English 1302.004
Research and Argument
TR 8:00-9:15   F183
Spring 2024

Professor: William Harris
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Office Phone: 936-468-1989
Office: F 291
Office Hours: By Appointment


Grades: Three essays = 300 points
One research paper = 200 points
One annotated bibliography = 100 points
Daily Work = 50 points
One Final essay exam = 50 points

By end of term there will be 700 points possible. A ≥ 630 points, B ≥ 560 points, C ≥ 490 points.

Essays: Will be typed, DS, 1 inch margins, 12 point Times New Roman font. Name and Date in top right hand corner, title centered with 1 line above and 1 line below. Indent paragraphs. Staples only! The final version of each essay must also be submitted to the Dropbox in Desire2Learn.

Annotated Bibliography: Employing research techniques learned in class, the student will find 10 sources for their proposed research topic and summarize its content and explain how the topic of the source will aid in their own argument for the Research/Argument Paper. More information and details will be provided closer to the due date.

Research/Argument Paper: The final paper for the class will be a Researched Argument Paper that will be 8-10 pages in length. The student will develop a well-researched and sound argument concerning the topic approved by the instructor via email. This paper will require 10 to 12 sources. This paper will display the research and analytic skills the student has developed over the course this class and ENG 1301. More information and details will be provided closer to the due date.

Assignment Submission: All written work will be submitted electronically via D2L. Assignments are due by class time on their due date. All files must be formatted in either .doc or .docx (compatible with Microsoft Word). I will not accept PDF, Rich Text Format or Word Perfect, for example.

Daily Work: Consists of any work assigned to bring to class or email to instructor. Grades will be 0 for no work, 50 for incomplete work, or 100 for completed work. No late work will be accepted!
Grading Method for Essays & Research paper: Each essay grade will have three components: 50% for content, 25% for organization, and 25% for mechanics and grammar.

Late Work: Ten (10) points will be deducted for each day the essay is late. However, you will earn zero (0) points if you fail to turn in an essay!!

Texting: Students who text or play on phone during class time will be counted academically absent.

Attendance: This course will rely heavily on classroom discussion. Therefore, you are expected to attend each class and be on time, thus minimizing disruptions, repeated instructions, and missed assignments. Valid excuses are limited to health, religious observation, family emergencies, and participation in certain SFASU-sponsored events. Students must provide written documentation from which a decision will be made regarding the absence. Without written documentation, the absence will automatically be considered unexcused. Whether an absence is excused or unexcused, students are still responsible for all course content and assignments. See: https://www.sfasu.edu/docs/hops/02-102.pdf

I take attendance at the beginning of class; arriving more than five minutes after class begins will result in your being marked absent. You may be counted absent even if you attend class, if you: do not bring assigned books or other required assignments, act inappropriately, or are otherwise disruptive to the classroom environment.

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.
https://www.sfasu.edu/docs/policies/10.4.pdf

Generative AI
Generative AI refers to technology that can generate text or content based on given prompts or inputs. I
will not use generative AI to grade your writing. The written feedback you get from me will be from me.
Therefore, I expect you to turn in written work that is your own. However, if you use it to get started, to
generate ideas, or brainstorm, I expect you note your use of the program. Unauthorized use of
generative AI includes failing to document your use of it, using it in ways that undermine your learning,
and presenting AI-generated content as your own original writing and thinking. Such unauthorized use
is a violation of academic integrity and will be reported per policy.

Course Citizenship: Eating, sleeping, or reading other materials during class are not acceptable. All cell
phones must be turned off prior to coming to class, and no text messaging or web surfing will be
tolerated. Laptops and cell phones should not be used unless I indicate that you may use them for a
particular activity. Although students with disciplinary problems tend to be few and far between at the
college level, if behavioral disruptions persist within a single class meeting (or, for that matter, across
multiple meetings), the student in question will be asked to leave the class will be counted academically
absent for the day.

Weak Argument?

Oh, yeah, come at me Bro!

