


ENGLISH 1310.079:

COLLEGE WRITING I

Fall 2025 | University of North Texas

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|  <p>FIRST YEAR WRITING University of North Texas</p> | <p>Instructor: Dr. Lauren J. Rogener Class Times: Tuesdays and Thursdays 2-3:20 PM Email: Lauren.Rogener@unt.edu Student Hours: Thursdays 3:45-5:45 PM Office Location: GAB 543</p> |
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COURSE DESCRIPTION

In ENGL 1310, you will be introduced to rhetorical tools, invention strategies, and writing processes to help you thrive as a writer in a university setting and beyond. Our class begins with personal inquiry, writing about experiences and memories. With an emphasis on description, explanation, and observation, you can practice genre conventions, gain rhetorical knowledge, and develop a framework for producing persuasive writing about yourself and your communities. We will read and discuss nonfiction texts to develop your critical reading habits and familiarity with academic arguments. Over the course of the semester, you will practice ways to gain critical distance and take an analytical perspective on a topic and yourself. You should also learn to use conventions of academic analysis and structure claims and evidence to make your findings clear to your audience.

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, including your own;

- 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;
- Metacognate on your writing processes through practice, revision, and reflection;
- Compare and rate your contributions as a team member to peer review and other team-based assignments;
- 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

COURSE BOOKS & MATERIALS

- *Steps to Writing Well with Additional Readings* (MindTap Course) Eleventh Edition, Jean Wyrick, Cengage, 2017, ISBN 9798214162119
- *Write and Communicate like a Professional*, Kathryn Raign and Jake VanderVaate, University of North Texas, ISBN 9781574419160.
- All other materials will be supplied by me or available at the library.

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS & SKILLS

You'll need [a computer](#) or tablet 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 |
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| Major Assignment 1 (MA1) Storytelling <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write a 1000-1200-word narrative essay that informs your audience about an experience from your life. | 20% | Monday, Sept. 22 by 11:59 PM |
| Major Assignment 2 (MA 2) Describing What We Observe <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write a 1000-1200-word observation essay on a subject on campus you've observed this semester. | 20% | Monday, Oct. 20 by 11:59 PM |
| Major Assignment 3 (MA 3) Thinking Critically about the World <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write a 1200-1400 critical rhetorical analysis essay on a text of your choice from the UNT library. | 20% | Friday, Nov. 17, 2025 by 11:59 |
| Weekly Writing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low-stakes writing assignments that correlate to the week's readings, discussion, and lectures | 15% | Varies |
| Quizzes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short quizzes about the assigned readings | 10% | Varies |
| Attendance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attending classes regularly, on time with required materials | 10% | Varies |
| Peer Review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There will be a required peer review for all major assignments. | 5% | Varies |

GRADING

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| A | 90-100 | "A" WORK will constitute a final score of 90-100% of total points and will represent an overall response that is impressively sophisticated and illuminating: inventive, balanced, justified, effective, mature, and expertly situated in time and context. |
| B | 80-89.99 | "B" WORK will constitute a final score of 80-89.99% of total points and will represent an overall response that is thorough and systematic: skilled, revealing, developed, and perceptive, but not unusually or surprisingly original. |
| C | 70-79.99 | "C" WORK will constitute a final score of 70-79.99% of total points and will represent an overall response that is acceptable but limited: coherent, significant, and perhaps even insightful in places but ultimately challenged in organization, articulation, perception, and/or effectiveness. |
| D | 60-69.99 | "D" WORK will constitute a final score of 60-69.99% of total points and will represent an overall response that is incomplete and may be severely lacking: incoherent, limited, uncritical, immature, undeveloped, and overall not reflective of the performance expected of UNT undergraduates. |

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| F | 0-59.99 | "F" WORK will constitute a final score of 0-59.99% of total points and will represent an unacceptable overall response. |
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All major assignments must be turned in on Canvas and processed through Turnitin to be eligible to pass this course. You may not submit assignments via email.

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, but not before then.

Student Hours

My student hours are Thursdays from 3:45-5:45 PM in GAB 543 or by appointment. You can walk into my office during my student hours, but I encourage you to make an appointment via email to ensure you get time to meet with me. Feel free to use my student 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 strive to respond to all official correspondence addressed to my UNT email (Lauren.Rogener@unt.edu) in person or via email within 24 hours (longer on weekends).

Please check the modules, announcements, 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. Additionally, when you write to me, please include the subject of your email in the subject line and write your email with appropriate salutations and grammar. 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 and our Canvas site each day 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 and discuss. Please do not confess to or discuss criminal activity in your writing.

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 communicate the changes in person during class time.

ATTENDANCE

According to [UNT Policy 06.039](#), you are expected to attend class, and your grade will be affected if you do not attend. The UNT policy states:

The University of North Texas recognizes that student success is promoted by regular attendance and participation in class. It is the responsibility of the faculty member to notify students in writing of any special attendance requirements for the class. This policy applies to all modes of course delivery.

