English 1302: Research and Argument  
Spring 2024

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Office: LAN 241  
Office Hours: MW 11:15 – 12:45. TTh – 11:15 – 12:15, and by appointment. The quickest way to reach me is during class, immediately after class, during office hours, and by email.

English 1302.027 meets Mondays and Wednesdays, from 2:30 to 3:45 pm in Ferguson 378.

If you take this course, it is presumed that you have read this syllabus, and agree to abide by the requirements and conditions for this course laid out in this syllabus.


MESSAGE FROM THE AARC: Visit the SFA Academic Assistance and Resource Center. The AARC provides a variety of free academic support programs for students at SFA. Our services include 1:1 appointments, walk-in tables, online tutoring (through Zoom), learning teams, and SI. We also provide academic skills workshops upon request.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In English 1302, you will continue to study, apply the writing process, and hone your skills of writing, with a focus on the forms of argumentative writing and on research methods, such as gathering, evaluating, summarizing, synthesizing and citing source information. **Prerequisite(s):** ENGL 1301

Credit Hour Justification: English 1302 “Research and Argumentation” (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 four essays with a total page count of at least eighteen pages of finished writing. Emphasis is placed on writing and research processes, including multiple drafts and short assignments that require generating, revising and editing writing. Students conduct more library and online research than what is required in ENG 131. Final exams typically include presentations of student writing and research. These activities average six hours of work outside of classroom hours.

**English 1302 Student Learning Outcomes:** Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of individual and collaborative research processes.
2. Develop ideas and synthesize primary and secondary sources within focused academic arguments, including one or more research-based essays.
3. Analyze, interpret, and evaluate a variety of texts for the ethical and logical uses of evidence.
4. Write in a style that clearly communicates meaning, builds credibility, and inspires belief or action.
5. Apply the conventions of style manuals for specific academic disciplines (e.g., APA, CMS, MLA, etc.)

Core Curriculum Objectives: 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 on these six objectives.

By enrolling in ENGL 1302, you are also enrolling in a Core Curriculum Course that fulfills the below requirements. The chart below indicates: (a) The core objectives that are required to be taught in this course per the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB), (b) the definitions, and (c) how the core objectives will be addressed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core Objective</th>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>How the Core Objective Will be Addressed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Critical Thinking Skills</td>
<td>To include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.</td>
<td>Active reading assignments Writing process(es) activities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Communication Skills</td>
<td>To include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas though written, oral, and visual communication.</td>
<td>Composing for different purposes, audiences, and contexts Small-group discussion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teamwork</td>
<td>To include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal.</td>
<td>Writing groups Small-group work</td>
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<tr>
<td>Personal Responsibility</td>
<td>To include the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making.</td>
<td>Building ownership and agency with writing Ethics of research</td>
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**COURSE POLICIES AND ACTIVITIES**

Grades in this class will be based on Contract Grading. Refer to the *Grading Contract* (appended to the syllabus and on D2L) for details.

For each major assignment, you will receive a detailed assignment sheet, and we will usually have at least one rough draft and peer review session scheduled. See calendar for due dates.

**Major Assignments**
- Argument Analysis Essay, with definition & exemplification
- Annotated Bibliography, Assignment 1
- Critical Conversation Essay, synthesis
- Annotated Bibliography, Assignment 2
- Researched Argument Essay
- Multimedia presentation, based on your research

**Daily Assignments**

Daily assignments are some of the most important work we will do, and are designed to help you with the process of writing your major compositions. These smaller assignments and rough drafts are where much of the learning takes place—not in the final draft.

These assignments include activities like discussions, brainstorming, reflections, scaffolded assignments (for example, submitting the thesis before the full essay), and other in-class activities. In other words, this is all the work you must do before you craft your final drafts of major compositions. Because daily work is timely and mostly in class, it cannot be submitted late without pre-approval.
**Final Reflection:** At the end of the semester, instead of completing a formal final exam during the final exam time, you will complete a Final Personal Reflection in which you reflect on your effort, learning, and growth as a writer and student throughout the semester.

**The Writing Process:** Drafting and revising is a major component to this class. Research studies show that revision is integral to learning how to write well. Learning how to heavily revise drafts is an important skill for all writers to practice. Revision in this class will be guided by self-assessment of drafts-in-progress, instructor feedback, and writing workshop groups.

For each major essay, you will complete at least one rough draft. Each draft (rough and final) should include an author’s note (just a short paragraph above or below the title). **The author’s not should include:** 1) The state and history of your draft (first draft, third, etc. and what revision you have already completed) 2) What you were trying to accomplish in this draft 3) What you think is going well 4) What you are having trouble with or would like advice on.

**Class Materials:**
- Writer’s Journal (online or composition notebook)
- Folder for current drafts (online or actual)
- Textbook, *Patterns for College Writing*, Course readings from the textbook, as assigned
- Access to a computer, printer, and Brightspace

**Essay Format**
- All major assignments should follow the MLA Style Guide and should be in essay form, unless otherwise noted.
- All major assignments should be formatted as follows: 12-point, Times New Roman, Arial, or Georgia, double spaced, 1” margins.
- Assignments should have an original title.
- Use a standard heading in the top LEFT corner of the page (your name, date, instructor’s name, class and section).
- Pages should be numbered.
- Use passages/examples from the texts as support.
- Use parenthetical citations
- Use block quotations for quotes more than 4 typed lines of text.
- For hard copies: Print essays in clear ink on good quality paper. Staple or paper-clip your essay pages.

**Working with Your Peers:** We will meet often in pairs or small groups to workshop our writing. You are expected to bring homework, notes, journals, or drafts, as instructed. We will do many in-class activities to help you generate ideas, get words on the page, draft, revise, and edit.

