



## Syllabus | ENGL 1301: College Composition I

Course/Section: ENGL 1301-065  
Class Dates: August 25 - December 13 (Fall 2025)  
Format: Online/Asynchronous

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### Instructor Information

Name: **Dr. Billy Cryer**  
Email: [bcryer@uttyler.edu](mailto: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

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### 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.

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### 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

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### 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.

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### 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**

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## 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%         |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>100%</b> |

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

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## Grading Scale

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

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## Instructor's Course Policies

**Class Attendance:** As this is an online course, attendance is demonstrated by participation in the class discussion forums. Failure to participate in class discussion forums will result in an absence for the week. More than 3 absences will result in automatic failure of the course. If you have extenuating circumstances that may affect participation in class, please communicate with me so that we can discuss options.

**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

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

**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.

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## 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.

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## UT Tyler Policies and Information

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

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## Student Resources

See "Student Resources" in the course Canvas shell.

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## Course Calendar

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

| Week                     | Topics/Activities | Assignments Due |
|--------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Unit 1: Critical Reading |                   |                 |

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|---|--|--|
| <b>Week 1</b><br>August 25-31             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction to Course</li> <li>• Overview of Unit 1</li> <li>• Annotating for Critical Reading</li> </ul>  | <b>Due Wednesday</b> (August 27) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion Post: Self Introductions</li> </ul> <b>Due Sunday</b> (August 31) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Critical Reading with Annotations (RRP1)</li> </ul>      |
| <b>Week 2</b><br>September 1-7            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explicit v Implicit Central Message</li> <li>• Claims and Evidence</li> <li>• Author's Tone</li> </ul>  | <b>Due Wednesday</b> (September 3) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion Post: Critical Reading</li> </ul> <b>Due Sunday</b> (September 7) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reflection Letter 1</li> </ul>                         |
| <b>Week 3</b><br>September 8-14           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reflection Strategies</li> <li>• "Reflective Writing and the Revision Process" (Giles)</li> </ul>   | <b>Due Sunday</b> (September 14) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Critical Reading with Annotations – Revised Draft</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Unit 2: Informative Summary</b>        |  |  |
| <b>Week 4</b><br>September 15-21          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overview of Unit 2</li> <li>• OnCourse Videos: "Introduction to the Writing Process"; "Writing Summaries"</li> <li>• Summarizing Handout</li> <li>• OnCourse Video: "Integrating Quotations"</li> <li>• Signal Phrases Handout</li> </ul> | <b>Due Wednesday</b> (September 15) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sign up for Round 1, Student-Teacher Conferences</li> </ul> <b>Due Sunday</b> (September 21) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Informative Summary (RRP2)</li> </ul> |
| <b>Week 5</b><br>September 22-28          | <b>Round 1, Student-Teacher Conferences</b>  | <b>Due Wednesday</b> (September 24) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion Post: Informative Summary</li> </ul> <b>Due Sunday</b> (September 28) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Informative Summary – Revised Draft</li> </ul>    |
| <b>Week 6</b><br>September 29 - October 5 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OnCourse Videos: "The Revision Process"; "Introduction to the Peer Review Workshop"</li> <li>• "Best Practices for Peer Review"</li> </ul>  | <b>Due Sunday</b> (October 5) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reflection Letter 2</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Unit 3: Rhetorical Analysis</b>        |  |  |
| <b>Week 7</b><br>October 6-12             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overview of Unit 3</li> <li>• OnCourse Video: "Analyzing a Text"</li> <li>• Rhetorical Strategies</li> </ul>  | <b>Due Sunday</b> (October 12) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rhetorical Analysis (RRP3)</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Week 8</b><br>October                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OnCourse Video: "Active and Passive Voice in Writing"</li> </ul>  | <b>Due Wednesday</b> (October 15) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion Post: Rhetorical</li> </ul>  |

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|---|---|---|
| 13-19                                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Backpacks vs. Briefcases” (Carroll)</li> <li>• Transitions Handout</li> </ul>   | Analysis  |
| <b>Week 9</b><br>October 20-26              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Peer Feedback and Revising</li> </ul>  | <b>Due Sunday</b> (October 26) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reflection Letter 3</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Unit 4: PCI Report</b>                   |   |   |
| <b>Week 10</b><br>October 27-<br>November 2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overview of Unit 4</li> <li>• OnCourse Videos: “Writing with Purpose”; “Understanding Context”</li> <li>• Lesson: Finding Sources</li> </ul>                   | <b>Due Sunday</b> (November 2) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposal (PCI Report)</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Week 11</b><br>November 3-9              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creating an Annotated Bibliography</li> <li>• “Sample Annotated Bibliography” Handout</li> </ul>   | <b>Due Wednesday</b> (November 5) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sign up for Round 2, Student-Teacher Conference</li> </ul><br><b>Due Sunday</b> (November 9) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annotated Bibliography (PCI Report)</li> </ul> |
| <b>Week 12</b><br>November 10-16            | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Round 2, Student-Teacher Conferences</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OnCourse Video: “Thesis Statements: Turning a Question into a Claim”</li> </ul> | <b>Due Sunday</b> (November 16) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion Post: Outline (PCI Report)</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Week 13</b><br>November 17-23            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drafting PCI Report</li> </ul>   | <b>Due Sunday</b> (November 23) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First Draft - PCI Report</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Week 14</b><br>November 24-30            | <b>No Class</b><br>Thanksgiving Holiday   |   |
| <b>Week 15</b><br>December 1-7              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revising PCI Report</li> </ul>   | <b>Due Sunday</b> (December 7) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Class Portfolio</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Final Exam Week</b>                      |   |   |
| <b>Week 16</b><br>December 8-5              |   |   |