

Writing About Literature I—English 1315 (MW)*

Semester/Room	Fall 2025 / LANG 313 (Note: Although this class meets on MW, some assignments are due on Fridays)		
Course Section	1315.002 (2:00 p.m.) / 1315.007 (3:30 p.m.)		
Instructor	Professor Anne Schoolfield		
Office Information	Room: LB 407A	Email: Anne.Schoolfield@unt.edu	
Office Hours	MW, 10:15-10:45 a.m. in LANG 407A, beginning Monday, 9/8, and virtually by appointment		
Course Texts	David Auburn, <i>Proof</i> Shelagh Stephenson, <i>Experiment with an Air Pump</i> Vern Theissen, <i>Einstein's Gift</i>	Sarah Treem, <i>The How and the Why</i> Assorted Poetry	
Supplies Needed	1) spiral notebook, 2) folder for handouts, 3) four 12-page bluebooks		
Course Description	This course engages reading, discussion, and writing as means of critical thinking, using readings from poetry and drama as sources for essay topics developed across multiple drafts.		
Evaluation	Daily Work, Participation Exams	30% 30%	Writing Assignments/Portfolio 40%
Daily Work	I will assign daily work in addition to the work I list on the syllabus—including discussion questions over class reading. Daily work and class participation count as 30% of your course grade. You may also have quizzes or discussion board assignments as daily grades.		
	Discussion Questions Discussion Questions help guide your reading, give you writing practice, and prepare you to participate in well-informed class discussions; thus, your responses should be well developed and demonstrate a thorough understanding of the assigned reading. Final course grades for students who fail to submit more than two sets of assigned discussion questions or who fail to provide adequately developed answers on more than two sets of discussion questions will be lowered by one letter grade. Note: Students are responsible for ensuring that their discussion question responses are correctly formatted (see sample in Canvas), completed, and uploaded to Canvas by the assignment deadline. Submissions that are blank, that contain questions without responses, that are the incorrect DQ set, or that are unreadable files will receive a zero. No late submissions will be accepted without UNT/TAMS documentation of technology disruption or health crisis; screen shots indicating that students finished an assignment on time, but failed to upload the submission or confirm a submission will not be accepted.		
Participation	Your participation in class discussions is extremely important. Please make sure you are asking questions and volunteering thoughtful, well-considered responses that demonstrate your engagement with course texts and with the ideas presented in class by your classmates and instructor. Students unengaged in class discussions can receive no higher than a C for participation.		
Disability Accommodation	In accordance with the terms and spirit of the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504, Rehabilitation Act, I will cooperate with the Office of Disability Accommodation to make reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you have disabilities and have not registered with ODA, I encourage you to register. Please present your written request for accommodation to me ASAP—preferably, by the fourth day of class.		
Essential Competencies	Essential competencies for this course include the ability to <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ read and analyze literary texts▪ write clear, concise, and appropriate prose to respond to a variety of assignments▪ discuss—in class and in small groups—literary texts▪ use word processing and presentations software and electronic mail		

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Academic Integrity Policy

While scholarly cooperation is an important part of academic life, learning to 1) do your own work accurately and completely and 2) attribute the work of others when you use and build on it is paramount to the trust integral to an academic community.

In English 1315/1325, **students are expected to complete all coursework on their own**, except when their instructor clearly assigns them to work with a partner or group. Therefore, students should avoid the following:

- discussing their responses to assignments with one another outside of class
- asking other students for “peer reviews” not assigned as part of class

Moreover, English 1315/1325 **students should avoid inadvertently sharing their work** by keeping printed work secure, printing all of their work themselves, creating all ‘templates’ themselves, and password-protecting all electronic access (computers, clouds, Google docs, emails etc.) to files related to their coursework. Further, students should retain an editing/revision history for all files. Your instructor may also ask you to follow a naming convention for all course files. (See Class Policies.)

Additionally, students should understand the UNT and TAMS policies covering violations of academic integrity standards.

UNT Policy 06.003: Student Academic Integrity defines “cheating” as the following:

“the use of unauthorized assistance in an academic exercise, including but not limited to:

1. use of any unauthorized assistance to take exams, tests, quizzes, or other assessments;
2. use of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments;
3. use, without permission [from the instructor], of tests, notes, or other academic materials belonging to instructors, staff members, or other students of the University [Note: this item includes the use of materials from *former* students of the university, such as students who have previously attended TAMS];
4. dual submission of a paper or project, or resubmission of a paper or project to a different class without express permission from the instructor;
5. any other act designed to give a student an unfair advantage on an academic assignment” (UNT Policy 06.003, p. 2).

