

Course Syllabus

ENGL 1320.413: First Year Writing II

Rev. 12-19-2023

Instructor

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Office Location (if using office for conferences): 543 Gen Academic Bldg

Online Office Hours: By Appointment

Communication Expectations: email, christopher.foltz@unt.edu

Course Description

First-Year Writing II will help you practice and develop new skills in research and evidence-based writing. However, it is also a course about finding a personal connection to issues and topics that are important to you and to your wider community. One of the broadest goals of ENGL 1320 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.

In ENGL 1320 you will practice writing clear, coherent, and focused arguments that academic audiences expect, with well-researched evidence and appropriate grammar conventions. However, ENGL 1320 will also teach you to address audiences in ways that complement (and sometimes exceed) argumentation. These other ways of writing include expressing common ground, extending existing ideas, and showing logical and emotional support. Overall, ENGL 1320 will prepare you for a wide range of writing expectations, including those that demand research, evidence, and careful argument.

Required Materials

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.

Course Objectives

By the end of this course, students will be able to

- **Assess** and **explain** their own writing habits reflectively
- **Recognize** and **use** rhetorical tools and writing processes to focus their writing
- **Describe** and **define** a specific issue that interests them from relevant social and cultural topics
- **Select** and **evaluate** sources that give insight into a specific cultural issue
- **Synthesize** information from other written sources
- **Plan, draft, write, and revise** a research essay that addresses a relevant social or cultural issue
- **Compare** and **rate** their contributions as a team member to peer review and other team-based assignments

Evaluation and Grading

Your grade will be based on the following:

- 15% - Unit 1: Research Proposal
- 20% - Unit 2: Definition and Synthesis (Annotated Bib)
- 30% - Unit 3: Research Essay
- 5% - Unit 4: Remixing Research Essay
- 15% - Discussion Boards
- 15% - Activities/Shorter Essays/Quizzes

NOTE: To earn a passing grade, you must complete all major writing assignments.

Grading Policies and Tips

In order to successfully complete this course, you must do the following:

- Complete all readings BEFORE class.
- Be prepared to discuss what you read.
- Ask for help when you need it. If you do not understand or need help, please make arrangements to talk to your instructor right away.

- On days when writing is due, be ready to post a draft for your other writing community members. Evaluating, revising, and editing our writing together is a vital part of this class.
- Encourage, support, and learn from each other.

Units and Assignments Overview

You will complete four units over the course of the semester.

Unit 1 – Exploring Issues

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.

Major Assignment 1 - Proposing a Research Question

Write a brief research proposal in which you identify a topic that you want to address and define the existing context for the topic, including how different groups have engaged with the topic.

Unit 2 – Defining Context and Developing Perspective

This unit focuses on defining the context for the issue you have chosen and synthesizing important insights from other sources that offer perspective on the issue.

Major Assignment 2– Definition and Synthesis Essay

Write an essay that explains how the practices of a particular cultural or community group reveal insights about common human experiences. (110)

Unit 3 – Addressing Issues

This unit prepares you to put together everything you have been learning in order to plan and write a clear, focused, and well-researched essay that addresses the issue you have chosen to write about.

Unit 3 Assignment – Addressing Issues Research Essay: Write a research essay in which you analyze a problem of wide interest to one or more social groups and offer a specific insight, perspective, strategy, or policy that addresses the problem in ways that will move the conversation forward.

Unit 4 – Remixing and Reflecting

This final unit focuses on the activity of "remixing" writing through changes to the audience, purpose, context, and/or other criteria used to write the Unit 3 Research Essay. 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.

Major Assignment 4 – Remixing the Research Essay

With your topic, issue, research question, and basic thesis in mind from the previous unit, experiment with one or more different approaches to addressing the cultural or social issue you wrote about in your Unit 3: Addressing Issues Research Essay.

Use this project to experiment with different forms or modes, or to write for different audiences.

Communication Expectations

I encourage you to email whenever you have a question or concern. However, follow these guidelines when writing to me:

- Use my UNT email address.
- Identify the reason for your email in the subject line.
- Use an appropriate salutation (Dear Dr/Professor/Instructor)
- Use correct English.
- Double-check your response before hitting send or reply.
- Consider the purpose of any uses of slang or other icons, graphics, or memes.
- Use my title in all communications (i.e. “Ms. Jones” or “Dr. James”).
- Respect identities based on gender, sexuality, race, ethnicity, class, and/or culture. Also think carefully about what you reveal and do not reveal, particularly if this information involves your health and/or classroom performance.
- Remember that if you disagree with anything in class, please refrain from making personal attacks or use language that discriminates based on gender, sexuality, race, ethnicity, class, and/or culture.

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.

Late or Missed Assignments

All papers are due by the date specified in Canvas. Please remember these guidelines:

- I do not accept late work.
- You cannot pass the course if you have not received a grade for all major assignments.

Exceptions for technical outages: UNT is committed to providing a reliable online course system to all users. However, in the event of any unexpected server outage or any unusual technical difficulty which prevents students from completing a time sensitive assessment activity, the instructor may extend the time windows and provide an appropriate accommodation based on the situation. Students should immediately report any problems to the instructor and contact the [UNT Student Help Desk](#) or 940.565.2324 and obtain a ticket number. The instructor and the UNT Student Help Desk will work with the student to resolve any issues at the earliest possible time.

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.

Success in an Online Course

While the online classroom shares many similarities with the face-to-face classroom, success in online education requires certain skills and expectations that students may not be aware of. Consider providing tips for success based on your own online teaching and learning experiences. You can also include a link to or adapt tips from this webpage for students, "[How to Succeed as an Online Student](#)[Links to an external site.](#)".

