

Writing About Literature—English 1325 (MW)**

Semester	Spring 2026	
Course Sections	English1325.003 (2:00 p.m., LANG 312) / 1325.004 (3:30 p.m., LANG 313) Note: Some assignments are due on Fridays.	
Instructor	Professor Anne Schoolfield	
Office Information	Room: LB 407A // Phone: English Office 565-2050 Email: Anne.Schoolfield@unt.edu (Note: Email is the best way to contact me.)	
Office Hours	Weeks 1-3, by appointment (please email me if you have questions); starting 2/5—R, 3:00-4:00 p.m. (online); F, 2:00-2:30 p.m. (in person); & by appointment	
Course Description	This course engages reading, discussion, and writing as means of critical thinking, using readings from fiction as sources for project topics developed across multiple drafts.	
Textbooks	All texts will be provided through Canvas or TAMS; you will need to pick up a copy of <i>The Three-Body Problem</i> by Cixin Liu from Voertman's before Monday, 2/2. Note: You must use the versions of the course texts provided either by me or by TAMS; any work submitted using other versions of the texts will earn a zero.	
Supplies	You will need the following for this course: 1) a folder for course handouts, 2) a spiral notebook for class notes, 3) four 8½" x 11" (8 sheets/16 pages) bluebooks	
Evaluation	Daily Work, Participation	30%
	Major Assignments	40%
	Exams	30%
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 answers should be well developed. Students are responsible for ensuring that their discussion question responses are correctly formatted (see sample in Canvas) with complete responses and uploaded to Canvas by the assignment deadline. Submissions that are blank, that contain questions without responses, that contain the incorrect DQ set, or that are unreadable files will receive a zero; ensure you have uploaded the correct file by uploading your submission <i>at least 15 minutes before the assignment deadline</i> and checking your submission after you have confirmed the upload. No late submissions will be accepted without UNT/TAMS documentation of technology/weather disruption or health crisis; screen shots indicating that a student finished an assignment on time but failed to upload the submission or confirm a submission by the assignment deadline will not be accepted.	
Participation	Your participation in class discussions is crucial to your success in this course. 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.	
Writing Expectations	Since this is your second semester of college-level writing, I expect that you will write multiple drafts for each paper with the final draft free from formatting, grammatical, stylistic, and mechanical errors; all students must submit complete rough drafts to Canvas by the assigned deadline to have the final paper accepted. (Note: your final draft should show noticeable improvement from the rough draft if needed; a final draft turned in without needed improvements will earn a grade that reflects these omissions.)	

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Workload Expectations

Note that at university **you should expect to do 2-3 hours of work outside of class** for every credit hour of a course; thus, for our course (for which you will earn three credit hours), you should expect to spend at least **6-9 hours per week** working outside class.

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

- 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, electronic mail, and graphics software applications

Grades and Their Meaning

For this course, we define grades

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.

You must 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 our community.

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

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.

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.

Assignment Extensions

Assignment extensions will be given ONLY when 1) students are ill and that illness is documented by TAMS, 2) students have a personal crisis and I am informed about that crisis by TAMS, or 3) there is a university technology failure documented by TAMS.

File Names

All files should be named using the following format: LastName_FirstInitial_AssignmentTitle
Ex. Gibbons_O_ShakespeareDQs_part1

Any files submitted without the required format will receive a zero.

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Class Policies, cont.

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 1325.001: Question about MA 1.” Please note that you should also address me by my title (Prof. Schoolfield), use formal language, and sign your email.

We will use Canvas for daily assignments, discussion boards, and other submissions

Note Taking

- Taking notes during class meetings helps ensure your success in this course. Your class notes should be thorough enough to provide all the information you need to complete assignments successfully and to study all the details you will need command of for exams. 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. Finally, you should review notes from the previous class period to prepare for the next class meeting.

Cell Phones/Computers/Screens

Silence cell phones and place them in your bag/backpack during class to avoid distractions. If cell phones become a problem during the semester, I will require you to place your cell phone in a basket at the front of our classroom during class. Computers and other devices should remain closed/off during class unless I specifically authorize their use for an assignment.

Course Safety

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)

Additionally, students must comply with UNT's policy for Carrying of Concealed Handguns and Other Firearms on Campus (<https://policy.unt.edu/policy/04-001>).