**Conferences:** During class, I will often look at drafts and advise students. We may also schedule conferences during the semester, as needed, during office hours and by appointment. Conferences are a chance for us to talk one-on-one about your writing and progress in the course. My office is LAN 241.

**Participation and Attendance:** Our class meetings involve active learning. Lectures are brief, and much class time involves reading, writing, and discussion activities. Attendance and active participation in this course are necessary. You can’t learn if you aren’t here. The grading contract takes this into account. Please do not be late for class. One or two late arrivals are excusable; consistent tardiness is rude. **Nonparticipation**, such as sleeping in class, unauthorized use of electronics, working on assignments for other classes are also counted as absences. **Repeatedly being off task (talking, cellphones, social media, etc.) may result in you being asked to leave the class and counted absent for the day.**

If you are absent, in-class work cannot usually be made up, unless it is an actual assignment with a dropbox. You are responsible for readings and for getting assignments in by the due date, even if you are absent. Your course grades will be determined by subsequent absences.
**D2L Brightspace:** Please check your D2L Brightspace and SFA email regularly. 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. All homework will be posted in BRIGHTSPACE.

**Being absent is not an excuse for missed information or assignments due.** You should email a classmate to find out what went on in class if you are not able to attend. Often you can find the needed information on Bright Space. You should pick up any missed packets or material. You will be responsible for all the material discussed in class on the days you were absent—and for the material for the next class period.

**Technology Issues (your own laptop, D2L, etc.) are not an excuse for late work.** You are encouraged to back up your work via multiple methods and check for a D2L submission receipt.

**Excused absences:** All university-sponsored events are excused absences, though you must turn in assignments by their due dates. **In addition, you must notify me before the date of the absence.**

**Doctor's/Clinic notes are required** for excessive, frequent, and/or prolonged illnesses. You can contact the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities (OSRR) if you would like to request an absence notification be sent to your instructors. **This does not mean that the absence is excused, however.**

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**UNIVERSITY POLICIES & RESOURCES**

**Academic Integrity**

The Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity outlines the prohibited conduct by any student enrolled in a course at SFA. It is the responsibility of all members of all faculty, staff, and students to adhere to and uphold this policy.

Articles IV, VI, and VII of the new Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity outline the violations and procedures concerning academic conduct, including cheating, plagiarism, collusion, and misrepresentation. Cheating includes, but is not limited to: (1) Copying from the test paper (or other assignment) of another student, (2) Possession and/or use during a test of materials that are not authorized by the person giving the test, (3) Using, obtaining, or attempting to obtain by any means the whole or any part of a non-administered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program, or using a test that has been administered in prior classes or semesters without permission of the Faculty member, (4) Substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for one’s self, to take a test, (5) Falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other records or academic work offered for credit, (6) Using any sort of unauthorized resources or technology in completion of educational activities.

**Plagiarism** is the appropriation of material that is attributable in whole or in part to another source or the use of one’s own previous work in another context without citing that it was used previously, without any indication of the original source, including words, ideas, illustrations, structure, computer code, and other expression or media, and presenting that material as one’s own academic work being offered for credit or in conjunction with a program course or degree requirements.

**Collusion** is the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any provision of the rules on academic dishonesty, including disclosing and/or distributing the contents of an exam.

**Misrepresentation** is providing false grades or résumés; providing false or misleading information in an effort to receive a postponement or an extension on a test, quiz, or other assignment for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit for oneself or another individual or to injure another student academically or financially.
**Plagiarism in ENG 1302:** The writing you turn in or otherwise share with me and your group must be your own. We will look at how to represent and give credit to the ideas and writing of others. Please let me know if at any point you do not know how to properly document your research.

**Statement on Artificial Intelligence Technology:** Generative AI refers to technology that can create writing or content, based on given prompts or inputs. It is important to note that this is a new tool that we are all still learning to effectively utilize.

Students may choose to engage with generative AI, such as Chat GPT, as part of their writing process in this composition class. While utilizing it for brainstorming, organization, and conceptual understanding, it is crucial to emphasize that the final written work must be their own original creation. Generating entire essays or relying solely on Chat GPT is strictly prohibited. All chat logs must be saved and submitted as evidence of their engagement.

**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 to compute the grade point average. For additional information, go to https://www.sfasu.edu/policies/course-grades-5.5.pdf.

**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 promptly may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/.

**Student Wellness and Well-Being:** SFA values students’ overall well-being, mental health and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. Students may experience stressors that can impact both their academic experience and their personal well-being. These may include academic pressure and challenges associated with relationships, emotional well-being, alcohol and other drugs, identities, finances, etc.

If you are experiencing concerns, seeking help, 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:**
- **The Dean of Students Office** (Rusk Building, 3rd floor lobby)
  - www.sfasu.edu/deanofstudents
  - 936.468.7249
  - dos@sfasu.edu

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

- **The Health and Wellness Hub** “The Hub”
  - Location: corner of E. College and Raguet St.

To support the health and well-being of every Lumberjack, the Health and Wellness Hub offers comprehensive services that treat the whole person – mind, body and spirit. Services include:

- Health Services
- Counseling Services
- Student Outreach and Support
➢ Food Pantry
➢ Wellness Coaching
➢ Alcohol and Other Drug Education
➢ [website link]
➢ 936.468.4008
➢ thehub@sfasu.edu

Crisis Resources:
➢ Burke 24-hour crisis line: 1.800.392.8343
➢ National Suicide Crisis Prevention: 9-8-8
➢ Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1.800.273.TALK (8255)
➢ Crisis Text Line: Text HELLO to 741-741