Syllabus | ENGL 1301: College Composition I

Course/Section: ENGL 1301-003
Class Dates: August 25 - December 13 (Fall 2025)
Time: MWF 11:15am-12:10pm
Location: Ratliff Building South (RBS) 2019

Instructor Information

Name: **Dr. Billy Cryer**
Email: bcryer@uttyler.edu
Phone: 936-244-9970
Office Hours: MW: 8:00am-9:00am
F: 1:30pm-2:30pm
Or by appointment
Office Location: CAS 233

Course Overview

(Three semester credit hours): Intensive study of and practice in writing processes, from invention and researching to drafting, revising, and editing, both individually and collaboratively. Emphasis on effective rhetorical choices, including audience, purpose, arrangement, and style. Focus on writing the academic essay as a vehicle for learning, communicating, and critical analysis. To earn credit, this course must be completed with a "C" or better. Prerequisite: A satisfactory score on the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) test or successful completion of a developmental writing course.

Course Learning Outcomes

In this course, students will strengthen their abilities in the following areas:
- Demonstrate knowledge of individual and collaborative writing processes
- Develop ideas with appropriate support and attribution
- Write in a style appropriate to audience and purpose
- Read, reflect, and respond critically to a variety of texts
- Use Edited American English in academic essays

Required Text(s) and Materials
- All course reading will be provided by the instructor and made accessible in Canvas.
- Students should bring a notebook in order to take notes in class during writing workshops. Also, please bring your laptops as there will be regular in-class writing activities.

Important Dates
First Class Day: **Monday, August 25**
Census Date/Last Day to Drop without Record: **September 8**
Mid-Term Grades Due: **October 20**
Last Day to Drop a Course: **November 3**
Last Class Day: **Friday, December 5**

Final Exam: **N/A**
Final Grades due: **Tuesday, December 16 by 12:00pm**

Assignments Overview

Assignments	Percentage
Writing Project 1 - Critical Reading	15%
Writing Project 2 - Informative Summary	16%
Writing Project 3 - Rhetorical Analysis	20%
Writing Project 4 - Professional Community Issue Report	35%
Class Portfolio	14%
Total	**100%**

Note: Students cannot pass the course if they fail to submit any of the major writing projects.

Grading Scale
A = 90 - 100
B = 80 - 89
C = 70 -79
D = 60 - 69
F = 59 and below

Instructor's Course Policies

Class Attendance: Students are expected to be on time and engage in class discussions and activities. Any student who misses more than 8 classes without a university-approved excuse will fail the course automatically. Arriving late or leaving early 3 times will count as 1 absence. Not participating in class activities will result in an absence for the day.

Revisions: A core premise of this course is that effective writing is the product of a process of brainstorming, drafting, and revisiting our initial drafts for ways to improve it. As such, in this course you will revise all of your major writing projects after receiving my feedback as well as feedback from your peers.

Late Work: Please turn in all work by the due date. Late assignments will be docked 10% for each day over the due date the assignments are late.

Canvas: All your assignments will be submitted to Canvas. If you cannot log into Canvas, contact the Office of Digital Learning via phone at **903-566-6200** or via e-mail at **canvas@uttyler.edu**. You may have difficulty viewing my feedback on your papers in Canvas if

<u>using a cell phone—you'll need to use a laptop or PC to view all my feedback in Canvas without problems.</u>

E-mail: E-mail is my preferred method of communication. Generally, I make an effort to reply to email inquiries within 24 hours, unless you email during the weekend. Please check your email once a day, as I send out regular reminders about assignment due dates.

Electronic Devices: Feel free to bring laptops to take notes for class. However, use of cell phones is not permitted except for specific class activities where use of the Internet may be helpful for research. Otherwise, if you need to use your cell phone, please step into the hallway.

Restrooms: If you need to use the restroom, quietly let yourself out of the classroom. However, please make your best effort to use the restroom before class.

Use of Artificial Intelligence

I expect all work students submit for this course to be their own. I have carefully designed all assignments and class activities to support your learning. Doing your own work, without human or artificial intelligence assistance, is best for your efforts in mastering course learning objectives. For this course, I expressly forbid using ChatGPT or any other artificial intelligence (AI) tools for any stages of the work process, including brainstorming. Deviations from these guidelines will be considered a violation of UT Tyler's Honor Code and academic honesty values.

