact days/times the service is available.

Please note all times listed are for **Central Standard Time** and it is students’ responsibility to adjust for time differences if they do not reside in the area.

**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:** 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/>

**Conferences and Questions:** I have three 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.

**Additional Academic Resources:**The University of Texas at 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. These resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals to resources for any reason, students may contact the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107 or visit [www.uta.edu/resources](http://www.uta.edu/resources) for more information.