

English 1301: Rhetoric and Composition I



Syllabus

Fall 2013

Course Description

Introduction to college reading and writing. Emphasizes recursive writing processes, rhetorical analysis, synthesis of sources, and argument.

Department:	Department of English
Course Number:	ENGL 1301 (3-0 Credit Hours)
Course Title:	Rhetoric and Composition I
Professor:	Logen Cure

Course Prerequisites

None

Required Textbooks

- *First-Year Writing: Perspectives on Argument*. (Custom edition for UTA.)
- Graff, Gerald, and Cathy Birkenstein. *They Say/I Say: The Moves That Matter in Academic Writing*. 2nd ed. New York: Norton, 2010.
- *The Scott, Foresman Writer*. (Custom edition for UTA.)

Course Objectives and Outcomes

By the end of ENGL 1301, students should be able to:

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

- **Critical Reading, Thinking, and Writing**

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

- **Processes**

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

- **Conventions**

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

Grading Policy

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.

A: 900 – 1000

B: 800 - 899

C: 700 - 899

Z: Course must be repeated (does not affect GPA)

F: Student does not complete assigned work

Evaluation

Assignment	Points
Paper 1 – Discourse Community Analysis	200
Paper 2 – Rhetorical Analysis	200
Paper 3 – Synthesis Essay	200
Peer Reviews (3)	200
Discussion Assignments (12)	200

All essay assignments must be completed in order to pass this course. If you fail to complete a major assignment, you will fail this course, regardless of your average.

Course Policies

Syllabus and Schedule Changes: This syllabus represents the current plans and objectives for this course. As we go through the semester, those plans may need to change to enhance learning opportunities. Such changes are not unusual and should be expected. Minor changes will be posted to the course Announcement page, and a notice will be emailed to your official UTA email address. If major changes become necessary, a new copy of the syllabus will be uploaded to the course page.

Late Work Policy: All assignments must be submitted by the specified due date. All assignment due dates are listed in the course schedule located at the end of this syllabus. **Students should be aware that “technical difficulties” or “computer glitches” are not acceptable excuses for failing to complete an assignment on**

time. If the error can be verified by the CDE Help Desk, the Instructor may choose to extend the deadline, at his or her discretion.

Late assignments and discussion posts will not be accepted, unless the student meets the following condition: he or she must contact the instructor at least one week before 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. In the rare circumstance that an assignment or discussion post is accepted past the due date **without** official documentation, 10% will be deducted for each calendar day the assignment is past the due date.

Essay Format: Essays will be submitted in 12-point Times New Roman font, double spaced, with 1-inch margins on all sides. Essay assignments must be formatted according to MLA guidelines. All documents must be in .doc or .docx format.

E-mail Policy: All major assignments must be submitted to the correct location in Blackboard. **I do not accept any assignments via e-mail.**

Students should contact me via email at [insert instructor email] with questions or concerns about the course, assignments, or any other issues relevant to the course. I will respond to emails with 24 hours of receipt. If you have an important question about an assignment, it is best to contact me well in advance of the assignment due date. If you do not receive a response from me within 24 hours, please send the email again.

E-Culture Policy: The University of Texas at Arlington has adopted the University email address as an official means of communication with students. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, and it remains active as long as a student is enrolled at UT-Arlington. **Students are responsible for checking their email regularly.** I send important information to students via e-mail on a regular basis, including syllabus changes, reading, writing, and homework assignments. I also post important information on the course Announcements page. **Students are responsible for all information, assignments, etc. posted to the course Announcement page and sent to their e-mail account.** Students should log-in to the course every day to ensure they do not miss time sensitive updates and announcements.

Submitting Assignments: Assignments incorrectly posted or submitted to the wrong location or format in Blackboard will not receive credit. As such, please be mindful that you are submitting your work to the correct location and that you have carefully

reviewed the directions for submitting assignments in Blackboard. An online tutorial can be found at

http://ondemand.blackboard.com/r91/movies/bb91_student_submit_assignment.htm*

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 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.

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.

Plagiarism, cheating, or any form of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated for any reason. Specific examples include, but are not limited to:

- Cheating: Copying from another student's test paper, laboratory report, other report, or computer files and listings; using, during any academic exercise, material and/or devices not authorized by the person in charge of the test; collaborating with or seeking aid from another student during a test or laboratory without permission; knowingly using, buying, selling, stealing, transporting, or soliciting in its entirety or in part, the contents of a test or other assignment unauthorized for release; substituting for another student or permitting another student to substitute for oneself.
- Plagiarism: The appropriation, theft, purchase or obtaining by any means another's work, and the unacknowledged submission or incorporation of that work as one's own offered for credit. Appropriation includes the quoting or paraphrasing of another's work without giving credit therefore. Students should be aware that I utilize the services of SafeAssign, a plagiarism detection service.
- Collusion: The unauthorized collaboration with another in preparing work offered for credit.

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. If you do understand these conventions, ask your instructor. Plagiarism, cheating, collusion, and any other form of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. **Students who participate in ANY form of academic dishonesty on ANY assignment will automatically receive an "F" for the course, and the case will be reported 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 federal equal opportunity legislation; reference Public Law 92-112 - The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended. With the passage of federal legislation entitled Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), pursuant to section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, there is renewed focus on providing this population with the same opportunities enjoyed by all citizens.

