

English 1301.75—“Composition I”
Fall 2017 / Three Hours Credit

Evans Complex: Room 260 / MWF 8-8:50
CRN: 84439

Instructor: Lee Courtney
Office: Evans Complex Room 406 / 936 294 1416 / eng_lfc@shsu.edu
Office Hours: MWF 10-11 TTh 12-2 (or by appointment)

Course Description: English 1301 is the basic study of English diction, sentence structure, and rhetoric with emphasis on the development of a thesis or a claim. More specifically, the course involves the study of skills and methods used in writing at the university level, with the focus on writing academic texts and incorporating appropriate documentation. At the first half of a two-semester sequence that constitutes first-year composition at SHSU, English 1301 is designed to introduce students to the nature of writing for academic purposes so that they will be able to develop ideas through invention and express them clearly and persuasively. The course builds a solid framework for students’ understanding of how reading and writing operate concurrently in academic contexts. Learning the rules and conventions of Standard American English is an essential part of learning to write competently in a university setting.

Texts:

Glen Cheryl and Loretta Gray. *The Hodges Harbrace Handbook*. 19th ed. Boston: Cengage Learning, 2017. ISBN: 978-1-305-67644-2 (Student Edition)

Jo Ray McCuen-Metherell and Anthony C. Winkler. *Readings for Writers*. 15th ed. Boston: Cengage Learning, 2016. ISBN-13: 978-1-337-28104-1 (Student Edition)

Grading Plan:

Essays (5 at 12% each)	60%
Midterm Exam	10%
Quizzes*	10%
Conferences	10%
Final Exam	10%

*The lowest of the 8 quiz grades will be dropped.

In this class, 90 is an A, 80 a B, and so on.

Attendance: Every unexcused absence after the third will result in a two-point deduction from a student's semester average. Late arrivals and early departures count as half-absences.

To claim an excuse for an absence, a student must download (from Blackboard) and fill out an "Excused Absence" form. That form should be submitted to the instructor at the next class meeting (along with any relevant documentation).

Late Submissions: Late papers will lose value at the rate of ten points a calendar day.

Schedule of Assignments:

August 23	Organizational
August 25	Sample Essay (in class)

Unit 1: Comparison-Contrast Essays / Sentence Essentials

September 6	Lecture on Comparison-Contrast
September 8	<u>P</u> revious <u>A</u> ssignment <u>C</u> ontinued / Essay I Assigned
September 11	Read Chapter I in the <i>Hodges Harbrace Handbook</i>
September 13	Quiz on Sentence Essentials (Q1)
September 15	Sentence Essentials Review
September 18	Essay I Due / First Round of Conferences Scheduled

Unit 2: Illustration-Exemplification Essays/ Sentence Fragments

September 20	Lecture on Illustration-Exemplification
September 22	Read Chapter 11 in <i>RW</i> / Essay II Assigned
September 25	Reading Quiz over Chapter 14 (Q2)
September 27	Read Chapter 2 in <i>HHH</i>
September 29	Sentence Fragments Review

Unit 3: Causal Analysis Essays / Comma Splices

October 2	Lecture on Causal Analysis / Essay II Due
October 4	Read Chapter 15 in <i>RW</i>
October 6	Quiz over Chapter 15 (Q3) / Essay III Assigned

October 9	Read Chapter 3 in <i>HHH</i>
October 11	Review of Comma Splices
October 13	Quiz on Comma Splices (Q4)
October 16	Review for Midterm Exam / Essay III Due
October 18	PAC
October 20	Midterm Exam

Unit 4: Persuasive Essays / Parts of Speech

October 23	Read Chapter 16 in <i>RW</i>
October 25	Lecture on Argument and Persuasion
October 27	Reading Quiz over Chapter 16 (Q5) / Essay IV Assigned
October 30	Read Chapters 4 and 5 in <i>HHH</i>
November 1	Review of Parts of Speech
November 3	Quiz on Parts of Speech (Q6)

Unit 5: Narrative Essays / Verbs and Agreements

November 6	Lecture on Narration / Essay IV Due / Second Round of Conferences Scheduled
November 8	Read Chapter 8 in <i>RW</i>
November 10	Quiz over Chapter 8 (Q7)
November 13	Read Chapters 6 and 7 in <i>HHH</i>
November 15	Review of Verbs and Agreement
November 17	Essay V (in class)

Unit 6: Punctuation

November 20	Lecture on Punctuation
November 27	Review of Punctuation
November 29	Quiz on Punctuation (Q8)
December 1	Review for Final Exam
December 4	Final Exam (Mechanics and Usage) / 8-10 AM

The following statements are taken from official SHSU documents:

Academic Dishonesty: All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials. [In these classes, an act of academic dishonesty will result in a grade of zero on the assignment in question. A second such act will mean a grade of F for the semester.]

Students with Disabilities Policy: It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reasons of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the University. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performances should register with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Lee Drain Annex (telephone 936 294 3512, TDD 936 294 3786, and e-mail disability@shsu.edu). They should then make arrangements with their individual instructors so that appropriate strategies can be considered and helpful procedures can be developed to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired.

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may affect adversely your work in this class, then I encourage you to register with the SHSU Services for Students with Disabilities and to talk with me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: No accommodation can be made until you register with the Services for Students with Disabilities. For a complete listing of the university policy, see:

<http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/documents/aps/students/811006.pdf>

Religious Holidays: Sections 51.911 (b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher learning excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for this absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment form which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

“Religious holy day” means a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20, Tax Code.

Visitors in the Classroom: Only registered students may attend class. Exceptions may be made on a case-by-case basis by the instructor. In all cases, visitors must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. Students wishing to audit a class must apply to do so through the Registrar’s Office.

Classroom Rules of Conduct:

See <https://www.shsu.edu/students/guide/dean/codeofconduct.html>.

English Department Cell Phone Policy: The use (including visible presence) of cell phones and all similar electronic devices is prohibited. All such devices should be turned off or put in a silent mode and not be taken out during any class. In extenuating circumstances, you should ask the instructor for permission to have your phone “on” during class.

Classroom Disruptions: Avoid the following “Ings”: eating in class, sleeping in class, noisily packing up materials before class is over, leaving class early, If ill health obliges you to exit the classroom prematurely, you must email me afterwards (explaining the circumstances) in order to avoid being charged with an unexcused absence. Exiting and re-entering the classroom at the same meeting is a double disruption. Persistently disruptive students will be penalized a letter on their semester grades.