Students entering English 1302 should:
- be able to formulate a thesis statement.
- understand the meaning and relationship of claim, evidence, and analysis.
- know and apply the concepts of the rhetorical situation (speaker, audience, purpose, message,
  context) and the rhetorical appeals (ethos, pathos, logos).
- understand what makes a unified and coherent paragraph and be able to write one.
- produce mechanically sound essays with only minor grammatical, punctuation, and spelling
  errors.
- understand what constitutes plagiarism
- be proficient in MLA basics: page formatting, quotation, citation, and Works Cited lists.
COURSE DESCRIPTION

Research and Argumentation (3 credits) typically meets three times each week in 50-minute segments or twice each week in 75-minute segments for 15 weeks, and also meets for a 2-hour final examination. Students will read and study the principles of argumentation (both classical and contemporary), practice analysis of published arguments, and then apply these principles to their own individual arguments that grow out of their career fields and interests. In addition, students will learn best practices for research in order to inform themselves about the arguments they engage, and they will learn how to incorporate the needed evidence to support their claims/positions. The third component of the course requires students to understand that there are various methods of source documentation; in this course, they will engage the MLA documentation method and observe it in their written productions. Students will practice and (to some extent) master the writing process, producing multiple drafts of a summary analysis, annotated bibliography, a synthesis analysis and an extended argument of their own. These activities average at a minimum 6-8 hours of work outside class each week to prepare for and participate in this course.

☐ Prerequisite: C in English 1301. Must earn a C or higher to be admitted to any English 2000-level course.

COURSE OUTCOMES

General Education Core Curriculum Objectives:
This course has been selected to be part of Stephen F. Austin State University’s core curriculum. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board has identified six objectives for all core courses: 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.

English 1302 Learning Outcomes
ENG 1302 learning outcomes are the goals that students must meet as part of the Freshman Composition core curriculum requirements, which include:

1. Ability to show appropriate acquisition of CORE objective 1: Critical Thinking Skills. Students in compositions courses make application of these skills in the writing of personal, expository, and persuasive essays, which require students to make inquiries into and explorations of topics in creative, innovative, or analytical ways. Students are expected to complete readings, to engage in course and group discussions, and to analyze, interpret and synthesize their findings resultant from these critical engagements into well-developed essays. Written assignments will evidence the students’ command of these considerations: effective engagement of audience (pathos), logical development of ideas (logos), and effective use of examples, expertise, or insight (ethos); a research essay is the culminating writing of this course; students will learn appropriate research methodologies, how to evaluate secondary sources, and to synthesize the ideas of others in their arguments.

2. Ability to show appropriate acquisition of CORE objective 2: Communication Skills. These skills include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication. Following instruction about group interaction, students will engage in oral communication through class discussions and group work (orally in face-to-face courses, electronically in online courses). Students will have occasion to respond to visual medium, as found in assigned readings, lectures, power-point presentations, or other media dependent upon course materials. Students learn processes for writing that help them to form coherent, well-developed, well-organized and unified discussions through a variety of writing methodologies, including persuasive, analytical, and argumentative methodologies. Students will write several essays; the culminating assignment will be an argumentative, research-based essay, and rubrics will assess such concerns as development and exploration, mechanical clarity, interpretation or expression of ideas, and effective use of research methodologies.
3. Ability to show appropriate acquisition of CORE objective 3: Teamwork skills. These skills include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal. Following instruction about peer review processes and small group work, students will perform peer mentorship on essay assignments and work together on group projects, which may include collaborative writing occasions, group presentations, or panel discussions. As peer review is the common teamwork experience, students will be required to share potentially diverse ideas with one another, to address those views in appropriate ways, and to help one another to finalize essays for submission.

4. Ability to show appropriate acquisition of CORE objective 4: Personal Responsibility skills. These skills include the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making. Students will have opportunity to examine numerous secondary sources, to determine the credibility and value of those sources, and to understand how argumentative methodologies bear responsibility and consequence.

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**SFA COURSE POLICIES**

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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. For additional information, go to [https://www.sfasu.edu/docs/hops/04-106.pdf](https://www.sfasu.edu/docs/hops/04-106.pdf).

**The Academic Assistance and Resource Center:** The AARC offer free writing tutoring, which is available on a walk-in and appointment basis. They also offer online writing tutoring services and workshops about writing-related topics. For more information, go to [http://library.sfasu.edu/aarc/](http://library.sfasu.edu/aarc/), visit them on the first floor of the Steen Library, or call them at 936-468-4108.

**Withheld Grades Policy (HOP policy 02-206):** 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/docs/hops/02-206.pdf.

**Accommodations:** To obtain disability-related accommodations, alternate formats, and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services, Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, Disability Services 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 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)

sfasu.edu/deanofstudents
936.468.7249
dos@sfasu.edu

SFA Human Services Counseling Clinic Human Services, Room 202

sfasu.edu/humanservices/clinics-labs/counseling-clinic
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

sfasu.edu/thewhub
936.468.4008
thewhub@sfasu.edu

**Crisis Resources:**

- Burke 24-hour crisis line: 1.800.392.8343
Your reward for reading to the end.