COLLEGE WRITING II

English 1321

Fall 2025| University of North Texas
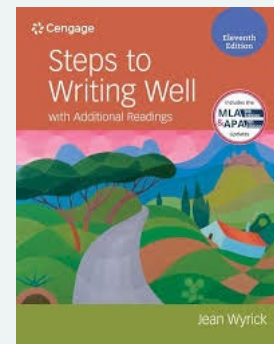
COURSE DESCRIPTION

In ENGL 1321, you will be introduced to invention strategies, reading strategies, and writing approaches that will help you thrive as writers in a university setting and beyond. With an emphasis on brainstorming, critical reading, analysis, and revision, you will practice genre conventions, gain rhetorical knowledge, and develop a framework for producing persuasive writing about issues that are important to you. One of the broadest goals of this course is to help you become comfortable with strategies for making your writing compelling to the audiences you want to reach. Defining, explaining, persuading, finding, and evaluating good sources—these are all ways to provide insight into topics that you want to share with other people. Overall, ENGL 1321 will prepare you for a wide range of writing expectations, including those that demand research, evidence, and careful argument.

In order to focus your research, this course will be themed around a topic chosen by your instructor. For the first few weeks, we will read in this common theme and you will use this to brainstorm your research paper topic(s). This will also encourage a classroom community of knowledge so that we can support and help each other with our varying topics and research process.

COURSE TEXT:

Custom version of Steps to Writing Well with Additional Readings (w/ MLA9E Updates) (MindTap Course) 11th Edition

*DO NOT purchase a hard copy of this textbook! Your instructor will give you detailed instructions on how to access your e-book in the first week of class. For more information on e-book access, see our Canvas page.

Course Learning Objectives:

- Hone and develop reading, writing, and research skills through practice, repetition, and careful attention to style and strategy

- Develop a relevant research question

- Locate and analyze academic sources to use as evidence

- Synthesize sources into a larger analytical argument

- Draft and revise a research paper that is appropriate to academic audiences

- Collaborate with peers and provide useful feedback

UNIVERSITY POLICIES FOR STUDENTS:

*SEE CANVAS FOR ALL UNIVERSITY AND DEPT. POLICIES

Emergency Notification & Procedures

UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). In the event of a university closure, please refer to Canvas for contingency plans for covering course materials.

ADA Accommodations

UNT makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide a student with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding one's specific course needs. Students may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must **discuss expectations with each instructor prior to implementation in the classroom.** For additional information see the ODA website at disability.unt.edu

Survivor Advocacy

UNT is committed to providing a safe learning environment free of all forms of sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. Federal laws (Title IX and the Violence Against Women Act) and UNT policies prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, and therefore prohibit sexual misconduct. If you or someone you know is experiencing sexual harassment, relationship violence, stalking, and/or sexual assault, there are campus resources available to provide support and assistance. UNT's Survivor Advocates can assist a student who has been impacted by violence by filing protective orders, completing crime victim's compensation applications, contacting professors for absences related to an assault,

ILLNESS AND CLASS ATTENDANCE

It is important for all of us to be mindful of the health and safety of everyone in our classroom community. **If you are experiencing any symptoms of serious illness please seek medical attention from the Student Health and Wellness Center or your health care provider PRIOR to attending class.**

If you choose to do so, you may **email your professor to inform them of your absence due to illness** or other medical issues. Your instructor can decide if absences due to illness will be excused and exceptions to the attendance policy instituted.

Official documentation may be requested via the Dean of Students for extended periods of absence due to illness (deanofstudents@unt.edu).

- **Student Health and Wellness Center:** https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center **(940) 565-2333 or askSHWC@unt.edu**

COURSE DROPS IN THE FIRST TWO WEEKS

Students need to monitor their course schedule every day for the first two weeks of class to make sure that they have not been dropped from their courses by the registrar's office. Students who are dropped from classes for nonpayment of financial aid or other reasons will not be readmitted to the course; it is the student's responsibility to make sure that all of his or her financial records are up to date in order to avoid being dropped. **If a student wishes to drop a course for any reason, they must submit a form to the registrar's office.** The last day to drop a course and get a full refund for the Fall 2025 semester is **August 29th.**

For more information on UNT Add/Drop procedures, please visit the UNT Registrar's page at: http://essc.unt.edu/registrar/schedule/scheduleclass.html

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working with housing to facilitate a room change where appropriate, and connecting students to other resources available both on and off campus. The Survivor Advocates can be reached at SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu or by calling the Dean of Students Office at 940-565-2648. Additionally, alleged sexual misconduct can be non-confidentially reported to the Title IX Coordinator at oeo@unt.edu or at (940) 565 2759.