According to the policy, it is your duty as a student to maintain “regular and punctual attendance,” to “participate in all courses.” It is the instructor's responsibility to “record student class attendance,” and “clearly state in their syllabus the requirements for class absence and/or participation and the impact of the absences/participation on course grades. In compliance with this policy, the First Year Writing Program of the Department of English will enforce this policy. Students should arrive promptly at 2:00 PM on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Students who arrive late but within 10 minutes of the start of class will be marked “Late.” Please note that 2 late marks = 1 absence. Students who arrive more than 10 minutes after the start of class or leave more than 10 minutes early will be marked “Absent.” Students who leave up to 10 minutes early will be marked “Late.”

Number of Allowed Absences

Any student who misses more than 20% of the total number of classes for a semester will not pass the course even if they have earned passing grades on their assignments. The following number of classes equal 20%:

- 1 day a week | 3 classes
- **2 days a week | 6 classes**
- 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, the instructor will post the percentage of classes you have missed.

- If a student has missed more than 20% of their total classes at the 6-week mark, they have the remainder of the semester to bring that percentage up.
- Any student who has missed more than 20% of their classes at the 12-week mark will not pass the course.

Excused Absences

Absences for the following reasons are considered excusable by the university based on [UNT policy 6.039](#): (1) religious holy day, including travel for that purpose; (2) participation in an

official university function; (3) required 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 in advance (i.e., prior to the class that will be missed) if you would like me to consider excusing them.

No other absences are required to be excused, but the instructor may choose to excuse absences due to illness or extenuating circumstances, provided that the student notifies the instructor in advance of the missed class(es). If 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 my student hours. Do not email me to ask if you "missed anything important." We do important work in each class period.

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 minor 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 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 your inability to meet the deadline; and 3) the date and time you propose to turn in your 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.

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. 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 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. You will generate 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 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 or ask me via email or Canvas message whether the tool violates our course's prohibition on AI. I am always happy to answer your questions.

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 POLICIES

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 student 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.

English 1310

Weekly Schedule | Fall 2025

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

| WEEK | READINGS | ACTIVITIES | ASSIGNMENTS |
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| UNIT 1 | | | |
| Week 1 Aug 18-24 | SWW—Ch 8 WCLP—7-17 | Understanding the Course Expectations Understanding How to Complete Weekly Writing 1 | Quiz Course Policies Ch 8 Quiz Weekly Writing 1 |
| Week 2 Aug 25-31 | SWW—1 & 17 WCLP—27-41 MA 1 | Understanding MA1 Prewriting | Check Your Understanding 1 & 17 Weekly Writing 2 |
| Week 3 Sept 1-7 | SWW—2 & 4 WCLP—41-56 | Writing Introductions Writing Thesis Statements | Check Your Understanding 2 & 4 Weekly Writing 3 |
| Week 4 Sept 8-14 | SWW—5 | | Check Your Understanding 5 Quiz Phrases, Clauses, Sentence Types Peer Review MA 1 |
| Week 5 Sept 15-21 | Video—Creating Sticky Writing | Creating Cohesion Creating Coherence | MA 1 Learning Narrative |
| UNIT 2 | | | |
| Week 6 Sept 22-28 | MA2 SWW—16 WCLP—61-65 | Understanding MA2 Prewriting | Check Your Understanding 16 Weekly Writing 6 |
| Week 7 | SWW—3 | Adding Detail Reviewing Your Lead In | Check Your Understanding 3 |

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| Sept 29-Oct 5 | | | Weekly Writing 7 |
| Week 8 Oct 6-12 | SWW—6 | Revising for Clarity and Style | Check Your Understanding 6 Quiz Punctuation Peer Review MA 2 |
| Week 9 Oct 13-19 | SWW--Sentence Variety and Organizing Your Essay | Revising for Chronological Order | MA 2 |
| UNIT 3 | | | |
| Week 10 Oct 20-26 | MA3 SWW—Ch 14 WCLP 56-61 | Understanding MA3 Analyze Sample Essay(s) Prewriting | Check Your Understanding 14 Weekly Writing 10 |
| Week 11 Oct. 27-Nov. 2 | SWW—9 | Using the Stasis Theory Citing Your Sources | Check Your Understanding 9 Weekly Writing 11 |
| Week 12 Nov 3-9 | | Revising to Avoid Plagiarism Reviewing Your Evidence | Quiz Agreement Peer Review MA3 |
| Week 13 Nov 10-16 | SWW—18 WCLP—75-83 | Revising for Strong Subjects & Verbs | Check Your Understanding 18 Quiz Strong Subjects and Verbs MA3 |

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| Week 14 Nov 17-23 | | | Weekly Writing 14 |
| Week 15 Nov 24-30 | Thanksgiving Break | Thanksgiving Break | Thanksgiving Break |
| Week 16 Dec. 1-7 | | | Reflection Remix |