

**ENGL 1302W Composition II Syllabus**

**Pilot Section: Introduction to Literature and Argumentation**

**Spring 2018; Credit 3**

**Meeting Days/Times:** Tuesday and Thursday, 11:00-12:20  
Evans 358

**Instructor:** Dr. Douglas Krienke

**Office:** EV 208

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**Office Hours:** 11:00- 1:00 W  
8:30- 9:30 TR and by appointment

**Course Description**

ENGL 1302 continues the study of writing skills in English, emphasizing more complex methods in the writing process than ENGL 1301. The course prepares students to write advanced essays and research papers, which reflect the conventions of academic writing. Students will learn to develop and support arguments effectively, with required and appropriate documentation. ENGL 1302 is designed to deepen the students' understanding of how reading, writing, and knowledge acquisition operate concurrently in academic contexts. The emphasis is on critical thinking and problem solving. Through invention (brainstorming, drafting, and revision), students will identify research topics, problems, and concerns of a local and global nature. They will learn to follow and support a coherent line of argument, and they will learn to transition ideas logically and persuasively.

The students will write four (4) expository essays and a well-documented research paper. Essentially, the course includes an oral report component on the topic of the research paper. **Prerequisite:** ENGL 1301.

**Aims and Outcomes**

Composition II is a core requirement because learning to write developed, organized, and technically proficient research papers is an essential part of a university education. In addition, students also demonstrate effective oral expression and understanding of the varying writing requirements of different disciplines. By the end of ENGL 1302, students will be able to write at a level that signifies that they are ready for sophomore writing.

Students learn how to develop an effective, logical, and critical argument. They continue to demonstrate that they have a command of the conventions of written English. The instructor will emphasize the importance of university-level reading and will

- (3) Handout on most common literary terms [provided to instructors by the department].

*Recommended Texts:*

A good collegiate dictionary, such as *Webster's College Dictionary* or  
*The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language*.

## Attendance

Attendance is mandatory for successful completion of this course. Even a moderate number of absences may seriously jeopardize your ability to learn the material and pass the course. Because much of the work will build on material previously completed and may include team interaction, you should make every effort to attend class and be on time. Students must be in the classroom for the entire time in order to receive full credit for attendance. Your attendance is expected and will be documented. Up to three hours of absence will receive no penalty. This translates into three absences for the MWF class and two absences for the TuTh class (i.e., one full week for both).

Should an emergency arise (such as a serious illness or death in the family) please report your absences through the Dean of Students. His office will assist you in gathering the required documentation and make sure all your instructors are made aware of the circumstances. The instructor will decide whether the documented circumstances qualify as an emergency or not.

If you are unable to attend a class, you must make sure you are prepared for the session when you return. Much of what you need to know in order to be prepared will be on the calendar, but unanticipated events can occur during classes that may change the calendar. Contact a classmate to see what unanticipated assignments, discussions, etc., you might have missed; this will help ensure that you are not surprised when the class is doing something for which you are not prepared.

## Grading Plan

This is a "W" course, which means that at least fifty (50) percent of the course grade will derive from writing activities designed to help the student master course objectives.

Assignments:

Assigned essays (4 x 10%) .....	40%
Weekly assignments .....	15%
Midterm exam .....	10%
Research paper project (25% altogether):	

In addition to the *oral research paper report* (10% of the grade, see below), students must present also smaller assignments orally. The research paper draft (see below) must be presented orally, as well as in a written form, and students must articulate their reflections on readings and feedback on their peers' writings in both oral and written modes. This enhances the students' ability to work with peers in order to reach the shared goal of efficient oral and written expression.

- *Research paper draft* (5%):  
Writing drafts for all your essays is mandatory; however, your research paper draft will receive a grade. Half of that grade (2.5/5%) comes from your oral explanation of your research plan. The purpose of the draft is to allow you to get early feedback on your research process.
- *Oral report* (10%):  
You will give an oral report to the class on the topic of your research paper. Effective use of appropriate visual aids is obligatory.
- *Research paper* (10%):  
This is a well-documented academic paper, which uses a number of appropriate (original, mostly print) sources to support a clear line of argument. This research can originate either from literature or from topics triggered by the readings in *Current Issues*, depending on the interests of the student.
- *Final exam* (10%):

## University Policies

### Academic Honesty

English Department policy states that a paper or assignment, which evidence can support as plagiarized or in any manner not the result of a student's own intellectual endeavors, will receive zero points. **The second offense will result in failure of the course and possible university disciplinary action.** Submitting your own previously written work for a current assignment or submitting an assignment in more than one class without the prior permission of the instructors is also considered academically dishonest. For information on plagiarism and other **Classroom Rules of Conduct**, see the following site: <http://www.shsu.edu/students/guide>.

### Americans with Disabilities Act

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason 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 performance are expected to visit with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Counseling Center, Lee Drain Annex (tel. 936.294.1720). 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. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: no accommodation can be made until the student registers with the Counseling Center.

### Religious Holy Days

Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education 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 that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from 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

Unannounced visitors to class must present a current, official SHSU identification card to be permitted into the classroom. They must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. If the visitor is not a registered student, it is at the instructor's discretion whether or not the visitor will be allowed to remain in the classroom. This policy is not intended to discourage the occasional visiting of classes by responsible persons. Obviously,

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Department of English

WEEK 9 March 12-16			<i>March 12-16: Spring Break holiday for students and faculty</i>
WEEK 10 March 19-23			<i>March 19: Classes resume.</i>
WEEK 11 March 26-30			<i>March 30: Good Friday – Holiday for students and faculty</i>
WEEK 12 April 2-6			<i>April 6: Last day to “Q” drop.  Students cannot drop after this date; they will receive grade earned.</i>
WEEK 13 April 9-13			
WEEK 14 April 16-20			
WEEK 15 April 23-27			
Finals week April 30-May 4			<i>May 4: Last class day, last day to resign from spring courses</i>
Finals week May 7-10	Final Examination		<i>The final is an in-class final to be administered during the time to be specified for each section by the University.</i>

**Grades will be posted by Monday, May 14, 12:00 p.m.**