CLASSROOM POLICIES

ATTENDANCE

*PLEASE SEE THE FULL ATENDANCE POLICY IN CANVAS

It is the UNT FYW policy that no student missing more than 20% of classroom instruction in a first-year writing course should be able to pass the course. The following number of classes equals 20%:

- A class that meets 1 day a week | 3 classes
- A class that meets 2 days a week | 6 classes
- A class that meets 3 days a week | 9 classes

You will be given an attendance report two times over the course of the semester:

- ☐ 6 weeks
- ☐ 12 weeks

At this time, your instructor will notify you of your attendance progress and your ability to pass the course based on your attendance.

In addition to not attending class altogether, the following actions may result in a student being counted as officially absent:
- Coming to class unprepared (didn't read, won't participate in discussions)
- Excessive cell phone use or the use of headphones during class
- Distracting or disruptive behavior or outbursts

LATENESS TO CLASS

Most students, at some point or another, meet with unforeseen circumstances that make them late for class. However, repeated late arrivals are disruptive. **You will lose participation points if lateness seems to be a persistent problem, and two tardies will equal one absence.** Nevertheless, you are always better off showing up to class, even if you are extremely late. It is much easier to update you on what you missed directly after class. (Note: This policy does not apply to students with ODA accommodations for lateness.)

EXCUSED ABSENCES

In compliance with UNT policy, instructors will excuse the following types of absences:
- Religious holy day, including travel for that purpose
- Active military service, including travel for that purpose

ONLINE CLASS COMPONENTS

Canvas is an online portal where students will be able to access important class materials and receive announcements from the instructor. You will need to **check our Canvas course page frequently to see announcements from the instructor** (concerning schedule changes and due date reminders) and to get electronic copies of handouts and other class materials. If you miss a class, be sure to check Canvas for any materials from that class day.

All class assignments will be submitted and assessed electronically via Canvas. Students will need access to Zoom with a webcam and microphone to participate in virtual portions of the class. Information on how to be successful in a remote learning environment can be found at https://online.unt.edu/learn.

MINIMUM TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

- Computer with word processing capabilities, internet access, and web browser to access Canvas

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- Participation in an official university function
- Pregnancy and parenting under Title IX
- When the University is officially closed

Students must contact their instructor regarding how to make up work missed due to an excused absence within 10 days of the absence--including weekends. Otherwise, the student may receive zeroes for that work. For more information, read the UNT Policy.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

No phone or headphone use during class. Phones should be out of sight for the duration of class. While computer use is permitted, you are expected to be accessing course materials only during class. We can think of this policy as important for participation in the course and as a general exercise in focusing our attention and showing respect for the classroom space. If I see you using your phone during class, I can mark you as absent. If you have an issue that requires you to have your phone out during class, please inform me beforehand.

LATE ASSIGNMENT POLICY

Writing assignment submissions will automatically lose **15%** for each calendar day late. Late Quiz and Discussions submissions will receive a **zero.** If any digital paper submission errors occur using Canvas, the student is expected to email the instructor with the assignment attached and a screenshot of the error screen **before** the due date to avoid late grade penalties.

* **Bring Your e-Textbook, Coursework, and Laptop to Every Class.** We will work on our reading, writing, research, and activities in class

GRADING AND ASSESSMENT POLICIES

To earn a passing grade, you must complete all major writing assignments. Detailed assignment descriptions can be found in Canvas.

THE WRITING ASSIGNMENTS:

MAJOR ASSIGNMENT 1 – CHOOSING A TOPIC

This unit focuses on reading sources for information and insight, as well as formulating a specific research question around an issue you want to write about and explore. You will draft a research proposal at the end of this Unit.

MAJOR ASSIGNMENT 2 – FINDING SOURCES

This unit focuses on defining the context for the issue you have chosen and locating sources that offer perspective on the issue. You will draft an annotated bibliography at the end of this unit.

ASSIGNMENT 3 & 4–WRITING AND REVISING THE RESEARCH ESSAY

In this unit, you will plan and write a clear, focused, and well-researched essay that addresses the issue you have chosen to write about. You will learn about how to work a paper from a rough draft into a polished final draft. You will submit both a rough draft and final draft of your research paper for this unit.

