

## **ENGL 1302W Composition II Syllabus**

**Spring 2018; Credit 3**

**Meeting Days/Times/Location:** MW; 3:00 – 4:20 pm; EV 260  
**Section / CRN#:** 32 / 20741  
**Instructor:** Shadow Meritt  
**Office:** EV 407  
**Contact Information:** slm070@shsu.edu  
**Office Hours:** Monday & Wednesday: 10:00 - 11:30am 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 demonstrate the relationship between the reading and writing processes, using a variety of texts such as fiction, non-fiction, poetry, essays, and examples of professional writing across disciplines. This emphasis develops students' perception in interpreting texts (oral, written, and visual). After completing the course, students will be able to express in analytical writing more verbally complex thought and relationships. Because of the in-depth readings and discussions, they will gain an enhanced ability to make responsible moral choices and ethical decisions. In short, the course teaches students that there is a definite correlation between reading, writing, and, in general, life experience.

### **Course Objectives**

Through a sequence of writings, readings, and teamwork, students will learn to

- understand the persuasive nature of language,
- respond appropriately to different rhetorical situations and constraints,
- strengthen their composing process in order to produce quality academic essays and research papers,
- use the recursive nature of writing (pre-writing, writing, revision, editing) to improve their own texts,
- further strengthen their analytical reading and critical thinking skills,
- strengthen their argumentative skills,
- strengthen their ability to conduct research in order to enable them to perform well in specific sophomore and upper-level courses in their disciplines,
- find, evaluate, analyze, and synthesize primary and secondary texts, both print and electronic,
- integrate and document the ideas of others across disciplines in a confident and competent manner, using various citation methods (MLA, APA, *Chicago*, etc.),
- employ collaborative learning strategies effectively in various contexts,
- strengthen their oral presentation skills,
- understand the varying requirements of different academic contexts and the needs of writing across disciplines,
- understand the connection between abundant reading and effective writing,
- master common literary and other genre-related terminology,
- appreciate literature through an introduction to literary genres,
- improve their explication skills by reading fiction in order to analyze the writer's style, syntax, and figurative language,
- write an interpretation of a piece of literature that is based on a careful observation of textual details,
- further strengthen their knowledge of the conventions of Standard American English grammar and appropriate mechanics.

### **Required Textbooks and Materials**

- (1) Schilb, John, and John Clifford. *Arguing about Literature: A Guide and Reader*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2014. ISBN: 9781319035327
- (2) 2 pocket folders
- (3) 1 USB Flash Drive
- (4) Handout on most common literary terms

### *Recommended Texts:*

- (1) Hacker, Diana, and Nancy Sommers. *The Bedford Handbook with Writing in the Disciplines*. 10<sup>th</sup> ed. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2010.  
ISBN 978-0-312-65268-5 (hardcover Student Edition); 978-0-312-65269-2 (softcover Student Edition).
- (2) 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 **two absences for the MW class** (i.e., one full week). Plan this time carefully, because **any absence beyond the two will result in a two-point deduction for each absence from your end-of-semester grade.**

Class activities and assignments (peer reviews, quizzes, exercises, oral presentation, etc.) **cannot be made up. Formal essays must be turned in on time via both turnitin and in class (folder containing the hard copy and all preliminary work).** Late essays will automatically be penalized with a 20 point deduction; essays that are more than one class period late will not be accepted and will receive a zero. 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 that all your professors 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 that 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 .....	10%
Midterm exam .....	10%
Research paper project (30% altogether):	
Annotated Bibliography .....	5%
Oral report on the topic of the research paper .....	10%
Research paper .....	10%
Final exam .....	15%
	Total      100%

### Grading scale:

A 90-100; B 80-89; C 70-79; D 60-69; F 0-59

According to department policy, **no extra credit** will be offered.

