English 300:
College Composition I SI
Fall 2024

Instructor: Dr. Mark Sidey
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Office: CAS 248
Office Hours: T/R 9:45-10:45; T 12:30-1:30; and by appointment
Section Info: 026; T 2:00-3:20; RBS 2019

Course Overview

The purpose of this course is to provide support for students who are not TSI eligible. The course focuses on developing writing practices, strengthening grammar and mechanics, and providing support for ENGL 1301 assignments.

Support for ENGL 1301 assignments requires your input. Whatever you are confused about, struggling with, or would like feedback on from an ENGL 1301 assignment, tell me. For me and the class to give useful feedback, we will need to see the assignment prompt, grading criteria, class notes, and feedback from your ENGL 1301 teacher.

Textbook

There is no textbook to buy. We will use free online resources.

Laptops

If you have a laptop, I recommend that you bring it to class. Using a laptop in class will be of immense benefit to you. Using a cell phone or other small hand-held device will be frustrating.

Course Grade

Component	Percent of Course Grade
Engagement	70%
Writing Center Visits	15%
In-class Surveys	5%
Final Reflection	10%

There is no extra credit work in this course.

Engagement work is engaging in in-class activities and completing writing tasks in class. The writing tasks will not be available outside of the class session in which they are assigned. Engagement work is graded as complete or incomplete which is how Canvas handles pass/fail grading:

- Complete: Meets expectations and is submitted on time
- Incomplete: Does not meet expectations and/or is not submitted on time

In most cases, engagement work cannot be revised or submitted after the due date. There may be situations which warrant an exception to this policy. If you cannot submit engagement work due to an illness or emergency, notify me as soon as possible. I will determine if an exception is appropriate. Documentation may be required. Recurring engagement work that is graded as incomplete precludes exceptions.

Course Grade Scale
A 90% to 100% of possible points
B 80% to 89% of possible points
C 70% to 79% of possible points
D 60% to 69% of possible points
F 0% to 59% of possible points

Submitting Assignments
In-class writing tasks have to be submitted as a Word document and have to be submitted to the correct drop box in Canvas. Do not zip your files or submit a PDF. Assignments that do not adhere to these requirements will be graded a 0.

For a free copy of Microsoft Office, including Word, click here.

Attendance Policy

Students are expected to attend all class sessions. Missing more than two weeks of classes is grounds for failing the class. This class meets once a week; two weeks of absences is two (2) classes.

It is your responsibility to find out from other students what happened in class during your absence.

For relevant UTT policies, see the UTT policy on "Class Attendance/Excused Absences," and the UTT policy on withdrawals including "Medical Withdrawal/Course Load Reduction."

Late Arrivals/Leaving Early
Being late (arriving after I take attendance) two times equals an absence. If you are late, it is your responsibility to remind me AFTER CLASS to note that you were late not absent. Similarly, leaving early (before I dismiss class) two times equals an absence.

Class Communication

If you have questions on the class or on any assignment, you can ask those questions in class. If you have individual questions, you can talk with me after class and/or set up a time to meet via Zoom.

Announcements in Canvas
I will use announcements in Canvas to communicate essential information. It is your responsibility to read and utilize the information in announcements.

For a tutorial on announcements, click here. To manage notifications, click on "Canvas notifications" in the blue box at the top of the page. For help in resetting notifications, click on the help button on the left-hand side of your UTT Canvas home page (the question mark in a circle) and call the "Canvas Support Hotline (Students)."

Contacting Me
A Canvas message is the most effective way to contact me. Per the UTT Email Policy, I will not reply to emails sent from non-UTT email addresses.

When you send me a canvas message or email, provide a succinct overview of the topic and use complete sentences and reasonably correct grammar. In the subject line, list the class (ENGL-300), your name, and a topic.

The last day and time for Zoom meetings is 5:00 pm Tuesday December 3.

Required UTT AI Statement

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 (see below) is considered a breach of academic integrity. The student will be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in UT Tyler's Academic Integrity Policy.

AI Use in this Course

There may be occasions where we will use AI in class. Other than that, you should not use AI for assignments. Any use of AI tools must be appropriately acknowledged and cited, following APA or MLA guidelines, including the specific version of the tool used. The submitted work should include the exact prompt that you used to generate the content and the AI tool's complete response as an appendix.

Because AI-generated content is not necessarily accurate or appropriate, you must assess the validity and applicability of any submitted AI output. You will not earn full credit and may fail an assignment if inaccurate, invalid, or inappropriate information is found in your work. Additionally, the majority of each assignment should not be AI-generated content. Assignments with substantial AI-generated content will fail.

Academic Dishonesty & Disruptive Behavior

This class has a **Zero Tolerance Policy** for academic dishonesty. Any act of academic dishonesty will result in immediate failure of the entire course and will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Intervention. For the UTT definition of "academic dishonesty," see "University Policies and Information" in the UT Tyler Syllabus Module.

Disruptive behavior will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Intervention and may result in failing the class and/or University sanction. For the UTT definition of "disruptive behavior," see "University Policies and Information" in the UT Tyler Syllabus Module.

Required UT Tyler Policies & Information

See "University Policies and Information" in the UT Tyler Syllabus Module.

Schedule

Because this class is supplemental instruction for ENGL 1301, and there is no way to know ahead of time what students will need help on, it is impossible to build a weekly schedule. We will discuss in class what to work on based on what everyone is experiencing in ENGL 1301.

Key Dates

Sept 9   Census Date
Nov 4   Last Day to Drop (UTT Drop Policy)
Nov 25-29 Thanksgiving Holiday

Syllabus Changes

Per the UTT Syllabus Policy: "The information contained in the syllabus, other than the grading criteria and absence and make-up policies, may be subject to change with reasonable advance notice as long as the change is without prejudice to the students."