FINAL REMIXING PROJECT

GRADE DISTRIBUTION

Attendance (10%)

Participation (10%)

Reading Quizzes and Discussions (10%)

MA1: Choosing a Topic (10%)

MA 2: Finding Sources (20%)

MA 3: Drafting and Revising the Research Essay (20%)

MA 4: Final Draft (15%)

MA 5: Remixing Your Research Project (5%)

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This final unit focuses on the activity of "remixing" writing through changes to the audience, purpose, and context. Remixing is an activity that helps writers develop new strategies such as using multimodal writing or "everyday" language to reach audiences beyond the form of the traditional academic essay. You will need to translate your research into an artifact or project which you will present to the class.

GENERAL CRITERIA FOR WRITING ASSIGNMENTS

Although specific rubrics will be provided for each larger writing project, all writing activities in this course generally must meet the following requirements and demonstrate the following desired outcomes.

- **Critical Thinking:** The written activity explains insights that the writer has gained through careful consideration of the research and reading done in the course. The writer coherently represents the complexity and nuance of the ideas they are writing about.

- **Clarity of Communication:** The written activity shows that the writer understands course material and has read widely enough to help audiences understand the significance of the idea they are writing about. The background context and the question the writer is addressing are both coherent and thorough enough.

- **Organization and Structure:** The written activity is clearly organized with a structure that allows audiences to understand its main point as well as the supporting examples and sources that contribute to the main point.

- **Consideration of Other Perspectives**: The written activity demonstrates careful listening to course ideas, course texts, and to consider other perspectives related to the topic the writer is addressing. The writer considers the cultural and social implications of their topic and argument.

INSTRUCTOR RESPONSIBILITIES AND FEEDBACK

My responsibility as your instructor is to challenge you, to help you understand the course material, and to help you grow and learn as a student. I will provide clear instructions for projects and assignments, answer your questions, and identify additional resources as necessary. I will also provide substantive feedback on your written work. You can expect me to have **feedback and grades returned to you within two weeks of the submission date** for each assignment.

PLAGIARISM AND ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:

THE UNT POLICY MANUAL DEFINES PLAGIARISM AS: "(A) THE KNOWING OR NEGLIGENT USE BY PARAPHRASE OR DIRECT QUOTATION OF THE PUBLISHED OR UNPUBLISHED WORK OF ANOTHER PERSON WITHOUT FULL AND CLEAR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND (B) THE KNOWING OR NEGLIGENT UNACKNOWLEDGED USE OF MATERIALS PREPARED BY ANOTHER PERSON OR BY AN AGENCY ENGAGED IN THE SELLING OF TERM PAPERS OR OTHER ACADEMIC MATERIALS." (18.1.11). STUDENTS IN ALL FRESHMAN WRITING COURSES NEED TO BE AWARE OF THE STRICT POLICIES AGAINST PLAGIARISM AND ACADEMIC HONESTY ENFORCED BY UNT AND BY INSTRUCTORS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH. ALL WRITING IN FYW COURSES MUST BE ORIGINAL, AND ALL USES OF OTHER WRITER'S MATERIAL (I.E., FOR THE PURPOSES OF RESEARCH BASED ARGUMENTATION) MUST BE ACKNOWLEDGED AND CLEARLY CITED IN ANY WRITING SUBMITTED FOR A GRADE. IF YOUR INSTRUCTOR SUSPECTS PLAGIARISM, YOU WILL AUTOMATICALLY RECEIVE A ZERO ON THE PAPER OR ASSIGNMENT, AND WILL BE REPORTED TO THE OFFICE OF ACADEMIC INTEGRITY. YOUR INSTRUCTOR MAY ALSO REQUIRE YOU TO MEET WITH THEM TO DISCUSS THE SUSPECTED PLAGIARISM.

USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) TECHNOLOGY:

During this class, we may use generative AI tools such as Chat GPT for certain assignments and steps in the writing process. You will be informed as to when, where, and how these tools are permitted to be used, along with guidance for attribution. Any non-approved use of these technologies will be considered academic dishonesty and is subject to the consequences of plagiarism. If you are ever unsure about when to use AI responsibly, you can read more about UNT's policy on academic integrity here:

https://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/06.003%20Student%20Academic%20Integrity.pdf

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PUBLIC WRITING

All your submitted writing for this course, including pre-writing, drafts, in-class assignments, and final projects, is public writing. The writing that you submit in this course may be viewed by me and possibly your classmates as well. Please do not submit any information about yourself that you do not want to be public.