### Explanation of Assignments

- *Assigned Essays* (4 x 10%):  
The bulk of your grade will come from your ability to create formal written papers. Each of the four essays will include time spent in various stages of the writing process. Essays will be drafted, will go through guided peer-editing, and will be revised by the original author before the instructor collects the paper for grading. It is important that these papers utilize parenthetical referencing, i.e., citation from primary sources. **All essays are required to be submitted to turnitin.com; any essay not submitted to turnitin.com will receive an automatic zero.**
- *Weekly assignments* (10%):  
Weekly assignments are accessible only on Blackboard and are due every Sunday by 11:59pm. These assignments will include reading quizzes based on questions emerging from the required collection of literature, quizzes on literary terminology, peer workshop responses, quizzes on integrating sources, and discussion boards. These assignments may also include impromptu writing assignments (Pop Quizzes) as determined by class participation in oral discussions.
  - *Impromptu writing assignments (Pop Quizzes)*:  
In addition to the *oral research paper report* (10% of the grade, see below), students must also participate in classroom discussions of the reading assignments. If at any time the instructor deems the level of classroom participation inadequate or unsatisfactory, impromptu writing assignments (Pop Quizzes) will be assigned.
- *Midterm exam* (in class) (10%):
- *Annotated Bibliography* (5%):
- *Oral report* (10%):  
You will give an oral report to the class on the topic of your research paper. The research paper draft 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. Effective use of appropriate visual aids is obligatory.
- *Research paper* (15%):  
This is a well-documented academic paper, which uses a number of appropriate (original, mostly print) sources to support a clear line of argument. **Any research paper not submitted to turnitin.com will receive an automatic zero.**
- *Final exam* (10%):

### **Classroom Policies**

#### *Individual and group responsibility*

During the semester, you will be working in teams whose responsibility will be to read and provide constructive criticism on each member's written and oral work and at times create a document as a team. Because your input is essential to the success of the entire team,

your attendance is required. Failure to work as part of the collaborative team will mean that you do not have the proper background to do the assignment and no grade will be recorded.

If you are to bring a draft of an assignment, make sure you are clear about its purpose and have that draft with you. Do not come to class without the needed materials, including your book and your drafts. You must have prepared the proper materials by the calendar deadline in order to be able to participate and get the full benefit of the class interaction. Failure to work as part of a classroom cooperative will jeopardize your individual grade.

### *Assignments*

Because writing is a process and involves various stages, students are expected to work through projects in a step-by-step fashion and **turn in all of these steps** when the assignments are due. If any step in the process of a particular assignment is missing or completed unsatisfactorily, the final paper will not be accepted.

Your instructor may require that you submit all of your essays to a plagiarism detecting service such as turnitin.com. Your enrolling in the course and electing to stay in that section constitutes your agreeing to submit your work as your instructor requires.

### *Cell phones and electronics*

The use (including visible presence) of cell phones, text messages, and all similar electronic devices is prohibited during class-time. Failure to comply to this policy will result to expulsion from the classroom. Even the visible presence of such a device during a test will result in a zero for that test. All such devices should be turned off or put in a silent mode and not be taken out during any class.

### *Computer use (for computer classrooms)*

Using the computer during class for other than class assignments is not allowed. If you access Facebook, Twitter, or any other site not affiliated with our coursework during class, you will be **asked to leave the classroom**, since it will be obvious that you do not care to attend to the class activities.

DO NOT check e-mail, surf, or engage in any activity with the computers while the instructor is lecturing or while you are working on an assignment. DO NOT use the computer for any activity other than that assigned while students are working independently. If you need to access the Internet or your email for the assignment, be sure you receive permission before accessing the sites.

The penalties for using the computer for other than course work during class are:

- an absence being registered for that day
- a zero being recorded for the current assignment

## **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, however, the visiting of a particular class should be occasional and not regular, and it should in no way constitute interference with registered members of the class or the educational process.

### **Instructor Evaluations**

Students will be asked to complete a course/instructor evaluation form toward the end of the semester.

## COURSE SCHEDULE\*

**\*NOTE: The syllabus/course schedule is tentative and subject to change.**

**Abbreviations:**      **AL:** *Arguing about Literature*  
**SE=** Sample Essays: (The assigned essays are available on Blackboard)

Date	Topic	Reading(s)	Notes	Essay Due Dates
<b>Weekly assignments are due every Sunday before 11:59pm. They must be completed on Blackboard. Do not wait until the last minute to try to complete assignments. If you have technical issues with Blackboard, contact the Help Desk. Late assignments will not be accepted!</b>				
<b>WEEK 1</b>				
Wednesday: 1/17	➤ Introduction to course	N/A	<i>Late registration. Process class schedule changes.</i>	
<b>WEEK 2</b>				
Monday: 1/2	➤ The Reading Process ➤ The Writing Process	• AL: Chapter 4, pp. 88- 116; Chapter 5, pp. 117- 148		
Wednesday: 1/24	➤ Elements of Essays ➤ Argument	• AL: Chapters 1-3, pp. 1-87		
<b>WEEK 3</b>				
Monday: 1/29	➤ Critical Approaches ➤ Elements of Poetry	• AL: Chapter 8, pp. 270-295; Chapter 6, 176-190 •	<i>Feb. 1: 12<sup>th</sup> class day. Last day to drop ing courses without a "Q" and receive 100% refund.</i>	
Wednesday: 1/31	➤ Poetry: Continued	• Handouts: "The Prologue," "The Author to Her Book," "To the University of Cambridge," and "On Being Brought from Africa to America" • AL: Final Journey Poems pp. 1115-1121 "When Death Comes," "Death Be not Proud," "Do not Go Gentle into That Good Night," "Because I Could not Stop for Death"		