As a faculty member, I am required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Student responsibility primarily rests with informing faculty of their need for accommodation and in providing authorized documentation through designated administrative channels. Information regarding specific diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability. Also, you may visit the Office for Students with Disabilities in Room 102 of University Hall, or call them at (817) 272-3364.

Student Support Services Available

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. 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.

Drop Policy

If you choose to withdraw from the course for any reason, you must follow University procedures. It is your responsibility to execute these procedures correctly and within the deadlines. I cannot and will not drop anyone for any reason from this course. However, I may strongly recommend that you drop if you are significantly behind on completing the required assignments.

15-Week Course Schedule

Unit 1	
Week 1	<p>“Rhetoric vs. Philosophy.” Pages P17-P20 in <i>First-Year Writing</i>. Preface, Introduction, Ch. 9 in <i>They Say/I Say</i>.</p> <p>Discussion Assignment 1 due by 10:00 p.m., Friday 8/30. Responses due by 10:00 p.m. Sunday 9/1.</p>
Week 2	<p>Ch. 1 in <i>First-Year Writing</i> “Introducing Argument.” Chs. 1 and 7 in <i>They Say/I Say</i>. “Academic Integrity and Plagiarism.”</p> <p>Discussion Assignment 2 and 3 due by 10:00 p.m., Friday 9/6. Responses due by 10:00 p.m. Sunday 9/8.</p>
Week 3	<p>“What Is Composition?” Ch. 10 in <i>They Say/I Say</i>.</p> <p>Begin Discourse Community Analysis (pp. P26-P29 in <i>First-Year Writing</i>). Discussion Assignment 4 due by 10:00 p.m., Friday 9/13. Responses due by 10:00 p.m. Sunday 9/15.</p>
Week 4	<p>Ch. 5 in <i>First-Year Writing</i>. “Problems and Possibilities of Standard English.” Chs. 2 and 3 in <i>They Say/I Say</i>.</p> <p>Discussion Assignment 5 due by 10:00 p.m., Friday 9/20. Responses due by Sunday 9/22.</p>
Week 5	<p>Ch. 2 in <i>First-Year Writing</i>. “Rhetorical Analysis Questions.”</p> <p>First submission of Discourse Community Analysis Due by 10:00pm, Sunday 9/29. Discussion Assignment 6 due by 10:00 p.m., Friday 9/27. Responses due by 10:00 p.m. Sunday 9/29.</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">Week 6</p>	<p>“Peer Review.”</p> <p>Discourse Community Analysis draft by 10:00 p.m., Friday 10/4. Peer Review responses due by 10:00 p.m., Sunday 10/6.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Week 7</p>	<p>“Revision.”</p> <p>Discourse Community Analysis due by 10:00 p.m., Sunday 10/13.</p>
<p>Unit 2</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Week 8</p>	<p>“Authenticity” Topic Cluster. Chs. 4, 5, and 6 in <i>They Say/I Say</i>.</p> <p>Begin Rhetorical Analysis (pp. P33-P36). Discussion Assignment 7 due by 10:00 p.m., Friday 10/18. Responses due by Sunday 10/20.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Week 9</p>	<p>“Is College Worth it?” Topic Cluster. Ch. 12 in <i>They Say/I Say</i>.</p> <p>Discussion Assignment 8 due by 10:00 p.m., Friday 10/25. Responses due by 10:00 p.m., Sunday 10/27. First submission of Rhetorical Analysis due by 10:00 p.m., Sunday 10/27.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Week 10</p>	<p>“The Body” Topic Cluster.</p> <p>Discussion Assignment 9 due by 10:00 p.m., Friday 11/1. Responses due by 10:00 p.m., Sunday 11/3. Rhetorical Analysis draft by 10:00 p.m., Friday 11/1. Peer Review responses due by 10:00 p.m., Sunday 11/3.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Week 11</p>	<p>“Using Evidence.” “MLA Citations” and “MLA Format Example.”</p> <p>Discussion Assignment 10 by 10:00 p.m., Friday 11/8. Responses due by 10:00 p.m., Sunday 11/10. Rhetorical Analysis due by 10:00 p.m., Sunday 11/10.</p>

Unit 3	
Week 12	<p>“Social Class” Topic Cluster.</p> <p>Begin Synthesis Essay (P39-P42). Discussion Assignment 11 due by 10:00 p.m., Friday 11/15. Responses due by 10:00 p.m., Sunday 11/17.</p>
Week 13	<p>“Fat Taxes” Topic Cluster.</p> <p>Discussion Assignment 12 due by 10:00 p.m., Friday 11/22. Responses due by 10:00 p.m., Sunday 11/24. First submission of Synthesis Essay due by 10:00 p.m., Sunday 11/24.</p>
Week 14	<p>Synthesis Essay draft by 10:00 p.m., Wednesday 11/27. Peer Review due by 10:00 p.m., Friday 11/29.</p>
Week 15	<p>Synthesis Essay due by 10:00 p.m., Wednesday 12/4.</p>