University, First-Year Writing, and Course Policies

Academic Integrity Standards and Consequences

According to UNT Policy 06.003, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to:

- Cheating--submitting work that is not your own (This include using ChatGPT)
- Fabrication--pretending you are writing about a real interview when you really made it up
- Facilitating academic dishonesty--helping someone else cheat
- Forgery--pretending your work is someone else's
- Plagiarism--using someone else's published work without citing it correctly
- Sabotage--setting someone else up to fail

A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University. I am obligated to report any academic dishonesty.

Participation and Civility

We are all members of an academic community where it is our shared responsibility to cultivate a climate where all students/individuals are valued and where both they and their ideas are treated with respect.

Therefore, I expect you to conduct yourself in a professional and respectful manner during all online interactions and class-related activities. I expect you to listen to and respect the viewpoints of others, even if you strongly disagree with them. When you do voice disagreement in your writing, do so in a civil manner. Remember that you are accountable for your actions in this course, including your submitted work, your grades, and your interactions with me and with other students.

Acceptable Student Behavior

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT.

Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The University's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including University and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

The Dean of Students Office enforces the Code of Student Conduct. The Code explains:
- What conduct is prohibited
- The process the DOS uses to review reports of alleged misconduct by students
- The sanctions that can be assigned

When students may have violated the Code, they meet with a representative from the Dean of Students Office to discuss the alleged misconduct in an educational process.

Academic Support Services
- UNT Writing Center (Sage Hall 150): https://writingcenter.unt.edu/
- UNT Learning Center: https://learningcenter.unt.edu/
- UNT Libraries: https://library.unt.edu/
- Academic Success Center: https://www.unt.edu/success/asc

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- Canvas Technical Support: *Phone*: 940-565-2324 – *Email*: helpdesk@unt.edu
- Online Student Resources:
  https://digitalstrategy.unt.edu/clear/approved_and_supported_technologies/online_student_resources.html
- Student Life and Student Services (Many resource Links): https://www.unt.edu/student-life.html

<u>Student Services and Resources</u>

Sometimes we need help with issues that aren't related to our courses. Here are those resources:

- Student Counseling: Chestnut Hall Suite 311https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-counseling ;
  Phone: 940-565-2741; *Email:* counselingandtestingservices@unt.edu
- Student Affairs Care Team: https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care-team
- Student Health and Wellness Center: https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center
- Center for Belonging and Engagement: https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/center-for-belonging-and-engagement/index.html
- Student Veteran Services: https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-veteran-services

Syllabus Change Policy

I have made every attempt to provide this syllabus as an accurate overview of the course. However, unanticipated circumstances may make it necessary for me to modify the syllabus during the semester. These circumstances may arise in response to the progress, needs, and experiences of students. Advance notice will be given for any changes made to the syllabus.

See "Policies" on Canvas for additional University and Course Policies

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**English 1321
Tentative Weekly Schedule
Fall 2025**
*This schedule is subject to change at your instructor's discretion-
Always check with Canvas for any changes to a given week's schedule.

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WEEK 1	READINGS	ACTIVITIES	ASSIGNMENTS
Aug 18-24	Course Syllabus "Is the Fear of AI in Academia Justified?" by Katie Spillane (in class) Assigned Reading TBD	Course Introduction and Syllabus Overview Course Theme Introduction Establish a Classroom Community	Multimedia Introduction | Due Friday by 11:59pm
WEEK 2	**READINGS**	**ACTIVITIES**	**ASSIGNMENTS**
Aug 25-31	Ch. 1 Prewriting Justin Vinh "The Screen the Brain and Human Nature" "What Technology Should be Un-Invented?" by Robinson Meyer (in class)	Understanding MA 1 Topic brainstorming using SWW Ch. 19-1 "Focusing Your Topic" In-class brainstorming session: pump primer techniques Research Demonstration	Reading Quiz | Due Monday by 11:59 pm Brainstorming Activity| Due Friday by 11:59 pm on Canvas Discussion Board Ch.1 Check Your Understanding reading quiz due Friday via MindTap
WEEK 3	**READINGS**	**ACTIVITIES**	**ASSIGNMENTS**
Sept 1-7	"Hip or Hype? Virtual Influencers Are Brands' Latest Social Tool" by Madison Patrick Kulp	Time in-class for proposal drafting Look at sample proposal	Reading Quiz| Due Monday by 11:59 pm **MA 1 Research Paper Proposal | Due Saturday 9.6 by 11:59pm**
WEEK 4	**READINGS**	**ACTIVITIES**	**ASSIGNMENTS**
Sept 8-14	"Make Media Great Again" by Mark Tungate	Understanding MA 2 Finding reliable sources and media literacy	Reading Quiz| Due Monday by 11:59 pm Media Literacy

