![A&M-COMMERCE logo with a lion]

To access COVID-19 information, please visit the Stay Healthy Lions Webpage.

English 1302: Written Argument/Research
COURSE SYLLABUS, Fall 2022 Term 1

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Nancy Christine Foreman
Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday 9am-10:30am
University Email Address: Christy.Foreman@tamuc.edu

Preferred Form of Communication and Communication Response Time: If you have a question, you can email me anytime. I normally respond within 24 hours. If you have a pressing concern or question, you may contact me by phone or text at 903-249-2574. If you call and I do not answer, please leave a detailed voicemail. I may be on the phone with another student when you call. Please do not call or text before 8 am or after 10 pm. If I do not text you back immediately, I am likely in a meeting or in another place that prevents me from texting. I will, however, text you back as soon as I am able.

COURSE INFORMATION

Course Texts: This course has been designed using Open Educational Resources (OER). All materials are embedded within the course and are accessible via the internet. After taking the pretest, students are encouraged to bookmark, download, or save materials provided via the internet for use during quizzes, assignments, and projects in this class.

All links to required course readings are located within each competency and are in pdf format.

Course Description

This course provides students with advanced training in communication skills emphasizing the writing and reading of argumentative prose and adapting writing to alternate audiences.

QEP Global Course: This course has been selected as a Global Course – tied to the QEP. The university QEP seeks to prepare students for an interconnected world. In relation to the QEP, students completing this course will be able to (LO1) demonstrate knowledge of the interconnectedness of global dynamics (issues, trends, processes, and systems), (LO2)

apply knowledge of the interconnectedness of global dynamics, and/ or (LO3) view themselves as engaged citizens within an interconnected and diverse world. This course will provide information, activities, experiences, and opportunities to accomplish at least one of the QEP learning outcomes. The essay required in the post-test will need to be saved as a word or PDF document, and then uploaded into your ePortfolio.

BAAS-OL Essay Prompt and Course Posttest: Students should prepare an essay of at least 500 words to address: How did this course better prepare you, as an organizational leader, for an interconnected world? The essay prompt will appear in the Competency 4 post-test as question #1. After submission of the post-test, constructive feedback will be provided to the student if necessary for improvement. Students are expected to utilize the feedback and make final improvements, and then submit the final, polished essay to their ePortolio as a demonstration of competency in the content area.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Students will learn to identify appropriate argumentative discourse techniques and organizational methods used to structure an argumentative essay.
2. Students will learn how to compose an argumentative essay in a manner appropriate to audience and occasion, with an evident message and organizational structure
3. Students will learn how to respond critically to a variety of written texts
4. Students will learn how to conduct research and use it effectively in written works

REGULAR AND SUBSTANTIVE COURSE INTERACTION

As a general guide, students enrolled in a three-semester hour course should spend one hour engaged in instructional activities and two to three hours on out-of-class work per week in a traditional semester. Students are expected to double this effort of engagement given that this course is being delivered in a seven-week term. Educational activities in this course are designed to ensure regular and substantive interaction between students and faculty to ensure that students are able to demonstrate competency.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed: Students will need reliable computer and internet access for this course. Students must be able to effectively use myLeo email, myLeo Online D2L, and Microsoft Office.

Instructional Methods: This course is an online course. To be successful in this course, all content and course modules should be read and reviewed. All assignments and quizzes (both graded and not graded) must be completed. Please contact the instructor by email for any assistance.

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course: To be successful in this course, all content and course modules should be read and reviewed. All assignments and

quizzes (both graded and not graded) should be completed. Please contact the instructor by email for any assistance.

Instructional Methods

The course is divided into four competencies:

Competency 1: **Argumentative Discourse** covers the elements of argumentation, the elements of critical decision making, the concept of argumentation and being reasonable, and the bases of reason in argumentation. In this competency you learn to identify and understanding the important elements in argument essays which can enable you to construct arguments that are more logical and to ultimately write more persuasively.

Competency 2: **Writing Arguments** you will learn how to apply different organizational strategies to make effective written and verbal arguments. You will learn the structures for writing narration, description, illustration, and classification. Finally, you will see how to write in a style appropriate to the context of a communication, varying your diction and avoiding sexist or exclusive usage.

