

COLLEGE WRITING II

English 1320

Summer 2026 | University of North Texas

Instructor: Hector Dominguez

Class times: Asynchronous online

Email: hectordominguez@my.unt.edu

Office Hours: By Appointment only

Office Location: Zoom Link

COURSE DESCRIPTION

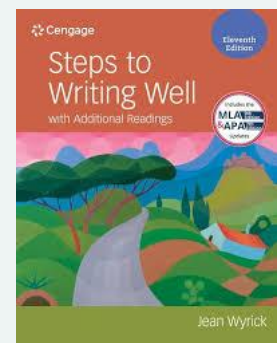
In ENGL 1320, you will be introduced to invention strategies, reading strategies, and writing approaches that will help you thrive as writers in a university setting and beyond. With an emphasis on brainstorming, critical reading, analysis, and revision, you will practice genre conventions, gain rhetorical 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 process.

Students in this course will be able to:

- 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
- Learn to collaborate with peers and provide useful feedback

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.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES FOR STUDENTS:

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/ODA 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

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.**

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

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, 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

Since this is an online course and we do not meet face to face, completion of all assignments is crucial to your success in this course. After 2 weeks, if you have not participated in the course, you will not be able to pass. Please reach out to me ASAP if there are detrimental circumstances keeping you from being successful in this course.

LATE ASSIGNMENT POLICY

No late work will be accepted on Major assignments. If you need an extension on a major assignment, you must email me at least 24 hours before the due date, no exceptions. I will not accept any late submissions of minor assignments. After the submission closes, the assignment will be a zero. Late work may or may not receive feedback. **If any digital paper submission errors occur using Canvas, the student is expected to email the instructor with the assignment attached before the due date to avoid late grade penalties.**

GRADING AND ASSESSMENT POLICIES

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

Reading Quizzes: 10%

Weekly Assignments (Discussion posts) 10%

MA1: Choosing a Topic 20%

MA2: Finding Sources 20%

MA3: Drafting and Revising the Research Essay 20%

MA4: Final Draft 20%

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

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.

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.

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.**

The consequences for plagiarism at UNT are severe, and may include failure for the course, loss of scholarships, and in some cases dismissal from the university. Please talk with your instructor if you are unsure about whether or not something you are doing in your writing might be identified as plagiarism.

- For more information, please see:
<https://vpaa.unt.edu/ss/integrity>

- **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.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Below is the course schedule. Please know that this schedule is tentative and is subject to change if needed. Be vigilant in checking canvas and your email for updates.

* All Major Assignments due are highlighted

USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) TECHNOLOGY:

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>

Week	Topic	Activities and Assignments Due
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1 May 18-24	Course Introduction	Wednesday, May 20 11:59 PM Discussion Post- Multimedia Introductions Sunday, May 24 11:59 PM Reading: Justin Vinh “The Screen the Brain and Human Nature” Discussion Post- Brainstorming The Course Theme
2 May 25-31	Choosing A Topic and Asking Questions	Wednesday, May 27 11:59 PM Reading: Chpt. 1: Prewriting; Watch: Scribbr Research Question; Sample Research Proposal Discussion Post: Brainstorming a Research Topic and Question Sunday May 31, 11:59 PM Chpt. 1: Check Your Understanding: Prewriting MA 1: Research Proposal
3 June 1-7	Finding Sources	Wednesday, June 3 11:59 PM Read: Chpt. 19: Conducting Research & Using Sources; English Subject Librarian...; Watch: Finding Sources on UNT's... Discussion Post: Locating Sources Sunday June 7 11:59 PM Chapter 19 Check Your Understanding: Conducting Research and Using Sources
4 June 8-14	Evaluating Sources	Wednesday, June 10 11:59 PM

		Read: Annotated Bib Formatting Video; 1320 Annotated Bib Sample; Watch: What is an Annotated Bib Discussion Post: Annotating and Writing Summaries Sunday June 14, 11:59 PM MA 2: Annotated Bibliography
5 June 15-21	Finding Your Argument	Wednesday, June 17 11:59 PM Read: Chpt. 2 The Thesis Statement; Watch: How to Write a Strong Thesis Statement Discussion Post: The Thesis Statement Workshop Sunday, June 22 11:59 PM Chapter 2 Check Your Understanding: The Thesis Statement
6 June 22-28	Writing Your Paper	Wednesday, June 24 11:59 PM Read: Chpt. 3 The Body Paragraphs; Watch: Topic Sentences Discussion post: Outline Peer Review Sunday June 28, 11:59 PM Chapter 3 Check Your Understanding: The Body Paragraphs
7 June 29-July 5	Writing Your Paper	Wednesday, July 1 11:59 PM Watch: Writing Strong Body Paragraphs Discussion Post: Writing Together: Drafting Support and Advice

		Sunday, July 5, 11:59PM MA 3: First Draft
8 July 6-12	Peer Review	Wednesday, July 8 11:59 PM Read: Chpt. 5 Drafting and Revising...; Peer Review Instruction Video Discussion Post: Peer Review Reflection Sunday July 12, 11:59 PM Chapter 5 Check Your Understanding: Drafting and Revising: Creative Thinking, Critical Thinking Peer Review Draft Submission
9 July 13-19	Peer Review and Revision	Wednesday, July 15 11:59 PM Read: Chpt. 4: Beginnings and Endings; Revised Student Research Sample; Why Revise Presentation Discussion Post: Hook and Conclusion Sunday July 19, 11:59 PM Chapter 4 Check Your Understanding: Beginnings and Endings
10 July 20-25	Finalizing Your Paper	Wednesday, July 22, 11:59 PM Discussion Post: Looking Back, Looking Ahead Thursday July 24, 11:59 PM MA 4: Final Draft

Grades/Academic Standing posted on the Official Transcript: June 30		
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