

ENGLISH 1310 SECTION 078: COLLEGE WRITING I

Fall 2026 | University of North Texas

 FIRST YEAR WRITING University of North Texas	Instructor: Dr. Lauren J. Rogener Class Times: Tuesdays and Thursdays 12:45-2:05 PM Email: Lauren.Rogener@unt.edu Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:45-10:45 AM or by appointment Office Location: GAB 543
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COURSE DESCRIPTION

The ENGL 1310 course serves as an entry point into the environment of academic inquiry and argument. Instruction in ENGL 1310 begins with an emphasis on cultivating writing through personal discovery, exploration, and reflection. Students learn about writing processes, explore genre conventions, and gain rhetorical knowledge while writing through their experiences and memories. With these more personal contexts as background, students are guided over the course of the semester towards becoming more comfortable with the conventions and habits of academic argument. The goals of ENGL 1310 include developing a working knowledge of writing processes, recognizing and using written genre conventions, and learning rhetoric for the purposes of analyzing and composing effective written texts. Students in ENGL 1310 fulfill these goals while engaging with readings emphasizing narrative and description and focusing on issues of cultural significance. Our readings, discussions, assignments, and activities will reflect (on) our course theme: *What does it mean to be human?*

COURSE OUTCOMES:

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

- read texts critically and analyze the varied situations that motivate writers, the choices that writers make, and the effects of those choices on readers;
- write persuasive arguments that articulate a clear, thoughtful position, deploy support and evidence appropriate to the audience and purpose, and consider counterclaims and multiple points of view, including international and intercultural perspectives;
- evaluate sources and integrate the ideas of others into your writing (through paraphrase, summary, analysis, and evaluation);
- identify and describe events from your experiences that give insight into larger cultural issues;

- observe details that make other people, objects, or places unique within specific cultural or social groups;
- analyze and evaluate specific concepts or texts that have significance within larger cultural conversations;
- compare and rate your contributions as a team member to peer review and other team-based assignments and activities; and
- reflect critically on the ways that social, cultural, and historical contexts shape perceptions of language, then make informed rhetorical choices about grammar, usage, and mechanics by using your linguistic repertoires to effectively reach personal, social, and political priorities in your writing.

CORE REQUIREMENTS

Catalog Description: 3 hours. Writing as discovery introduces essential concepts, knowledge, skills, methods, and conventions for writing. It focuses on practicing writing processes and developing rhetorical knowledge through analysis, observation, and self-reflection.

Prerequisite(s): None

CORE Category: Communication (English Composition and Rhetoric)

As ENGL 1310 meets one of your CORE Communication requirements. This course has four CORE skill objectives:

- Critical Thinking Skills | innovation, inquiry, analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information
- Communication Skills | effective development, interpretation, and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication
- Teamwork Skills | ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal
- Personal Responsibility Skills | ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making

Please note that because ENGL 1310 is a Core Requirement, **you will need to earn a C or higher** to receive credit for the course and move on.

COURSE BOOKS & MATERIALS

- *Rhetorical Transformations: Making Meaning*—custom textbook provided as an Open Education Resource (OER) and/or in hard copy. See Canvas for more details on accessing your custom course text.

You'll need a notebook, [a computer](#) with [internet access](#), and 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) Reading Response Essay	10%	9/20
Major Assignment 2 (MA 2) Narrative Essay	20%	10/11
Major Assignment 3 (MA 3) Analysis Essay	20%	11/15
Major Assignment 4 (MA4) Reimagining Your Audience	10%	12/1
Weekly Assignments and Activities Low-stakes writing assignments that correlate to the week's readings, discussion, and lectures.	15%	Varies
Quizzes Short quizzes about the assigned readings.	10%	Varies
Attendance	10%	Varies
Peer Review There will be a required peer review for MA3	5%	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 (MAs) must be turned in on Canvas by the listed deadline and processed through Turnitin to be eligible to pass this course. You will not be able to pass the course unless you submit all 4 MAs.

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 on Canvas 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, but not before then.

Student/Office Hours

I will hold student/office hours every week on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:45-10:45 AM in GAB 543. You are welcome to 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 most confusion. If you have a scheduling conflict that prevents you from attending my office hours, you may email me or message me on Canvas to set up another time to meet either in person or via Zoom.

Email

I will respond either in person or via email to all official correspondence addressed to my UNT email or sent via Canvas within 72 hours (i.e., three business days). All other communication methods—assignment comments, personal emails, physical letters, notes left on my desk, messages sent by carrier pigeon, statements muttered under your breath, etc.—**are unreliable** ways to contact me. I cannot guarantee that I will see your message on other platforms within any specific time frame, if ever, so please contact me using your UNT email account and/or our Canvas “Inbox.”

Please **check the syllabus** and related assignment sheets before emailing me, and in your email, indicate where you looked for the information you are seeking before you emailed me. This is so that if something is unclear on the syllabus or assignment sheet, I can fix it. Additionally, when you write to me, please include a specific subject in the subject line (like “Formatting Question for MA 1”) and compose your email using appropriate salutations (“Dear Dr. Rogener”) and standard English grammar. For a sample email, read this excellent 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>.

If you miss a class period, please do not email me to ask what we did. I cannot offer private tutoring via email. If you missed class, you missed something important, so **check our Canvas site** to see what we covered that day (I will usually post notes at the end of class in the relevant “Module”) and **contact a classmate** for notes. Alternatively, I am happy to discuss class materials with you in person during my office hours.

