Integrated Reading and Writing  
INRW 0399.003  
Time: TR 9:30 – 10:45  
Place: Ferguson 292  

Professor: James Couch  
Office: LAN 327  
Office Hours: MW: 1:00 – 3:30  
Zoom Only. 

Department: English  
Phone: 468-2430  
Email: couchjames@sfasu.edu  

COURSE DESCRIPTION of Integrated Reading and Writing:  
This course is designed to prepare students for university studies where reading and writing are of great importance. This course is designed specifically to prepare students for Rhetoric and Composition (ENGL 1301). Integrated Reading and Writing topics include applying active reading strategies and facilitating sentence and paragraph writing, basic reading and critical writing skills, and prepares students to write college-appropriate compositions. This course carries institutional credit but will not transfer and may not be used to meet degree requirements. While study skills may be included as part of the course materials, students should be prepared to do a substantial amount of reading to facilitate how to comprehend and interpret messages in a variety of texts, and to learn how to discuss through oral and written communication the information presented in the texts. Additionally, students will be required to write a number of assignments, ranging from sentence-level, to paragraph, to unified theme, and to be able to write these assignments according to the conventions of Standard English.

INRW 0399 “Integrated Reading and Writing” (3 credits) meets three times each week in fifty-minute segments or twice each week in seventy-five-minute segments for fifteen weeks and meets during finals week according to the final exam schedule. As the support class for the ENGL 1301 / INRW 0399 co-requisite, students complete learning activities that directly support the assignments in the entry-level ENGL 1301 class. This includes additional “time on task,” supplemental reading and writing instruction, and weekly conferences with the instructor during class meetings.

Texts and Materials  
Brief Penguin Handbook 5th Edition (Recommended)  
Pen and Paper (Required)  
USB Drive (Recommended)  
Computer Access for Zoom (Required)

Course Requirements  
In this class, you will be tasked to produce logical, thoughtful, well-composed pieces of argument. These assignments are based on various topics that will emerge from the assigned readings and our in-class discussions.  

All papers composed outside of class must be typed and require MLA format (including an MLA heading, 12 pt type, 1” margins, double-spacing,
Times New Roman font, indented paragraphs, etc.) and are due by midnight on the assigned date. No late work will be accepted. Students are required to submit an electronic copy through D2L to the Turnitin comprehensive plagiarism detector. Failure to do so will result in a failing grade (0 points) on the paper in question.

Hybrid Course Format for Fall 2021
This course follows a hybrid format wherein approximately half of our time will be spent interacting via Zoom. The class will be split into two groups. One group will attend class in person on Tuesdays and via Zoom on Thursdays, and one group will attend via Zoom on Tuesdays and in-person on Thursdays. During ZOOM meetings, students are expected to be attentive and actively participating (answering questions, using chat, completing activities, etc.). You will be expected to have your camera on for the entire ZOOM meeting. Your microphone should be muted unless you are speaking. Any disruptive behavior, as determined by the instructor, will not be allowed, and students may be asked to leave the meeting depending on severity. Please use common sense and be respectful. If Zoom bombing occurs, I will end the meeting, and I will email you via D2L Brightspace with further instructions. This is a web-enhanced class. You will need to visit BRIGHTSPACE by D2L regularly to keep up with assignments, contact the instructor, and receive supplemental information for your success in the course. Classroom activities, homework assignments, other instructional materials, and grades will all be posted in BRIGHTSPACE.

Course Calendar
The class will be divided into four sections based on the four major paper assignments in 1301. Each assignment will take approximately four weeks to complete. The expressive essay will take slightly less time; the rhetorical analysis will take slightly longer. The general schedule, however, will be one major portfolio due each month, along with the relevant daily work.

Grading Policy
Semester grades will be the sum of the four major paper portfolios (20 pts each) and the daily grades (20 pts). After your semester grade is determined, attendance points will be deducted or added. Feel free to come and see me during office hours about your writing, your grade, or for any other reason.

Attendance Policy
Punctual attendance (physical and mental) is required, and roll will be checked at the beginning of the class. If you are not in class when roll is checked, expect to be counted absent. If you fall asleep in class, expect to be counted absent. If you text, make phone calls, use a laptop, do work for other classes, or engage in any non-class-related activity, expect to be counted absent. Notes from parents, grandparents, doctors, coaches, etc. are not required and will make no difference with regard to attendance. If you are not in class, then you are absent. I consider all absences to be “excused,” which means daily classwork missed due to absence can be submitted late if an appointment is
made immediately upon return to class. Because, however, group discussion is such an important element of this class, excessive absences will adversely affect your grade. **You have two absences before your grade is affected;** use them how you wish. **One and a half (1.5) points will be deducted from your semester grade for each absence after the third.** Any student who misses more than three weeks of class will receive a failing grade for the course, as per the university attendance policy. **Students with perfect attendance will receive two (2) points toward their final grade.**

**Acceptable Student Behavior**
Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program (see the Student Conduct Code, policy D-34.1). Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be asked to leave class and may be subject to judicial, academic, or other penalties. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate/inappropriate in the classroom. Students who do not attend class regularly or who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the Early Alert Program. This program provides students with recommendations for resources or other assistance that is available to help SFA students succeed.

**Academic Integrity (A-9.1)**
“Academic dishonesty” includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one’s own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one’s paper without giving the author due credit. (Please read the complete policy at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic-integrity.asp)

Academic dishonesty carries a very heavy penalty: a definite F (in the form of zero (0) points), on the paper in question, a probable F in the class, and possible expulsion from the university.

**Withheld Grades Semester Grades Policy (A-54)**
Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F.
If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

**Students with Disabilities**
To obtain disability-related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to [http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/](http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/)

**Mental Health and Wellness**
SFA values students’ mental health and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. SFA provides a variety of resources to support students' mental health and wellness. Many of these resources are free, and all of them are confidential.

On-campus Resources:

- **SFA Counseling Services**
  www.sfasu.edu/counselingservices
  Rusk Building, 3rd Floor
  936.468.2401

- **SFA Human Services Counseling Clinic**
  www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp
  Human Services, Room 202
  936.468.1041

Crisis Resources:
- Burke 24-hour crisis line: 1.800.392.8343
- Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1.800.273.TALK (8255)
- Crisis Text Line: Text HELLO to 741-741

**Student Learning Outcomes**
Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

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.
Statement of Comprehension

I have read and do understand the course rules, requirements, procedures, and consequences as expressed in the syllabus. As a student in Mr. Couch’s English 131 class, I agree to guide my conduct accordingly and follow all rules and procedures previously stated. Should I fail to do so, I understand that the consequences will apply no less to me than to my classmates.

Date:__________________________________________ -

Printed Name:___________________________________ -

Signed:__________________________________________ -