

ENGLISH 1320: COLLEGE WRITING II

Fall 2026 | University of North Texas

 FIRST YEAR WRITING University of North Texas	Instructor: Destinee Norman Class Times: T/Th 9:35am-10:55am Location: Wh 112 Email: destineenorman@my.unt.edu Office Hours: Fridays 12-1pm or by appointment Office Location: AADB 105
--	--

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In ENGL 1320, 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 1320 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 processes.

COURSE OUTCOMES:

- 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

CORE REQUIREMENTS

Catalog Description: 3 hours. Writing as inquiry. Develops habits of critical thinking, research-based inquiry, and argument through written engagement with relevant social and cultural issues.

Prerequisite(s): ENGL 1310, ENGL 1311, or equivalent.

CORE Category: Communication (English Composition and Rhetoric)

As ENGL 1320 meets one of your CORE Communication requirements. This course has four CORE skill objectives:

- **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 the 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.

COURSE BOOKS & MATERIALS

Rhetorical Transformations: Complex Conversations—custom textbook provided as an OER and/or in hard copy. See Canvas for more details on accessing your custom course text. *The textbook and all supplemental readings can be found on Canvas for this course.*

Supplemental Readings Policy

To ensure our course content remains relevant, dynamic, and highly responsive to classroom discussions, specific supplemental text assignments are not listed individually in this syllabus document. Instead, all required supplemental essays, articles, and media are hosted directly on our **Canvas course shell**. These texts are organized systematically inside weekly Canvas modules (e.g., *Week 1 Module*, *Week 2 Module*). You are expected to check the active Canvas module prior to the start of each week and complete all posted readings before our first weekly class session.

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS & SKILLS

You'll need [a computer](#) with [internet access](#) and know the basic skills necessary to:

Use [Outlook for UNT email](#)

Use [Canvas](#)

Use [Microsoft Word and PowerPoint](#)

GRADE DISTRIBUTION

Assignment	Weight	Due Date
Major Assignment 1 (MA1) 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.	10%	9/6
Major Assignment 2 (MA 2) Annotated Bibliography	20%	10/4

This unit focuses on defining the context for the issue you have chosen and locating sources that offer a perspective on the issue. You will draft an annotated bibliography at the end of this unit.		
Major Assignment 3 (MA 3) Drafting 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 submit both a rough draft and eventually a final draft of your research paper.	20%	11/1
Major Assignment 4 (MA 4) Final Draft In this unit, you will learn about how to work a paper from a rough draft into a polished final draft. You will polish your draft from unit 3 for this unit.	20%	11/22
Major Assignment 5 (MA 5) Remixing your Research Project 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 that you will present to the class.	10%	12/6
Quizzes and Discussions Short quizzes over the assigned readings and discussion boards over that week's writing activity or topic.	10%	Varies
Attendance and Participation Attendance and participation includes in-class discussion, group activities, journal entries, and other in-class writing assignments throughout the semester.	10%	Varies

GRADING

GRADE	DESCRIPTION
A 90-100	Exceeds the assignment's requirements. Has few to no errors. Shows a mastery of the concepts being taught. Is impressively sophisticated, inventive, balanced, justified, effective, mature, and expertly situated in time and context.
B 80-89	Meets most of the assignment's requirements. The number of errors does not impede the work's meaning. Shows high level of understanding of the concepts being taught. Skilled, revealing, developed, perceptive, but not unusually or surprisingly original.
C 70-79	Meets most the assignment's requirements. The number of errors may impede the work's meaning. Shows some understanding of the concepts being taught. Coherent, significant, and perhaps even insightful in places but ultimately challenged in organization, articulation, and/or effectiveness.
D 60-69	Does not meet most of the assignment's requirements. The number of errors does impede the work's meaning. Shows low level of understanding of the concepts being taught. Offers an overall response that is incomplete and may be severely lacking: incoherent, limited, uncritical, immature, underdeveloped, and overall, not reflective of the performance expected of UNT undergraduates.

F 59 or below	Does not meet the assignment's requirements. The number of errors impede the work's meaning. Shows no understanding of the concepts being taught.
-----------------	---

All major assignments must be turned in on Canvas and processed through Turnitin to be eligible to pass this course.

I encourage you to monitor your score and review feedback posted on Canvas; However, Canvas's gradebook is not always accurate. Some grades, such as attendance or extra credit, are not incorporated until *after* the last time the class meets. If you are concerned about your grades, please set up a meeting so we can discuss them.