It is your responsibility to check your UNT email and our Canvas course site every weekday 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 and/or classmates. Do not submit any information that you are unwilling to share or write about topics you do not wish to discuss. Assume that others will see your work throughout the semester.

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 and/or Canvas “Announcement” of all changes, and I will post an updated syllabus on Canvas.

ATTENDANCE

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

Regular and punctual class attendance and participation are required. Excessive absences will affect your grade. Documented/excused absences (e.g., for religious holidays, participation in university-sponsored events, etc.) are automatically excused. Illness or undocumented absences are unexcused unless your instructor decides otherwise. Email me within 24 hours of an absence for me 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 at the beginning of every class period. If you are there when I call your name, you will be marked present.
- If you arrive 15 minutes late or less, you will be marked late. If you are more than 15 minutes late, you will be marked absent.
- With every absence, your roll call grade will drop.
- Two late marks equal one absence.
- At 7 unexcused absences, you cannot pass the course.
- Excused absences are at your instructor’s discretion, so please 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 via email of any planned absences **at least 7 days in advance** 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 (both the “Announcements” and the relevant “Module”, and ask a classmate for notes on what you missed. You can also make an appointment to meet with me during office hours.

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, but you can make an appointment.

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 minor assignments (like weekly writing assignments) or MA 3. A late MA 1 or MA 2 submission will be marked down half of a letter grade (e.g., from a 90 to an 85) for every day that it is 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 catastrophe that impeded your submission.

Extensions

I will occasionally grant extensions for assignments due to extenuating circumstances 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, 2) the reason for the extension request, and 3) the day and time you propose to turn in the assignment. 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 text from a source verbatim without citing it, but it can also include improper, missing, or misleading citations or copying others' ideas without proper citation. Please note that all source material must be acknowledged, even if the material is paraphrased. 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.

Generative AI

Additionally, the use of any generative AI tools is strictly and invariably prohibited in this class. Assignments for the course have been designed to help you develop as a thinker, reader, and writer without using these technologies. This means that you cannot use generative AI for **anything** in this course, including brainstorming, planning, outlining, note-taking, summarizing readings or texts, translating text, drafting, writing, editing, proofreading, revising, peer reviewing, etc. You will generate your own ideas, read, revise, and write independently or when appropriate in consultation with peers, UNT Writing Center tutors, and me. **Any** use of generative AI in your work for this class violates our course policies and thus will be treated as an instance of cheating and an academic integrity violation. All academic integrity violations will be reported to the Office of Academic Integrity and any assignment that contains an academic integrity violation will receive a zero with no exceptions. 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.

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.

Digital Technology in Class

You may use a laptop or tablet (but not a smartphone or smartwatch) in class to read class materials (including our course textbook) and complete activities and assignments. This does not mean that you can use this technology for unrelated things such as email, social media, scrolling, etc. Please keep your phone off your desk and put away headphones during class unless you have a documented accommodation from the ODA. You are expected to pay attention and participate in all class activities. Failure to do so will affect your grade (specifically your Weekly Assignments/Activities and Attendance grades).

ODA 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. If you have ODA accommodations, please set up a meeting with me within the first 2 weeks of class to ensure I understand and am prepared to implement those accommodations.

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.

UNT RESOURCES

Technical Assistance:

[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

UNT Libraries:

[UNT Library Services](#)

Email: General: askus@unt.edu | English Subject Librarian: Carol.Hargis@unt.edu

Phone: 940-565-3245

Office of Disability Access (ODA)

[Office of Disability Access](#)

Email: disability@unt.edu

Phone: 940-565-4323

In person: Main office: Chestnut Hall, Suite 102 | Testing Center: Chestnut Hall, Suite 115

Counseling and Testing Services:

[Counseling and Testing Services](#)

Email: Counseling: counselingandtestingservices@unt.edu | Testing: gatewaytesting@unt.edu

Phone: Counseling: 940-565-2741 | Testing: 940-369-7617

In Person: Chestnut Hall, Suite 313/311

First Generation Success Center:

[First Generation Success Center](#)

Email: firstgen@unt.edu

Phone: 940-369-5251

In Person: University Union, Suite 377

Food Pantry

[UNT Food Pantry](#)

Email: DESresources@unt.edu

Phone: 940-565-4587

In person: Diamond Eagle Student Resources Center, 621 S. Welch St., Denton, TX 76201

[Additional Resources](#)

English 1310 Weekly Schedule | Fall 2026

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

WEEK	READINGS	ACTIVITIES	ASSIGNMENTS
UNIT 1			
Week 1		Understanding the Course Expectations	Quiz Course Policies
Week 2	CH 1 Reading & Writing Rhetorically		
Week 3	CH 2 The Rhetorical Situation		
Week 4	CH 7 Exploring the Course Theme		
Week 5			MA 1 5 paragraph essay
UNIT 2			
Week 6	CH 3 The Writing Process		
Week 7	CH 4 Why We Write & How We Organize		
Week 8			MA2 Narrative Essay
UNIT 3			
Week 9	CH 5 Every Argument Needs Evidence		
Week 10	CH 6 Beginnings, Middles, and Ends		
Week 11			First draft of MA 3
Week 12		Peer Review Activities	Peer Review of MA 3
Week 13			MA 3 Analysis essay final draft
Week 14		Introduce final project	
Week 15		FALL BREAK: NO CLASS	
Week 16			MA 4 Final projects (in-class presentations)
FINALS			