



Syllabus | ENGL 0300: College Composition SI

Course/Section: ENGL 0300-007
Class Dates: August 24 - December 12 (Fall 2026)
Time: TuTh 11:00am-12:20pm
Location: Herrington Patriot Center (HPC) 310

Instructor Information

Name: **Dr. Billy Cryer**
Email: bcryer@uttyler.edu
Phone: 936-244-9970
Office Hours: TuTh: 2:00pm-3:30pm
Or by appointment
Office Location: CAS 243

Course Description

This course is designed to help students fulfill the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) readiness requirements for college-level reading and writing. ENGL 0300 directly supports the learning outcomes, assignments, and classroom activities in the corequisite ENGL 1301 course. Emphasis on developing students' critical reading and academic writing skills.

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Locate explicit textual information, draw complex inferences, and describe, analyze, and evaluate the information within and across multiple texts of varying lengths.
2. Comprehend and use vocabulary effectively in oral communication, reading, and writing.
3. Identify and analyze the audience, purpose, and message across a variety of texts.
4. Describe and apply insights gained from reading and writing a variety of texts.
5. Compose a variety of texts that demonstrate reading comprehension, clear focus, logical development of ideas, and use of appropriate language that advance the writer's purpose.
6. Determine and use effective approaches and rhetorical strategies for given reading and writing situations.
7. Generate ideas and gather information relevant to the topic and purpose, incorporating the ideas and words of other writers in student writing using established strategies.
8. Evaluate relevance and quality of ideas and information in recognizing, formulating, and developing a claim.
9. Develop and use effective reading and revision strategies to strengthen the writer's ability to compose college-level writing assignments.
10. Recognize and apply the conventions of standard English in reading and writing

Required Text(s) and Materials

Required course readings are provided by the instructor.

Important Dates

First Class Day: **Monday, August 24**

Census Date/Last Day to Drop without Record: **September 8**

Mid-Term Grades Due: **October 19**

Last Day to Drop a Course: **October 30**

Last Class Day: **N/A**

Final Exam: **N/A**

Final Grades due: **December 15, by 12:00pm**

Overview of Assignments

Active Writing Studio (AWS) Portfolio (50%): As this course is structured as a support laboratory for your co-enrolled college-level English course (ENGL 1301), a major portion of our class time will be dedicated to the scaffolding, pre-writing, drafting, and refining of the major writing projects required in your ENGL 1301 course. For your AWS Portfolio, you will compile documents that demonstrate the work you have done in our class for one or more of the major projects in ENGL 1301. You will assemble documents that reflect the process of your work--invention, drafting, revising, etc. Your portfolio should also include evidence of visiting the Center for Writing Excellence to receive feedback on the first draft of your chosen writing project.

Reader Response Papers (20%): These writing projects ask you to engage with various published texts in order to learn the conventions and features of effective writing. For these assignments, you will carefully read the text, then write a short essay that provides a succinct summary of the reading, along with an analysis and personal response.

In-Class Activities (30%): These are specific activities you will complete in class over the course of the semester, including warmup activities, grammar lessons, peer review workshops, online modules, etc.

Course Outline/Calendar

Week 1	Tuesday, August 25	Thursday, August 27
August 24-30	• Course Overview • Introductions • Acknowledgment of Course Policies and Grading • AI Ethics Module • Preview Reader Response Paper 1 • Formatting Papers/Navigating Canvas	Active Writing Studio • Project Profile (AWS Portfolio) • Assignment Prompt (AWS Portfolio) • Assignment Autopsy (AWS Portfolio) - Due Sunday, 8/30

Week 2	Tuesday, September 1	Thursday, September 3
August 31-September 6	- Preview Reader Response Paper 1 Say/Does Analysis	Active Writing Studio Annotated Source with Reader's Notes (AWS Portfolio) RRP 1 - Due Sunday, 9/6
Week 3	Tuesday, September 8	Thursday, September 10
September 7-13	- Discuss Reader Response Paper 1 Quote Integration	Active Writing Studio First Draft (AWS Portfolio) - Due Sunday, 9/13
Week 4	Tuesday, September 15	Thursday, September 17
September 14-20	- Preview Reader Response Paper 2 Schedule Writing Center Visit (Deadline, end of Week 5)	Active Writing Studio Descriptive Peer Review (AWS Portfolio) RRP2 - Due Sunday, 9/20
Week 5	Tuesday, September 22	Thursday, September 24
September 21-27	- Discuss Reader Response Paper 2 Source Integration	Active Writing Studio Feedback Log (AWS Portfolio) - Revisions to First Draft
Week 6	Tuesday, September 29	Thursday, October 1
September 28-October 4	Claims and Evidence	Active Writing Studio Revised Paragraph (AWS Portfolio) - Due Sunday, 10/4
Week 7	Tuesday, October 6	Thursday, October 8
October 5-11	Active Writing Studio Second Draft (AWS Portfolio) Reflection Essay (AWS Portfolio)	Active Writing Studio Second Draft (AWS Portfolio) Reflection Essay (AWS Portfolio) AWS Portfolio due Sunday, October 11
Supplemental Instruction		
Weeks 8 – 15 October 12	Individual meetings with students who need additional support.	

Grading

In this course, you will not receive a letter grade. Rather, you will be evaluated as “TSI Complete” (Pass) or “TSI Incomplete” (Fail). Furthermore, this course will employ a labor contract, which assesses you on the quality of your efforts and your overall growth in the course. Thus, your grade in this course depends on your efforts to meet deadlines and fulfill expectations, as well as demonstrated improvement as a writer and reader.

To pass the course and become “TSI Complete,” you will be evaluated on three criteria: **Class Participation, Completion of Assignments and Tasks**, and **Overall Growth**. The grading contract in Canvas provides more detail regarding expectations for meeting a passing assessment for each grading criteria. Your final grade will be calculated upon submitting the Reflection Portfolio in Unit 4.

Instructor’s Course Policies

Attendance: Students are expected to be on time and engage in class discussions and activities. Any student who misses more than 4 classes without a university-approved excuse will fail the course automatically. Arriving late or leaving early 2 times will count as 1 absence. Not participating in class activities will result in an absence for the day.

Revisions: To produce effective writing often requires revising and even rewriting. As such, in this course I will ask you to revise all of your assignments after receiving my feedback. I allow students to revise and resubmit all writing assignments multiple times—with the exception of the final project—for a higher grade. The considerable feedback I provide on student work is a reflection of my commitment to your growth as a reader and writer. Please honor this commitment of my time and effort by revising your work when requested.

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 feedback on your assignments in Canvas if using a cell phone—you’ll need to use a laptop or PC to view all feedback in Canvas without problems.

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.