COMMUNICATION EXPECTATIONS

Feedback

I strive to return all graded work promptly. For shorter assignments and discussions, I will generally post grades/feedback within seven days of the due date. For the larger projects, I aim for fourteen days, but with the rise in cheating and plagiarism, it occasionally takes longer to finish grading a set of papers. If it has been longer than the times mentioned, please feel free to ask me when to expect the grades and feedback.

Student Hours

You can walk into my office during my hours, but I encourage you to make an appointment to ensure you get time to meet with me. Feel free to use my office hours as often as you'd like to chat with me, review an assignment, or discuss any questions/concerns you have. It's been my experience that a quick conversation is the most effective way to resolve any confusion.

Email

I will respond to all official correspondence addressed to my UNT email (destineenorman@my.unt.edu) in person or via email within three business days. All other communication methods—Canvas Messenger, assignment comments, personal emails, physical letters, etc.—*are unreliable* ways to contact me. I cannot guarantee that I will see your message on other platforms within any specific time frame.

Please check the syllabus and related assignment sheets before emailing me, and in your email, please indicate where you looked for the information you are seeking so that if something is unclear, I can fix it. Additionally, when you write to me, please include the subject of your email in the subject line and write your email with appropriate salutations. For a sample email, read this article, "[How to Email Your Professor](#)." Or, for a checklist on effective email communication between yourself and instructors, see <https://www.wikihow.com/Email-a-Professor>.

It is your responsibility to check your UNT email to ensure you do not miss any time-sensitive information.

Public Writing

All submissions for this course, including but not limited to pre-writing, drafts, in-class assignments, and final projects, are public, i.e., any writing submitted for this course may be viewed by me or classmates. Do not submit any information that you are unwilling to share.

Syllabus Change Policy

I have made every attempt to provide an accurate syllabus for this course. However, if presently unanticipated circumstances arise that necessitate an amendment to the syllabus, advance notice

will be given in writing via email of all changes, and I will provide an updated hard copy with the changes.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance Policy ([UNT Policy 06.039](#))

Regular class attendance and participation are required. Excessive absences will affect your grade. Documented absences (e.g., religious holidays, university events) are automatically excused. Illness or undocumented absences are unexcused unless your instructor decides otherwise. Email your instructor within 24 hours of an absence for them to consider excusing it.

FYW Program Attendance Guidelines (2x/week class):

Per university policy, missing more than 20% of classes results in automatic failure, regardless of assignment grades.

Attendance will be taken during every class period.

With every absence, your roll call grade will drop.

Two tardies equal one absence.

At 7 unexcused absences, you cannot pass the course.

Excused absences are at your instructor's discretion—stay in communication.

Excused Absences

Absences for the following reasons are considered excusable by the university based on [UNT policy 6.039](#), but you must obtain a note from the [Dean of Students](#) (or other appropriate university offices) to verify your absence(s): (1) religious holy day, including travel for that purpose; (2) participation in an official university function; (3) active military service, including travel for that purpose; (4) pregnancy and parenting under Title IX; and (6) when the University is officially closed. Please inform me of any planned absences with at least 7 days' notice to minimize any potential negative impact on your grades.

No other absences are eligible to be excused. Unless the absence is an illness or an extenuating circumstance that exceeds five consecutive days, you may request documentation from the Dean of Students' office for an excuse. Examples include but are not limited to: (1) temporary disability or injury; (2) extended medical absence or hospitalization; (3) illness of a dependent family member; or (4) major illness or death of a loved one.

If you miss a class:

You are responsible for finding out what you missed. Before the next time our class meets, review the Canvas page and ask a classmate for notes on what you missed, or make an appointment to meet with me during office hours, or if needed, email me to ensure you are on track and prepared for the next class.

If you miss an assignment:

Only assignments missed due to an excusable absence can be made up. For excused absences that resulted in missing in-class assignments, it is your responsibility to 1) turn in all necessary documentation regarding the absence and 2) *schedule* a time to make up the missing work *within two weeks of missing the assignment*. Since I must prepare the missing assignment, you cannot make up work as a walk-in during office hours.

LATE WORK

This course requires extensive reading and regular writing. To keep up with the course, you must complete all assignments by the date and time stated on Canvas. I will not accept late submissions of MA 3. A late MA 1 or MA 2 submission will be marked down half of a letter grade (from a 90 to an 85) for every day that they are late.

