Rhetoric and Composition  
English 1301.011

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Office: Ferguson 178

Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Department: English and Creative Writing

Class meeting time and place: 12:30 p.m. to 1:45 p.m. in Ferguson 376

Course Description: Study and application of the writing process and the skills of writing with a focus on analytical reading and writing. Essay assignments address rhetorical analysis and evaluation and critical responses to close readings of texts. Required of all students who do not qualify for English 1303H. Prerequisite: acceptable THEA score or at least a C in INRW 0399. Must earn a C or higher to be admitted to English 1302.

Course Contact Hours and Study Hours:

English 1301, “Rhetoric and Composition” (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. Students complete weekly topical readings as well as writing and discussion activities related to those readings. Students write a minimum of three essays with a total page count of at least fifteen pages of finished writing. Emphasis is placed on writing processes, including multiple drafts and short assignments that require generating, revising, and editing writing. These activities average six hours of work outside of classroom hours.
Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of individual and collaborative writing processes.
2. Develop ideas with appropriate support and attribution.
3. Write in a style appropriate to audience and purpose.
4. Read, reflect, and respond critically to a variety of texts.
5. Use Edited American English in academic essays.

General Education Core Curriculum:

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board has identified six core learning objectives: Critical Thinking Skills, Communication Skills, Empirical and Quantitative Skills, Teamwork, Personal Responsibility, and Social Responsibility. SFA is committed to the improvement of its general education core curriculum by regular assessment of student performance of these six objectives.

By enrolling in English 1301, you are also enrolling in a Core Curriculum Course that fulfills the COMMUNICATION component area.

The following indicates (a) the core objectives that are required to be taught in this course per the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) and (b) how the required core objectives will be addressed:

Core Objective: Critical Thinking Skills

Definition: To include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information.

How the Core Objective Will Be Addressed: This will be addressed in all three essays that will be completed for this class. DATES TBA.

Core Objective: Communication Skills

Definition: To include effective development, interpretation, and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication.

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Definition: To include effective development, interpretation, and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication.

How the Core Objective Will Be Addressed: This will be addressed in all three essays that will be completed in this class. DATES TBA.
Core Objective: Teamwork

Definition: To include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal.

How the Core Objective Will Be Addressed: This will be addressed on those calendar days designated for “Peer Response” activities. DATES TBA.

Core Objective: Personal Responsibility

Definition: To include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making.

How the Core Objective Will Be Addressed: This will be addressed in all three essays that will be completed for this class. DATES TBA.

Texts and Materials:

Two books are required for this course:

1. *Rules for Writers* by Diana Hacker and Nancy Sommers
2. *The Broadview Anthology of Expository Prose:* edited by Laura Buzzard and others: 3rd edition

Materials:

1. Spiral-bound notebook
2. Notebook paper
3. Folder in which you will keep current drafts of your writing
4. Access to a computer, printer, and Brightspace
5. Pens, pencils, etc.

Course Calendar:

Tentative Essay Schedule Summary:

Major Assignment #1: Narrative Essay: due September 21
Major Assignment #2: Multimodal Composition: due October 19
Major Assignment #3: Essay Based on Close Reading of Assigned Texts: due November 16

Grading Policy:
Three essays = 60%
Quizzes on reading assignments. = 20%
Participation/attendance = 10%
“Learning letters” = 10%

A handout will be forthcoming on the “learning letters.”

Grading Scale:

90%-100% = A
80%-89% = B
70%-79% = C
60%-69% = D
0%-59% = F

Attendance Policy:

Students are expected to attend, be on time, and participate. Each student is allowed three unexcused absences. Following, five points will be deducted from the final course grade for each unexcused absence. Three unexcused tardies count as one absence. If your absence is excused, you must let me know the period you return to class. If your tardy is excused, you must let me know at the end of the class period. Anyone who comes in fifteen minutes or longer late will be counted absent.

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways, including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

Definition of Academic Dishonesty:

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, for 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 entire policy at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/student-academic-dishonesty-4.1.pdf.

**Withheld Grades Semester Grades Policy (5.5):**

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 coursework 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/disability_services/](http://www.sfasu.edu/disability_services/).

**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/counseling_services
Rusk Building, 3rd Floor
936.468.2401

SFA Human Services Counseling Clinic
www.ssfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp
Human Services, Room 2-2
936.468.1041

Crisis Resources:
Burke 24-hour crisis line: 1.800.392.8843
Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1.800.273.TALK (8255)
Crisis Text Line: Text HELLO to 741-741