Note: UT Tyler is committed to exploring and using artificial intelligence (AI) tools as appropriate for the discipline and task undertaken. We encourage discussing AI tools' ethical, societal, philosophical, and disciplinary implications. All uses of AI should be acknowledged as this aligns with our commitment to honor and integrity, as noted in UT Tyler's Honor Code. Faculty and students must not use protected information, data, or copyrighted materials when using any AI tool. Additionally, users should be aware that AI tools rely on predictive models to generate content that may appear correct but is sometimes shown to be incomplete, inaccurate, taken without attribution from other sources, and/or biased. Consequently, an AI tool should not be considered a substitute for traditional approaches to research. You are ultimately responsible for the quality and content of the information you submit. Misusing AI tools that violate the guidelines specified for this course is considered a breach of academic integrity. The student will be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in UT Tyler's Academic Integrity Policy.

UT Tyler Policies and Information
See "University Policies and Information" in the course Canvas shell.

Student Resources
See "Student Resources" in the course Canvas shell.

Course Calendar

Note: This schedule may change with reasonable advance notice, per university policy.

Week	Topics/Activities	Assignments Due
Unit 1: Critical Reading		
Week 1 August 25-31	- Introduction to Course - Overview of Unit 1 - Annotating for Critical Reading	**Due Sunday** (August 31) Critical Reading with Annotations (WP1)
Week 2 September 1-7	**Monday: No Class** (Labor Day) - Explicit v Implicit Central Message - Claims and Evidence - Author's Tone	**Due Sunday** (September 7) Reflection Letter 1
Week 3 September 8-14	- Reflection Strategies "Reflective Writing and the Revision Process" (Giles)	**Due Sunday** (September 14) Critical Reading with Annotations – Revised Draft
Unit 2: Informative Summary		
Week 4 September 15-21	- Overview of Unit 2 - OnCourse Videos: "Introduction to the Writing Process"; "Writing Summaries" - Summarizing Handout - OnCourse Video: "Integrating Quotations" - Signal Phrases Handout	**Due Wednesday** (September 15) - Sign up for Round 1, Student-Teacher Conferences **Due Sunday** (September 21) - Informative Summary (WP2)
Week 5 September 22-28	**Round 1, Student-Teacher Conferences**	**Due Sunday** (September 28) Informative Summary – Revised Draft
Week 6 September 29 - October 5	- OnCourse Videos: "The Revision Process"; "Introduction to the Peer Review Workshop" "Best Practices for Peer Review"	**Due Sunday** (October 5) Reflection Letter 2
Unit 3: Rhetorical Analysis		
Week 7 October 6-12	- Overview of Unit 3 - OnCourse Video: "Analyzing a Text" - Rhetorical Strategies	**Due Sunday** (October 12) Rhetorical Analysis (WP3)
Week 8 October 13-19	- OnCourse Video: "Active and Passive Voice in Writing" "Backpacks vs. Briefcases" (Carroll) - Transitions Handout	**Due Wednesday** (October 15) Rhetorical Analysis – Revised Draft
Week 9	Peer Feedback and Revising	**Due Sunday** (October 26)

October 20-26		● Reflection Letter 3
Unit 4: PCI Report		
Week 10 October 27-November 2	● Overview of Unit 4 ● OnCourse Videos: "Writing with Purpose"; "Understanding Context" ● Lesson: Finding Sources	**Due Sunday** (November 2) ● Proposal (PCI Report)
Week 11 November 3-9	● Creating an Annotated Bibliography ● "Sample Annotated Bibliography" Handout	**Due Wednesday** (November 5) ● Sign up for Round 2, Student-Teacher Conference **Due Sunday** (November 9) ● Annotated Bibliography (PCI Report)
Week 12 November 10-16	**Round 2, Student-Teacher Conferences** ● OnCourse Video: "Thesis Statements: Turning a Question into a Claim"	**Due Sunday** (November 16) ● Outline (PCI Report)
Week 13 November 17-23	● Drafting PCI Report	**Due Sunday** (November 23) ● First Draft - PCI Report (WP4)
Week 14 November 24-30	**No Class** Thanksgiving Holiday	
Week 15 December 1-7	● Revising PCI Report ● **Friday: Last Day of Class**	**Due Sunday** (December 7) ● Class Portfolio
Final Exam Week		
Week 16 December 8-5		