Note that unreadable documents, e.g., inaccessible, unopenable, partially complete, incorrect files, etc., will be considered as a non-submission and thus late if the deadline has passed. It is your responsibility to plan on submitting with ample time to check the submission quality and viewability of your submission on Canvas. Additionally, showing “last edited date” metadata does not qualify to remove the penalization based on any technological issue that impeded your submission.

Extensions

I will occasionally grant extensions for assignments if you request the extension at **least 24 hours before the deadline**. All requests must be sent via email and include 1) the specific assignment information in the subject and body, and 2) let me know the day and time you will turn in the assignment instead. No extensions will be granted for inherently collaborative assignments (peer review, in-class activities, etc.) in which your peers depend on your timely submission to progress in their work.

UNT POLICIES

Academic Integrity Standards

According to [UNT Policy 06.003](#), Academic Integrity standards are violated when students engage in academic dishonesty behaviors, including, but not limited to, cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty and my decision on academic sanctions will be reported to the [Office of Academic Integrity](#).

Plagiarism can include copying a passage from a source verbatim without citing it, but it can also include improper or misleading citations. Please note that all source material must be acknowledged, even if the material is paraphrased or sourced from generative AI technologies. Be careful always to acknowledge the work of other writers and take the time to work out the distinction between your original thoughts and arguments and those of others.

Additionally, the use of any generative AI writing tools is only permitted for certain activities within this class. You will be informed as to when, where, and how these tools are permitted to be used, along with [guidance for attribution](#). Any use outside of these approved classroom activities will be considered academic dishonesty and is subject to the consequences of plagiarism.

Assignments for the course have been designed to help you develop as a thinker, reader, and writer without using these technologies. You will generate ideas, read, revise, and write independently or when appropriate in consultation with peers, UNT Writing Center tutors, and me. Use of generative AI in your work for this class without explicit permission from me violates our syllabus and thus will be treated as an instance of cheating. Ignorance of the generative AI tools in your chosen digital writing technologies, whatever they may be, is not sufficient to excuse the violation. If you are unsure about a digital writing tool (even automatically integrated ones), don't use it for this class without permission from me.

Acceptable Student Behavior

According to [UNT policy 07.012](#), 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 notified verbally or in writing and may be directed to leave the classroom. Additionally, the

instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct.

For additional information, refer to the [Dean of Students](#) website.

ADA Accommodations

According to UNT policy 16.001, UNT will make reasonable academic accommodations for students with disabilities. Students seeking reasonable accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA). Then, the ODA will provide them with a reasonable accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty members detailing the students' accommodation needs. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours. Students may request reasonable accommodation at any time; however, ODA notices of reasonable accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation and meet with all faculty members prior to accommodation implementation every semester.

For additional information, refer to the Office of Disability Access website.

Emergency Notification & Procedures

UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly provide 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.

For additional information, refer to the Eagle Alert website.

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>[Links to an external site.](#)

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>[Links to an external site.](#)

UNT RESOURCES

Technical Assistance:

If you have technical difficulties with Canvas while submitting an assignment, please reach out to the help desk below and notify me through email.

[Information Technology Help Desk | University of North Texas](#)

Email: helpdesk@unt.edu

Phone: 940-565-2324

In Person: Sage Hall, Room 130

Writing Assistance:

[Writing Center | University of North Texas](#)

Email: WritingCenter@unt.edu

Phone: 940-565-2563

In Person: Sage Hall, Room 150

The UNT Writing Center:

I recommend that you visit the UNT Writing Center with your written and oral assignments for this class. All writers can benefit from sharing and discussing their work with a trained peer tutor, early and often. A tutor can help you get started on a paper or help you decide what to revise on an existing draft. During an appointment with a tutor, you can develop your ideas, organize your thoughts, and clarify your prose.

- Undergraduate students receive up to one hour, daily, of one-on-one tutoring either in person or online.
- Graduate students receive up to three hours of tutoring every week, either through in-person, online synchronous, or online asynchronous appointments.