	Ch. 19 Conducting Research and Using Sources	How to use UNT's library database to find sources Begin finding reliable sources	Activity | Due Friday by 11:59 pm on Canvas Discussion Board Ch.19 Check Your Understanding reading quiz due Friday via MindTap
WEEK 5	**READINGS**	**ACTIVITIES**	**ASSIGNMENTS**
Sept 15-21	"Flat Earth, Illuminati, and Fake Moon Landing: Are Conspiracy Theory Videos Hurting YouTube?" by Kate Sheridan Ch. 15 Argumentation "Fake Famous and the Tedium of Influencer Culture" by Naomi Fry	Counterargument and refutation See sample student papers Find all sources and bring them to class next week	Reading Quiz | Due Monday by 11:59 pm The Conversation and Contested Issue Activity | Due Friday by 11:59 pm on Canvas Discussion Board Ch.15 Check Your Understanding reading quiz due Friday via MindTap
WEEK 6	**READINGS**	**ACTIVITIES**	**ASSIGNMENTS**
Sept 22-28	Ch. 8 The Reading-Writing Connection	Logical fallacies How to read and annotate articles Finish reading all sources, work on annotations	Annotating and Writing Summaries Activity | Due Friday by 11:59 pm on Canvas Discussion Board Ch.8 Check Your Understanding quiz due Friday via Mindtap
WEEK 7	**READINGS**	**ACTIVITIES**	**ASSIGNMENTS**
Sept 29-Oct 5	MLA Formatting: A FYW Style Guide	Revisiting your research question with sources Formatting your bibliography & finalizing annotations	**Annotated Bibliography | Due Saturday 10.4 by 11:59pm**

WEEK 8	READINGS	ACTIVITIES	ASSIGNMENTS
Oct 6-12	Ch. 2 The Thesis Statement	Discuss drafting as a process; use SWW Ch. 5 Discuss body paragraphs Draft a working thesis statement using SWW Ch. 2 and "Using the Essay Map" In class debate activity	Working Thesis Statement Activity| Due Friday by 11:59 pm on Canvas Discussion Board Ch.2 Check Your Understanding reading quiz due Friday via MindTap

WEEK 9	READINGS	ACTIVITIES	ASSIGNMENTS
Oct 13-19	Ch. 3 The Body Paragraphs	Discuss introductions and conclusions Look at examples of intros and conclusions Draft an outline Discuss incorporating evidence	Outline Activity| Due Friday by 11:59 pm on Canvas Discussion Board Ch.3 Check Your Understanding reading quiz due Friday via MindTap

WEEK 10	READINGS	ACTIVITIES	ASSIGNMENTS
Oct 20-26	Ch. 4: Beginnings and Endings	Discuss lead-ins, paragraph coherence, and sequencing In class time for writing	TBD Activity| Due Friday by 11:59 pm on Canvas Discussion Board Ch.4 Check Your Understanding reading quiz due Friday via MindTap

WEEK 11	READINGS	ACTIVITIES	ASSIGNMENTS
Oct 27-Nov 2	No new reading- use time to finalize your paper draft	See sample papers In class writing time Last day to ask questions about draft	**Research Paper First Draft | Due Saturday 11.1 by 11:59pm**

WEEK 12	READINGS	ACTIVITIES	ASSIGNMENTS
Nov 3-9	Ch. 5 Drafting and Revising: Creative Thinking, Critical Thinking Read your peer's writing to give feedback (in class and on Canvas)	Why revision matters Work through Revision process Peer Review activities	Submit peer review draft (details on Canvas) Ch.5 Check Your Understanding reading quiz due Friday via MindTap
WEEK 13	READINGS	ACTIVITIES	ASSIGNMENTS
Nov 10-16	Ch. 5 Drafting and Revising: Creative Thinking, Critical Thinking	Work through Revision process	Revision Activity| Due Friday by 11:59 pm on Canvas Discussion Board
WEEK 14	READINGS	ACTIVITIES	ASSIGNMENTS
Nov 17-23	None- finalize revision of research paper	Finalize research paper Discuss expectations for final "remixing" project	**Revised Research Paper	Due on Saturday 11.22 by 11:59pm**
WEEK 15	READINGS	ACTIVITIES	ASSIGNMENTS
Nov 24-30	Thanksgiving Break	Thanksgiving Break	Thanksgiving Break
WEEK 16	READINGS	ACTIVITIES	ASSIGNMENTS
Dec 1-7	None- work on final project	See sample remixes In-class workshop: remixing final project	**Final Remixing Research Projects due on Friday by 11:59pm via Canvas**