COVID-Related Policies

Technology Policies

Please note that as public health situations change, the mode of delivery for this course may change. When necessary, course materials will be delivered digitally through Canvas and all assignments will be submitted through Canvas. The University is committed to providing a reliable online course system to all users. However, in case of unexpected server outages or technical difficulties that prevent students from completing a time-sensitive assessment, I will provide accommodation based on the situation. Students should immediately report any technology problems to the instructor and contact the UNT Student Help Desk: helpdesk@unt.edu or 940.565.2324 and obtain a ticket number to resolve issues efficiently.

Course Materials for Remote Instruction

Remote instruction may be necessary if community health conditions change or you need to self-isolate or quarantine due to COVID-19. Information on how to be successful in a remote learning environment can be found at <https://online.unt.edu/learn>

Academic Freedom & Responsibility

UNT has a robust policy regarding academic freedom and academic responsibility. Crucially, this policy encompasses not only the rights of faculty members but also the rights “of the student to freedom in learning.” As a student in this classroom, therefore, you have the right to encounter and debate new ideas, diverse forms of knowledge, and unfamiliar or contrary points of view. According to UNT policy, “it is not the proper role of the University to attempt to shield individuals from ideas and opinions they find unwelcome, disagreeable, or even deeply offensive.” At the same time, to encourage the free exchange of ideas, and to ensure that your right to learn is protected, the tone for such discussion must always be civil and respectful; hateful or discriminatory speech will not be tolerated. For more information, please consult the full UNT policy at <https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-035>.

Audio/Video Recording

Although UNT is a publicly supported institution, our classroom is not a public space. Therefore, to protect the intellectual property and privacy rights of both faculty and students, video and audio recordings are prohibited during class. The exception is for students who have been granted explicit approval as an ODA accommodation. For more information, please consult the full UNT policy at <https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/office-disability-access/faculty/faculty-guide/accommodations-explained/Audio-Recording-Faculty.html>

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 the 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.

***Please note:** While this syllabus serves as a useful guide, I reserve the right to make changes at any time to better meet students’ needs and/or to adjust for unforeseen circumstances. I will post any changes *in writing* using the Canvas announcement function.

Readings and Assignments

Week 1	January	12	Task:	Introduction to the course MA1: Diagnostic
		14	Task:	MA1, cont.
		16	Task:	1325 Questionnaire / Upload previous DQs & paper
Week 2		19		MLK Day—no class
		21	Reading: Task:	Short Fiction 1 MA1, cont.
Week 3		26	Reading:	SF1 MA1
		28	Reading:	SF1 MA1
		30	Task:	MA1 Finished Draft DUE
Week 4	February	2	Reading: Task:	SF 1 MA2
		4	Reading: Task:	SF 1 MA2
Week 5		9	Reading: Task:	SF 1 MA2
		11	Reading: Task:	SF 1 MA2
Week 6		16	Task:	Exam 1, Day 1
		18	Task:	Exam 2, Day 2
Week 7		23	Task:	MA2
		25	Task:	MA2
Week 8	March	2	Task:	MA2
		4	Task:	MA2 Finished Draft DUE

March 9-15—Spring Break!!!

Readings and Assignments, cont.

Week 9		16	Reading:	SF 2 MA3
		18	Reading:	SF 2 MA3
Week 10		23	Reading:	The Three-Body Problem—Chapters 1-3 MA3
		25	Reading:	The Three-Body Problem—Chapters 4-6 MA3
Week 11		30	Reading:	The Three-Body Problem—Chapters 7-9 MA3
	April	1	Reading:	The Three-Body Problem—Chapters 10-12 MA3
Week 12		6	Task:	The Three-Body Problem—Chapters 13-15 MA3
		8	Task:	The Three-Body Problem—Chapters 16-20 MA3 Finished Draft DUE
Week 13		13	Reading:	The Three-Body Problem—Chapters 21-23 MA4
		15	Reading:	The Three-Body Problem—Chapters 24-27 MA4
Week 14		20	Reading:	The Three-Body Problem—Chapters 28-30 MA4
		22	Reading:	The Three-Body Problem—Chapters 31-35 MA4
Week 15		27	Task:	MA4
		29	Task:	MA4 Finished Draft DUE
	May	1	Reading Day—no class!!!	
Week 16	Final Exam Periods			
		1325.003, MW, 2:00 p.m.		Monday, 5/4, 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
		1325.004, MW, 3:30 p.m.		Wednesday, 5/6, 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.