

## English 1302: Composition II Spring 2023

Instructor: Dr. Mark Sidey

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Office Hours: By appointment and via Zoom

Section Info: 001 MWF 9:05-10:00 HRP 251; 003 MWF 10:10-11:05 HPR 253

### Course Overview

The below course description and learning outcomes are per the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board *Lower-Division Academic Course Guide Manual Spring 2021*:

### Course Description

Intensive study of and practice in the strategies and techniques for developing research-based expository and persuasive texts. Emphasis on effective and ethical rhetorical inquiry, including primary and secondary research methods; critical reading of verbal, visual, and multimedia texts; systematic evaluation, synthesis, and documentation of information sources; and critical thinking about evidence and conclusions.

### Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students will:

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

In compliance with the state-mandated course description and learning outcomes, UT Tyler describes English 1302 as per the following:

### Catalog Course Description

This course familiarizes students with writing in academic disciplines through critical reading and writing under supervision. Students develop writing skills through analysis and evaluation of rhetorical conventions of academic writing in and beyond their own disciplines.

### **Textbook**

Wu, H., & Standridge, E. (2014). *Reading and writing about the disciplines: A rhetorical approach*. Fountainhead Press.

### **Learning Outcomes from *Reading and Writing about the Disciplines***

Upon Completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Recognize the rhetorical conventions characteristic of writing in a discipline they wish to pursue as a major
- Review, analyze, and evaluate writing in the disciplines for a designated purpose
- Use the style of writing and documentation appropriate to the discipline
- Summarize, paraphrase, and synthesize texts accurately and effectively
- Select and incorporate material from sources professionally

### **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.

### **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 three times a week; two weeks of absences is six (6) classes.

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

If you see that you will miss, or you do miss, a week or more of class work due to an illness or a significant life event, contact me ASAP. I will discuss the situation with you to determine if you can keep up with the class. Documentation may be required.

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.

## Course Grade

Component	Percent of Course Grade
Research Report	20%
Compare & Contrast Analysis	35%
Poster Presentation	15%
End-of-Semester Reflection	10%
Engagement Work	15%
Information Literacy Quizzes	5%
Total	100%

### 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

### Minimum Requirement to Earn a C in the Class

To earn a C or above in the class, students must earn a C or above on all the grade components. A grade of D or F on the research report, compare & contrast analysis, poster presentation, end-of-semester reflection, or for engagement work will result in the grade for the class being no higher than a D.

### Extra-Credit Work

There is no extra credit work in this course.

### Submitting Assignments

To be counted for a grade, assignments 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 I cannot open will be graded a 0.

For a free copy of Microsoft Office, including Word, [click here](#).

### Public Writing

All writing in the class is public writing. As a class, and possibly in small groups, we will discuss what is working well in student projects and areas for improvement.

## Grade Components

Detailed information on the projects, including grading criteria, will be provided in class and via documents in Canvas.

### Projects

The research report is a report on finding a topic in your field that you are interested in and finding scholarly sources on that topic. The compare and contrast paper is an analysis of the writing conventions used in scholarly articles. The poster presentation is a visual presentation of a topic relevant to you. The end-of-semester reflection is a reflection on what you learned over the course of the semester.

The research report, compare & contrast analysis, and poster presentation can be revised for a potential higher grade. Details will be provided in class.

### Engagement Work

Engagement work is written responses to various prompts, drafts of assignments, and contributing to discussion board threads. 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.

### Information Literacy Quizzes

The information literacy quizzes cover knowledge and skills that will help you look for and evaluate sources. The quizzes are designed and graded by Professional Librarian Vandy Dubre. For help with quizzes, email [Ms. Dubre](#).

## **Class Communication**

There are discussion board threads for questions on the class and for each assignment. 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**

To contact me, use UTT email or Canvas messenger. Per the [UTT Email Policy](#), I will not reply to emails sent from non-UTT email addresses.

Emails and Canvas messages should provide a succinct overview of the topic and should have complete sentences and reasonably correct grammar. In the subject line list the class (ENGL-1302), your name, and a topic.

## **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.

## **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.”

## **Required UT Tyler Policies & Information**

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

## Schedule

The schedule is subject to change. See Canvas for engagement work due dates and for the current schedule.

<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>	<b>Graded Draft Due</b>
Research Report	Weeks 1-5	Sunday Feb 12
Compare & Contrast Analysis	Weeks 6-11	Sunday Mar 26
Poster Presentation	Weeks 12-13	Sunday April 9
End-of-Semester Reflection	Weeks 14-15	Wednesday April 26

## Holidays

Monday January 16: Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Monday March 3 to Friday March 17: Spring Break

## Last Day to Withdraw

Thursday March 23: [UTT Drop Policy](#)

## Final's Week

**Wednesday April 26: Deadline to submit assignments revised for a potential higher grade**