Further, the policy defines fabrication, plagiarism, and facilitating academic dishonesty in the following ways:

Fabrication: “falsifying or inventing any information, data, or research outside of a defined academic exercise.” (UNT Policy 06.003, p. 2).

Plagiarism: “use of another’s thoughts or words without proper attribution in any academic exercise, regardless of the student’s intent, including but not limited to:

1. the knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgement or citation.
2. the knowing or negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or by an agency engaged in selling term papers or other academic materials.” (UNT Policy 06.003, p. 3).

Facilitating Academic Dishonesty: “helping or assisting another in the commission of academic dishonesty.” (UNT Policy 06.003, p. 2).

ANY use of ChatGPT or other generative AI writing tools (GrammarlyGO, GPT-3, GPT-4, BERT, or others) to produce assignment responses—including, but not limited to, “editing” essays or responses, using paraphrase tools or other language/editing/thesaurus tools, OR generating essays or responses for this course—**is prohibited and constitutes cheating**. Note that you must disable MS Copilot or any other “editing” software associated with your word processor for this class.

Any student in English 1315/ 1325 found cheating, fabricating, plagiarizing, facilitating fabrication/cheating/plagiarizing, OR engaging in any other type of academic dishonesty addressed in UNT Policy 06.003 or the TAMS Handbook will fail the course.

Further, the instructor will report academic dishonesty to the UNT Office of Academic Integrity; these reports will become part of the student’s permanent academic record.

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Grades and Their Meaning

For this course, we define grades as follows:

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|--|-------------------|
| A =excellent (reserved for real excellence) | D =passing |
| B =good (an honors grade) | F =failing |
| C =fair (signifies average competence) | |

Class Policies

The following class policies will help you succeed in class and understand what I expect of you.

Attendance

- Attend class regularly. *You cannot perform well unless you attend class.*

If you miss a class, **you** are responsible for all material covered and all assignments made, but please contact me so that I can answer questions you may have about the material. Please also make sure you eliminate possible distractions during class meetings.

If you become ill during the semester, you must communicate with me and with your TAMS counselor prior to being absent—if at all possible—so that we can discuss and mitigate the impact of the absence on your attainment of course learning goals. Please inform me and your TAMS counselor if you are unable to attend class meetings because you are ill, in mindfulness of the health and safety of everyone in our community.

If you are experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19 (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>) please seek medical attention from the Student Health and Wellness Center (940-565-2333 or askSHWC@unt.edu) or your health care provider PRIOR to coming to campus.

Please note that you need to speak with me about the consequences of being absent if you are considering participating in a competition, science fair, or other non-TAMS event at least TWO weeks BEFORE the event. If I excuse your absence for an event, you will still need to submit required work by the regular deadline for assignments.

Note that no absences for non-emergency medical appointments or other non-emergency absences will be excused. Schedule these appointments outside class time.

Note Taking

- Taking your own notes during class meetings will help ensure your success in this course. You should also take notes as you read each daily assignment to ensure you are prepared to participate fully in class discussions and to ask questions about challenging material.

Assignments

- Prepare reading assignments for the first day they are listed on the syllabus.
- Submit all assignments on time using the appropriate Canvas link.
If you are having trouble completing an assignment, contact me before the assignment is due—several days before major assignments.
- Prepare all assignments specifically according to instructions.
Assignments not prepared according to instructions may receive a grade of F.

File Names

All file should be named using the **following format**: LastName_FirstInitial_AssignmentTitle
Ex. Gibbons_O_ShakespeareDQs_part1
Any files that fail to use the required format will receive a zero.

Email / Canvas

- Use your **UNT email account** for this class and check your email *daily* for course announcements and updates. For all emails, use an informative subject line prefaced by your course and section information—for example, “English 1315.001: Question about MA 1.” Please note that you should also use formal language and sign your email.
We will use Canvas for all daily assignments, discussion boards, and other submissions

Active Shooter Situations

All students should be aware of UNT’s guidelines for responding to “active shooter situations” (see https://emergency.unt.edu/sites/default/files/active_shooter_guidelines.pdf)

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COVID-Related Policies

Technology Policies

This class will be delivered in person and online; please note that as public health situations change, the mode of delivery for this course may also change.

Masks

I encourage you to wear a mask in class, regardless of vaccination status, to protect yourself and others from COVID infection—particularly, if the community infection rate rises.