Competency 3: **Reading Academic Texts** teaches you efficient academic reading strategies. Academic reading is a specific category of reading. It's helpful to remember that academic reading is an act of performance. Rather than sitting back and passively receiving information we read in college, we will be asked to directly act upon that information in some way. We will be quizzed or tested. We will be asked to debate, analyze, or critique what we read. We will need to read closely, remember the text accurately, and compare it to other texts for style and content.

Competency 4: **Research** teaches you techniques for finding information using library resources, including search techniques to narrow your findings and further evaluation techniques for assessing research materials for informational value, quality, and reliability. You will also learn how to read scholarly writing for information and how to apply this information in your writing.

Within each competency there is a pretest, a list of course readings specific to that competency and a post-test. The course readings will provide you with the information you need to be successful on the post-test. While there are a few multiple-choice questions on the tests, the majority of the questions on the pre-tests and post-tests are extended short answer (at least a paragraph length answer is expected) or essay (a fully developed multi-paragraph length answer is expected). Many of the questions on the post-tests specifically reference materials in the readings, so general knowledge will not be sufficient to answer those questions; reading the material is a must.

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

Because we are working in a 7-week term with 4 competencies, I suggest an approximate 2-week time frame for each competency. This will help you stay on track to complete all four competencies by the end of the term.

You should begin by taking the pre-test. The pretest is meant to be a baseline from which to begin studying the material in the course in preparation for the posttest. The pretest will give you several important pieces of information, what you already know, so you will know what to study (there is no point in studying things you are already knowledgeable about), as well as what you do not know (even if you assumed you did know).

Once you complete the pre-test, you should begin reading and studying for the post-test. All readings are listed in each competency and all are required, unless otherwise noted. When you feel ready, you can move on to the post-test.

You must score 80% or better on the post-test in order to pass. If you do not score at least 80% the first time you take the post-test, you will have to re-take the test.

In addition to the four competencies listed above, there is a final course essay that must be completed successfully in order to pass the course. You do not have to score 80% on the paper as you do on the post-tests. The grade you earn will be averaged into the other four competency grades.

GRADING

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

A = 90%-100%
B = 80%-89%
F = 79% and below

Grades

Your final grade in the course is based on the average of your scores on four post-tests and one final course essay (each post-test is worth 20% of your final grade and the final course essay is worth 20%).

The post-test in each competency assesses student knowledge and understanding of major concepts, theories, processes, etc., in that competency. **A score of 80% or higher on the post-test is required to demonstrate competency.**

If you score less than 80% on the post-test, you will have an opportunity to review the material and retake the post-test two additional times. **If the posttest score is less than 80% within three attempts, students will receive a grade of "F" in the course and will be required to retake the course in the new term.** Students who fail the posttest should review feedback from the instructor before reattempting the posttest.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

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LMS

All course sections offered by Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are the technical requirements

Learning Management System (LMS) Requirements:
View the [Learning Management System Requirements Webpage](#).

LMS Browser Support:
Learn more on the [LMS Browser Support Webpage](#).

YouSeeU Virtual Classroom Requirements:
Visit the [Virtual Classroom Requirements Webpage](#).

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found on the [Brightspace Support Webpage.](#)

Interaction with Instructor Statement

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may text me any time. If I do not text you back immediately, I am likely in a meeting or in another place that prevents me from texting. I will, however, text you back as soon as I am able.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail online in the Student Guidebook.

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette Webpage for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum.

TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy, please view the Attendance Webpage and the Class Attendance Policy

Academic Integrity

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty Policy
Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form

Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services
Texas A&M University-Commerce
Velma K. Waters Library Rm 162
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu
Website: Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information, or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus document and/or consult your event organizer.

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

Counseling Services

The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit www.tamuc.edu/counsel.

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Due to the nature of this competency-based course, time is tied to the dates of the current term. All coursework must be completed by 5:00 pm on the last day of the term. Failure to submit all coursework by the last day of the term may result in earning a non-passing gr

The *syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*