

# **PUBLIC WRITING WITH TECHNOLOGY (ENGL4373/ENGL5362)**

Instructor: Dr. June Oh  
Email: [joh@uttyler.edu](mailto:joh@uttyler.edu)  
Class Meeting: TBD  
Office: CAS (College of Arts and Sciences) 240  
Office Hours: Wed & Thu 12-1:30 pm; and by appointment

## **Course Information**

Seminar in experiential learning requiring a digital project for a local organization or business. Topics include, but are not limited to, public writing, writing for non-profit organization, cooperate writing, citizenship and literacy, economy and writing technology, and media and community. End projects may be displayed on a public domain owned by the University.

Prerequisite: ENGL 3361 Word and Digital Technology or instructor's consent.

## **Course Description**

This course invites students to apply the skills, concepts, and composing practices from previous courses in the Writing and Technology minor to real-world scenarios. Students will conduct independent research of their interest and create an ArcGIS Storymap, an interactive web page that combines texts, multimedia (photo, video, audio), and map (data).

This class requires students to be proactive and develop a habit of self-learning. Although there will be instructor-lead sessions that introduce the platform, foundational theories, and generic conventions of digital writing, this course will revolve around the research and writing each students produce.

## **Learning Outcomes**

By the end of the semester, students will be able to:

1. Articulate how technology enables new or different ways of reading, creating, and communicating facts and arguments.
2. Propose, revise, and compose a quality digital project.
3. Rationalize the author's media and writing choices for effective communication.
4. Learn to be a critical reader and producer of digital technologies and methods.
5. Develop a proactive and self-learning habit.

## **Texts and Course Materials**

All texts will be provided by the instructor and students. Students will need access to ArcGIS.

## **Important Notes Technology**

1. You will need access to a relatively new laptop and high-speed internet.
2. You will need to request access to ArcGIS via UT Tyler Help Now.

3. You will need to access YouTube.
4. You should regularly check Canvas (announcement, course schedule, assignments, modules, etc.) and emails. Contact me as soon as possible if you have issues or anticipate problems with technology.
5. 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).”

## Course Grade

Component		Points
Research	Model map analysis	15 points
	Map proposal	10 points
	Research paper with lit review	10 points
ArcGIS Storymap	Visual Based on Data	10 points
	Storytelling Script	10 points
	Final Storymap	15 points
Cartographer’s Statement	Quizzes	10 points
	Rationalization	15 points
	Reflection	5 points
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>100 points</b>

## Grade Scale

A	90 to	100	points
B	80 to	89	points
C	70 to	79	points
D	60 to	69	points
F	0 to	59	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 components**. A grade of D or F on XX will result in the grade for the class being no higher than a D.

## 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.”

## Course Calendar

[Link to a detailed course schedule](#) (external link to Google Doc)

## Important Dates

1/23	Census date
3/23	Last day to withdraw
4/24	Final product due

## Major Assignments

All writings done in this class are public and will be publicly shared.

### *RESEARCH*

Students will conduct individual research and analyze a public issue of interest. A selected topic should lead to data and result that are “mappable.” In doing so, students will identify the parties or stakeholders implicated in the issue, contextualize it using scholarly and journalistic research sources, and discuss the topic’s larger impact and significance.

### *ArcGIS STORYMAP*

Students will create ArcGIS Storymap utilizing their research and write up the script and select and create a visualization of the data gathered and analyzed from their research.

### *CARTOGRAPHER’S STATEMENT*

Students will introduce and rationalize their ArcGIS storymap by writing a cartographer’s statement and pay particular attention to rationalizing their rhetorical and design choices. Before writing this cartographer’s statement, students will take three quizzes at the start of the semester that assess their understanding of map theories. Only the best two will be counted toward the final grade.

## Course Policies and Resources

### **Attendance**

Students are expected to **attend all class sessions**. Attendance is not a “portion” of your grade in this course but an absolute requirement for you to succeed in this course. There are **no excused or unexcused absences**.

Students who miss more than THREE weeks’ work (e.g., absence, arriving late or leaving early, missing discussion and/or quiz, etc.) will **automatically fail** the course unless they withdraw by the census date. There are no excused or unexcused absences in this course. See “Standard UT Tyler Syllabus Policies” for information on the census date. If you miss one or two, you will not be penalized. If you miss more than four, each absence will result in a deduction of your final grade (0.25 per absence).

You should contact me as soon as possible if you encounter or foresee any issues that can affect your performance.

### **Submitting Written Work**

To be counted for a grade, written work must be submitted (unless instructed otherwise) as a Word document in the appropriate drop box in Canvas. For a free copy of Microsoft Office, including Word, [click here](#).

Assignments that do not follow the above format, that are emailed, that are submitted to the wrong drop box, or that I cannot open (e.g., zipped files, ios files, damaged files) will receive 0 points.

### **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,” go to the UT Tyler Syllabus Module in the class Canvas shell. Click on “University Policies and Information.” Scroll to the “Academic Honesty and Academic Misconduct” section. Click on “Student Conduct and Discipline policy.” Read Section 8-802 “Academic Dishonesty.”

Disruptive behavior will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Intervention and may result in failing the class and/or University sanction. Disruptive behavior includes, but is not limited to:

- hindering other students from working on the tangible learning activities taking place during face-to-face and online class sessions
- talking when the instructor is talking
- repeatedly arriving late and/or leaving early
- using technology for purposes other than working on the tangible learning activities taking place during the class period
- doing something other than working on the tangible learning activities taking place during the class period
- sleeping during class

For the UTT definition of “disruptive behavior,” go to the UT Tyler Syllabus Module in the class Canvas shell. Click on “University Policies and Information.” Scroll to the “Academic Honesty and Academic Misconduct” section. Click on “Student Conduct and Discipline policy.” Scroll to Section 8-804 “Certain Other Offenses.” Read item number four “Disruptive Behavior.”

### **Class Conduct**

All students are expected to behave in a becoming manner, both in-person and online. Sensitive topics may be addressed during discussion, and passionate opinions are welcome. However, each student should remain respectful and civil throughout, and avoid using inflammatory language or taking insubordinate action by practicing equitable etiquette/netiquette.

Our texts or our discussion of the texts may include offensive, controversial, and/or uncomfortable topics and contents. Violence, suicide, physical and mental illnesses, racism, sexism, explicit sexual content, and political views may be discussed. If you anticipate issues reading such contents, consult with the instructor during the first week of the course.

**A Note on the N-Word and on Safe Spaces:** The N-word won’t be used in this class by a person of any race, even if it appears in our texts. This classroom is a safe space. As such, this class will also be free of hate speech regarding sexual orientation, gender expression, race, ability, and socio-economic status or background. Each member of this class is responsible for fostering an environment in which people and their ideas are respected. For the same reasons, students will strive to make remarks that are informed by our material and the history that surrounds it. (Language adapted from Koritha Mitchell’s [class covenant](#).)

In general, adhere to these four tenets, and you’ll be fine: Be kind. Work hard. Think generously. Write critically.

### **Contacting the instructor**

If you have individual questions, you can set up a time to meet either in-person or via Zoom.

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 be written using complete sentences, reasonably correct grammar, and proper structure. In the subject line list the class (ENGL4373), your name, and a topic.

## **University Policies and Information**

Go to our class Canvas for information relating University Policies.

## **Student Resources**

Go to our class Canvas for information relating University Policies.

This syllabus is a product of many generous educators' hard work and support. I give special thanks to UT Tyler's English department faculty and staff and my former colleagues at MSU.