Chosen Names

A chosen name is a name that a person goes by that may or may not match their legal name. If you have a chosen name that is different from your legal name and would like that to be used in class, please let the instructor know. Below is a list of resources for updating your chosen name at UNT.

- [UNT Records](#)Links to an external site.
- [UNT ID Card](#)Links to an external site.
- [UNT Email Address](#)Links to an external site.
- [Legal Name](#)Links to an external site.

*UNT eulDs cannot be changed at this time. The collaborating offices are working on a process to make this option accessible to UNT community members.

Pronouns

Pronouns (she/her, they/them, he/him, etc.) are a public way for people to address you, much like your name, and can be shared with a name when making an introduction, both virtually and in-person. Just as we ask and don't assume someone's name, we should also ask and not assume someone's pronouns.

You can [add your pronouns to your Canvas account](#)Links to an external site. so that they follow your name when posting to discussion boards, submitting assignments, etc.

Below is a list of additional resources regarding pronouns and their usage:

- [What are pronouns and why are they important?](#)Links to an external site.
- [How do I use pronouns?](#)Links to an external site.
- [How do I share my pronouns?](#)Links to an external site.
- [How do I ask for another person's pronouns?](#)Links to an external site.
- [How do I correct myself or others when the wrong pronoun is used?](#)Links to an external site.

Additional Online Delivery Policies

Important Notice for F-1 Students taking Distance Education Courses

To read detailed Immigration and Customs Enforcement regulations for F-1 students taking online courses, please go to the [Electronic Code of Federal Regulations website](#)Links to an external site.. The specific portion concerning distance education courses is located at Title 8 CFR 214.2 Paragraph (f)(6)(i)(G).

The paragraph reads:

(G) For F-1 students enrolled in classes for credit or classroom hours, no more than the equivalent of one class or three credits per session, term, semester, trimester, or quarter

may be counted toward the full course of study requirement if the class is taken on-line or through distance education and does not require the student's physical attendance for classes, examination or other purposes integral to completion of the class. An on-line or distance education course is a course that is offered principally through the use of television, audio, or computer transmission including open broadcast, closed circuit, cable, microwave, or satellite, audio conferencing, or computer conferencing. If the F-1 student's course of study is in a language study program, no on-line or distance education classes may be considered to count toward a student's full course of study requirement.

University of North Texas Compliance

To comply with immigration regulations, an F-1 visa holder within the United States may need to engage in an on-campus experiential component for this course. This component (which must be approved in advance by the instructor) can include activities such as taking an on-campus exam, participating in an on-campus lecture or lab activity, or other on-campus experience integral to the completion of this course.

If such an on-campus activity is required, it is the student's responsibility to do the following:

- (1) Submit a written request to the instructor for an on-campus experiential component within one week of the start of the course.
- (2) Ensure that the activity on campus takes place and the instructor documents it in writing with a notice sent to the International Student and Scholar Services Office. ISSS has a form available that you may use for this purpose.

Because the decision may have serious immigration consequences, if an F-1 student is unsure about his or her need to participate in an on-campus experiential component for this course, they should contact the UNT International Student and Scholar Services Office (telephone 940-565-2195 or email internationaladvising@unt.edu) to get clarification before the one-week deadline.

Student Verification

UNT takes measures to protect the integrity of educational credentials awarded to students enrolled in distance education courses by verifying student identity, protecting student privacy, and notifying students of any special meeting times/locations or additional charges associated with student identity verification in distance education courses.

See [UNT Policy 07-002](#) [Links to an external site.](#) Student Identity Verification, Privacy, and Notification and Distance Education Courses.

Use of Student Work

A student owns the copyright for all work (e.g. software, photographs, reports, presentations, and email postings) he or she creates within a class and the University is not entitled to use any student work without the student's permission unless all of the following criteria are met:

- The work is used only once.
- The work is not used in its entirety.
- Use of the work does not affect any potential profits from the work.
- The student is not identified.
- The work is identified as student work.

If the use of the work does not meet all of the above criteria, then the University office or department using the work must obtain the student's written permission.

[Download the UNT System Permission, Waiver and Release Form](#)[Links to an external site.](#)

Transmission and Recording of Student Images in Electronically-Delivered Courses

This course employs lecture capture technology to record class sessions. Students may occasionally appear on video. The lecture recordings will be available to you for study purposes and may also be reused in future course offerings.

No permission is needed from a student for his or her image or voice to be transmitted live via videoconference or streaming media, but all students should be informed when courses are to be conducted using either method of delivery.

In the event an instructor records student presentations, he or she must obtain permission from the student using a [signed release](#)[Links to an external site.](#) in order to use the recording for future classes in accordance with the Use of Student-Created Work guidelines above.

Instructors who video-record their class lectures with the intention of re-using some or all of recordings for future class offerings must notify students on the course syllabus if students' images may appear on video. Instructors are also advised to provide accommodation for students who do not wish to appear in class recordings.

Class Recordings & Student Likenesses (for online FYW)

Synchronous (live) sessions in this course will be recorded for students enrolled in this class section to refer to throughout the semester. Class recordings are the intellectual

property of the university or instructor and are reserved for use only by students in this class and only for educational purposes. Students may not post or otherwise share the recordings outside the class, or outside the Canvas Learning Management System, in any form. Failing to follow this restriction is a violation of the UNT Code of Student Conduct and could lead to disciplinary action.

Class AI Policy

[FYW AI Policy Approved-1.pdf](#)Download FYW AI Policy Approved-1.pdf

In general, AI is not allowed for creating any original content in my class. Assignments created with AI are not considered for grades.

Schedule of Assignments

View on our course Canvas Page