Sam Houston State University  
Department of English

WEEK 4				
Monday: 2/5	➤ Poetry Continued:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AL: pp. 1104-1108, "Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening," "The Road Not Taken," "Acquainted with the Night"</li> <li>AL: pp. 916-922 "Open Letter to the South," Theme for English B," "Harlem"</li> </ul>		
Wednesday: 2/7	➤ E1: Peer Review		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Bring 3 printed copies of your paper to class.</b></li> </ul>	
WEEK 5				
Monday: 2/12	➤ Elements of Short Fiction	AL: Chapter 6, pp.155-168 The Tell-Tale Heart" pp. 980-984		<b>E1: Due</b> <b>1)Turnitin</b> <b>2)Folder hard copies</b>
Wednesday: 2/14	➤ Short Fiction Continued	AL: "": "Young Goodman Brown" pp. 867-877		
WEEK 6				
Monday: 2/19	➤ Short Fiction Continued	AL: "The Yellow Wallpaper" 244-259		
Wednesday: 2/21	➤ E2: Peer Review		<b>Bring 3 printed copies of your paper to class.</b>	
WEEK 7				
Monday: 2/26	➤ Short Fiction Continued	AL: "Soldier's Home" 364-370		<b>E2: Due</b> <b>1)Turnitin</b> <b>2)Folder hard copies</b>
Wednesday: 2/28	➤ Short Fiction Continued	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AL: 370 "A Rose for Emily" 497-505</li> </ul>		
WEEK 8				
Monday: 3/5	➤ Midterm Exam			



Sam Houston State University  
Department of English

Wednesday: 3/7	➤ E3: Peer Review		Bring 3 printed copies of your paper to class.	
WEEK 9				
Monday: 3/12	No Class		March 12-16: Spring Break	
Wednesday: 3/14	No Class			
WEEK 10				
Monday: 3/19	➤ Elements of Drama	• AL: Chapter 6, pp. 190-206; <i>Othello</i> Act I-II	March 19: Classes resume.	E3: 1) Turnitin 2) Folder w/hard copy & proc
Wednesday: 3/21	Drama Continued	AL: <i>Othello</i> Act III-V		
WEEK 11				
Monday: 3/26	Student Conferences		March 30: Good Friday – Holiday for students and faculty.	
Wednesday: 3/28	Student Conferences			
WEEK 12				
Monday 4/2	➤ Research Skills: Students meet in the Library  or  ➤ E4: Peer Review	AL: Chapter 7, pp. 207-243  Handout: Annotated Bibliography	Bring 3 printed copies of your paper to class	
Wednesday: 4/4	➤ Research Skills: Students meet in the Library  or  ➤ E4: Peer Review	• Handout: Annotated Bibliography	April 6: Last day to “Q” drop. Students cannot drop after this date; they will receive grade earned.	
WEEK 13				
Monday: 4/9	➤ Dissection: Research Paper  ➤ Discussion: Oral Presentations			E4: 1) Turnitin 2) Folder w/hard copy & process
Wednesday: 4/11	No Class: Students are to use their time to work on their annotated bibliography and oral			

Sam Houston State University  
Department of English

	presentation.			
WEEK 14				
Monday: 4/16	➤ Oral Presentations			<b>Annotated Bibliography : Hard copy</b>
Wednesday: 4/18	➤ Oral Presentations			
WEEK 15				
Monday: 4/23	➤ Oral Presentations		❖	
Wednesday: 4/25	➤ Oral Presentations			
WEEK 16				
Monday: 4/30	➤ E5: Peer Review			
Wednesday: 5/2	➤ Final Exam Review		<i>May 4: Last class day. Last day to resign from spring courses</i>	<b>E5: 1) Turnitin 2) Folder w/hard copy &amp; process</b>
Finals week				
English 1302.32: Wed. 5/9 5:00-7:00 pm  English 1302.38: Mon. 5/7 6:00-8:00 pm	Departmental final		<i>The final is an in-class final to be administered during the time to be specified for each section by the University. The final (10% of course grade) focuses on editing skills (grammar, usage, and mechanics).</i>	

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