

COLLEGE WRITING II

English 1320

Fall 2025 | University of North Texas

COURSE DESCRIPTION

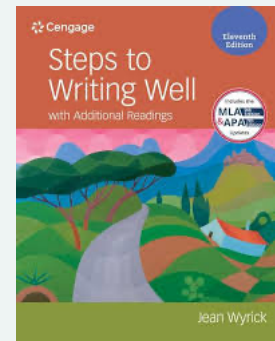
In ENGL 1320, you will be introduced to invention strategies, reading strategies, and writing approaches that will help you thrive as writers in a university setting and beyond. With an emphasis on brainstorming, critical reading, analysis, and revision, you will practice genre conventions, gain rhetorical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

Course Learning Objectives:

- 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

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:

***SEE CANVAS FOR ALL UNIVERSITY AND DEPT. POLICIES**

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 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 assistance. UNT's Survivor Advocates can assist a student who has been impacted by violence by filing protective orders,

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. You may email any medical records directly to your instructor.

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.** The last day to drop a course and get a full refund for the Fall 2025 semester is **August 29th**.

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

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 ATTENDANCE POLICY IN CANVAS

It is the UNT FYW policy that no student missing more than 20% of classroom instruction in a first-year writing course should be able to pass the course. The following number of classes equals 20%:

- A class that meets 1 day a week | 3 classes
- A class that meets 2 days a week | 6 classes
- A class that meets 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, your instructor will notify you of your attendance progress and your ability to pass the course based on your attendance.

In addition to not attending class altogether, the following actions may result in a student being counted as officially absent:

- Coming to class unprepared (didn't read, won't participate in discussions)
- Excessive cell phone use or the use of headphones during class
- Distracting or disruptive behavior or outbursts

LATENESS TO CLASS

Most students, at some point or another, meet with unforeseen circumstances that make them late for class. However, repeated late arrivals are disruptive. **You will lose participation points if lateness seems to be a persistent problem, and two tardies will equal one absence.**

Nevertheless, you are always better off showing up to class, even if you are extremely late. It is

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 in the event of online instruction.

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

much easier to update you on what you missed directly after class. (Note: This policy does not apply to students with ODA accommodations for lateness.)

EXCUSED ABSENCES

In compliance with UNT policy, instructors will excuse the following types of absences:

- Religious holy day, including travel for that purpose
 - Active military service, including travel for that purpose
 - Participation in an official university function
 - Pregnancy and parenting under Title IX
 - When the University is officially closed
- Students must contact their instructor regarding how to make up work missed due to an excused absence within 10 days of the absence--including weekends. Otherwise, the student may receive zeroes for that work. For more information, read the [UNT Policy](#).

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

No phone or headphone use during class. Phones should be out of sight for the duration of class. While computer use is permitted, you are expected to be accessing course materials only during class. We can think of this policy as important for participation in the course and as a general exercise in focusing our attention and showing respect for the classroom space. If I see you using your phone during class, I can mark you as absent. If you have an issue that requires you to have your phone out during class, please inform me beforehand.

LATE ASSIGNMENT POLICY

Only one late assignment may be submitted per student during the semester. Late assignments will automatically lose **two full letter grades**. After that, all work must be turned in on time, or the student will receive a zero on that assignment. 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. Detailed assignment descriptions can be found in 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

GRADE DISTRIBUTION



Attendance and Participation (10%)

Reading Quizzes and Discussions (10%)

MA1: Choosing a Topic (10%)

MA 2: Finding Sources (20%)

MA 3: Drafting and Revising the Research Essay (20%)

MA 4: Final Draft (20%)

MA 5: Remixing Your Research Project (10%)

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.

FINAL REMIXING 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 which you will present to the class.

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

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>

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.

USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) TECHNOLOGY:

During this class, we may use generative AI tools such as Chat GPT for certain assignments and steps in the writing process. You will be informed as to when, where, and how these tools are permitted to be used, along with guidance for attribution. 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>

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.