Student Support Service:

UNT provides mental health resources to students to help ensure there are numerous outlets to turn to that wholeheartedly care for and are there for students in need, regardless of the nature of an issue or its severity. Listed below are several resources on campus that can support your academic success and mental well-being:

- Student Health and Wellness Center (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center>)
- Counseling and Testing Services (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services>)
- UNT Care Team (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care>)
- UNT Psychiatric Services (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/clinic-services/psychiatry.html>)
- Individual Counseling (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/student-counseling/services/individual-counseling.html>)

English 1320 Weekly Schedule | Fall 2026

*This schedule is subject to change at your instructor's discretion. Always check the "announcements" in Canvas for any changes.

WEEK	READINGS <i>Due Before Tuesday</i>	ACTIVITIES <i>In Class</i>	ASSIGNMENTS <i>Due Sundays at 11:59pm</i>
UNIT 1			
Week 1	Course Syllabus Supplemental Readings in Canvas	Course introduction and syllabus overview First day activity Course theme introduction	Syllabus Quiz Multimedia Introduction Due on Canvas Discussion Board Chapter 1 Reading Quiz
Week 2	CHAPTER 1 Rhetorical Thinking for the Research Process The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde to "The Remarkable Incident of Dr. Lanyon" - Canvas Supplemental Readings in Canvas	Reading discussion & activity Understanding MA 1 Topic brainstorming	Chapter 2 Reading Quiz Brainstorming Activity Due on Canvas Discussion Board
Week 3	CHAPTER 2 Research and Inquiry The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde from "The Remarkable Incident of Dr. Lanyon" to End - Canvas Supplemental Readings in Canvas	Reading discussion & activity Look at the sample proposal Time in-class for proposal drafting*	MA 1 Research Paper Proposal Chapter 3 Reading Quiz
UNIT 2			
Week 4	CHAPTER 3 Gathering and Evaluating Sources Supplemental Readings in Canvas	Understanding MA 2 Finding reliable sources and media literacy Begin finding reliable sources	Finding Sources Activity Due on Canvas Discussion Board
Week 5	Read through sources Supplemental Readings in Canvas	Library tutorial day: how to use UNT's library database to find sources* Logical fallacies Counterargument and refutation activity See sample student papers	Logical Fallacies Activity due on Canvas Discussion Board Find all sources and bring them to class next week
Week 6	"The Veldt" by Ray Bradbury – Canvas Supplemental Readings in Canvas	Reading discussion How to read and annotate articles	Annotating and Writing Summaries Activity on Canvas Discussion Board

		Finish reading all sources, work on annotations	
Week 7	Supplemental Readings in Canvas “The Monsters on Maple Street” – Twilight Zone S1:E22 (IN CLASS)	TV show discussion & activity Revisiting your research question with sources in mind Finalizing annotations & formatting your bibliography	MA 2 Annotated Bibliography
UNIT 3			
Week 8	“There Will Come Soft Rains” by Ray Bradbury – Canvas (IN CLASS) Supplemental Readings in Canvas (IN CLASS)	Reading discussion Discuss drafting as a process Draft a working thesis statement	Working Thesis Statement Activity due on Canvas Discussion Board Chapter 4 Reading Quiz
Week 9	CHAPTER 4 Building Arguments Supplemental Readings in Canvas “Nosedive” – Black Mirror S3:E1 (IN CLASS)	Draft an outline Discuss body paragraphs Building arguments activity	Outline Activity due on Canvas Discussion Board
Week 10	None Overflow Week	Discuss introductions and conclusions Discuss lead-ins, paragraph coherence, and sequencing Paragraph activity	Lead-in Activity due on Canvas Discussion Board
Week 11	None	In class time for writing	Research Paper First Draft
UNIT 4			
Week 12	CHAPTER 5 Revision, Remixing, and Collaboration	Discuss why revision matters Peer review activities Work through the revision process	Why Revise? Activity due on Canvas Discussion Board
Week 13	None Student Conferences	STUDENT CONFERENCES & FINISH PEER REVIEW WORK	Submit peer review draft (details on Canvas) Complete peer feedback in Canvas (details in Canvas) Chapter 6 Reading Quiz
Week 14	CHAPTER 6 Presenting Your Ideas	Finalize the Draft, Plan for Final Projects	Revised Research Paper

		Discuss presenting	
Week 15	None Fall Break	FALL BREAK: NO CLASSES	
Week 16	None	In-class presentations of the remixed final project	Final Remixing Research Projects
FINALS WEEK	NO FINAL EXAM: HAVE A GREAT BREAK!		