Course Materials for Remote Instruction

Remote instruction may be necessary if community health conditions change. Students will need access to a microphone and any software available through Canvas to participate in fully remote portions of the class. Information about successful remote learning is available at <https://online.unt.edu/learn>

Portfolio

At the end of this semester, you will present a portfolio of your writing for this class that includes the following:

- A Letter of Submission that presents your portfolio and overviews its contents
- Curated Major Writing Assignments
- Your Portfolio Reflection Memo

Note: While I will return your papers and rewrites with comments after each due date listed on the syllabus, I will not assign a final grade to your writing until I receive your portfolio.

When I return your papers, I may ask you to write a summary of things you need to work on for your re-write and for your future papers. I expect to see improvements in subsequent papers based on comments you have received for earlier work.

Please note also that rewriting is a privilege, not a right. If I find that the work you submit—either drafts or required rewrites—is not your best effort, I will suspend your rewriting privileges and base your grade on the inferior work you have turned in.

***Please note:** While this syllabus is intended to be a useful guide, I reserve the right to make changes at any time in order to better meet students' needs and/or to adjust for unforeseen circumstances. I will inform you of any changes *in writing* using the Canvas announcement function.

Readings and Assignments

Week 1	August	18	Topics:	Introduction to the course / Textual Analysis (prose/poem)
			Task:	Submit Understanding Explication Exercise before Tuesday, 8/19, at 11:59 p.m.
		20	Reading:	Poetry 1 (Petrarch / Shakespeare)
Week 2		22	Tasks	Complete Introduce Yourself DB post / submit Questionnaire to Canvas by 11:59 p.m.
		27	Reading:	Poetry 1 (Millay)
		29	Task:	Complete interview with parents over Labor Day weekend
Week 3	September	1		Labor Day—no class
		3	Reading:	<i>Proof</i> , Act 1, scenes 1-3 Submit completed interview with parents by 11:59 p.m.
		5	Tasks:	MA1, part 1 DUE (online) by 11:59 p.m.
Week 4		8	Reading:	<i>Proof</i> , Act 1, scene 4, & Act 2, scenes 1-2
		10	Task:	<i>Proof</i> , Act 2, scenes 3-5
		12	Task:	MA1, part 2 DUE (online) by 11:59 p.m.
Week 5		15	Reading:	<i>The How and the Why</i> (pp.1-57)
		17	Reading:	<i>The How and the Why</i> (pp.61-121)
		19	Task:	(Study for Exam 1)
Week 6		22	Task:	Exam 1
		24	Task:	Exam 1
		26	Task:	MA1 DUE by 11:59 p.m.
Week 7	October	29	Reading:	Poetry 2 (Autumn Sonnets)
		1	Reading:	Poetry 2 (Hopkins)
		3	Task:	MA2, part 1 DUE by 11:59 p.m.
Week 8		6	Reading:	Poetry 2 (Keats/Oliver)
		8	Task:	MA2, part 2 DUE by 11:59 p.m.
		10	Task:	MA2, part 3 DUE by 11:59 p.m.
Week 9		13	Reading:	Poetry 2 (Byron)
		15	Task:	Poetry 2 (Browning)
		17	Task:	MA2 DUE by 11:59 p.m.

Readings and Assignments, cont.

Week 10		20	Reading: <i>Einstein's Gift</i> (pp. 7-80)
		22	Reading: <i>Einstein's Gift</i> (pp. 81-137)
		24	Task: (Begin reading <i>Experiment</i>)
Week 11		27	Reading: <i>Experiment</i> (Act 1, prologue & scene 1)
		29	Reading: <i>Experiment</i> (Act 1, scenes 2-3)
		31	Task: MA3, part 1 by 11:59 p.m.
Week 12	November	3	Reading: <i>Experiment</i> (Act 2, scenes 1-2)
		5	Task: <i>Experiment</i> (Act 2 scenes 3-5)
		7	Task: MA3, part 2 by 11:59 p.m.
Week 13		10	Task: Exam 2
		12	Task: Exam 2
		14	Task: MA3, part 3
Week 14		17	Task: MA3, part 4
		19	Task: MA4, part 1
		21	Task: MA4, part 2
Week 15		24	Fall Break: November 24-30 (includes Thanksgiving)
Week 16	December	1	Task: Portfolio Revisions (in-class writing) / Portfolio Letter of Submission Draft DUE
		3	Task: Portfolio Revisions (in-class writing) Portfolio DUE Thursday, 12/4, at 11:59 p.m. via Canvas
		5	Task: University Reading Day—no class!
Week 17	Final Exam: NONE		