



## ENG 1301.98E

US-College Reading & Writing

### **COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2023 INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

Instructor: Amanda Burns

Office Hours: By appointment

University Email Address: [Amanda.Burns@tamuc.edu](mailto:Amanda.Burns@tamuc.edu)

Preferred Form of Communication: Email

Communication Response Time: Within 24 hours, except for Sundays

### **COURSE INFORMATION**

Class meets Monday - Friday 7:35AM-8:20AM in DX101G

Software Required: Free access to Microsoft Office 365 here:  
<https://www.microsoft.com/en-US/education/products/office>

### **Course Description**

(ENGL 1301) College Reading and Writing. Three semester hours. Introduces students to writing as an extended, complex, recursive process and prepares students for English 1302, which more rigorously examines the forms and structures of argument and means to approaching multiple audiences. In 1301 students will write weekly, and will work on essay organization and development. The course will emphasize close reading, summarizing, and analysis of expository texts, including student writing.

### **Student Learning Outcomes**

1. Read, interpret, and analyze print and digital texts.
2. Apply writing strategies to draft, revise, and edit major writing tasks.
3. Apply and evaluate appropriate syntax, grammar, punctuation, and spelling.
4. Apply and evaluate appropriate voice, style, tone, and audience awareness in writing.
5. Compose new writing in multiple genres that is focused, coherent, and developed.
6. Collaborate with peers to plan, develop, and revise projects.

<sup>1</sup> *The syllabus and schedule are subject to change.*

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

**Textbook:** *Writing Inquiry, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition*

### **Minimal Technical Skills Needed**

Students must be able to compose and format their essays on a computer using word processing software like Microsoft Word. They must also know to access materials on the D2L learning management system and to upload their essays by the designated deadline.

### **Instructional Methods**

Music Mondays will examine a piece of protest music for research and context. Each will have a small group presentation. There will be four essays in this course, and each essay will focus on a different topic, and different genre of essay. There will also be a reading each week, with a short response due. Fridays will be dedicated to peer reviews of the current essay. One day a week will be set aside for working in class.

## **GRADING**

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

### **Summary of Graded Work**

<b>Assignments</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Essay 1	15%
Essay 2	15%
Essay 3	20%
Essay 4	20%
Responses	15%
Peer Reviews	10%
Music Monday Presentations	5%

Total points corresponding to the final letter grades

### **Final Grade**

Percentages	Letter Grade
90-100%	A
80-89%	B
70-79%	C
60-69%	D
0-59%	F

## Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course Attendance & Participation

Being a body in a seat is not full attendance – while you are in class, you are expected to pay attention, arrive prepared, take notes, and participate in your own learning. Consistent attendance is directly linked to higher pass rates, better grades, and higher graduation rates. It also demonstrates your commitment to your own education and respect for the learning process of your classmates, as absences and tardiness reduce your potential to contribute to and benefit from peer collaboration, teaching, and learning opportunities.

### Absences

Absence is not an excuse for ignorance. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to contact one of your classmates and/or check D2L for any learning materials posted (lecture slides, assignment prompts, rubrics, etc.) to get the information you missed. If you are truly unable to find an answer to your questions through your peers or through your own investigations, you can also email me with specific questions. If you anticipate needing to miss class on the day that an assignment is due, reach out and work with me so that we can arrange for you to turn the work in without penalty if you have a valid excuse. [see University attendance policy below]

### Due Dates, Extensions, & Late Work

It is your responsibility as a student to keep track of and make up any work you've missed. You are provided with instructions and dates for assignment submission on the course calendar below and on D2L. I may also ask you to bring hard copy rough drafts for in-class peer review. I will deduct a letter grade (10 points) for each day your work is late, but I will not accept work that is more than 7 days late. It will receive a 0 Grade. **If you have a school-related activity, work must be turned in early. And any school related absence must be told to the professor 48 hours in advance.**

### Classroom Etiquette & Technology

Inside the classroom, the success of our class discussions and activities depends on you being respectful and both physically and mentally present. No texting or social media viewing during class. All mobile phones must be placed face down on your desk or out of sight. If you using a computer during class, you must be logged into D2L. Outside the classroom, you are responsible for checking your MyLeo email daily. If you do not have ready access to the internet (in a way that will prevent you from successfully completing assignments), please inform me at the start of the term so that we can discuss alternatives. I commit to checking my email many times daily and to respond to you promptly – please return the favor.

## **TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS 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 technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

[Brightspace-Platform-Requirements](#)

LMS Browser Support:

[D2L Brightspace Browser\\_Support](#)

Zoom Virtual Classroom Requirements:

[Zoom System Requirements](#)

## **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](mailto: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 school 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.

## **COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES**

### **Course Specific 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.

#### **University Specific Procedures 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 in the [Student Guidebook](#)

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: [Britannica Article about Netiquette](#)

#### **TAMUC Attendance**

For more information about the attendance policy, please visit this link: [Attendance](#)

#### **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 Students Academic Integrity Policy and Form**

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03 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 Services Velma K. Waters Library- Room 162 **Phone (903) 886-5930**  
Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: [StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu](mailto:StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu)

Website: <https://www.tamuc.edu/student-disability-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.

## **A&M-Commerce Supports Students' Mental Health Counseling Center 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](http://www.tamuc.edu/counsel)

## COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Course Schedule (Dates and assignments are subject to change at instructor's discretion)

Your instructor is going to be out for surgery for six weeks (Sept. 12 – Oct. 24). During that time, all coursework will be online. **Responses to readings will be due Wednesday before midnight. All other work for that time period will be due Friday before midnight.**

Week	Date	Topics and Activities	Readings	Assignments Due
1	8/28	M – Music Monday: “F tha Police” NWA T – Course Introduction; Narrative Essay W – Plagiarism TH – The Narrative – It matters how you tell a story F – Couto	“War of the Clowns” – Mia Couto	M-In-class MM presentations TH – Response to “War of the Clowns”
2	9/4	M – LABOR DAY; NO SCHOOL T – The Writing Process W – Pinker; Ideologies TH – Organizing the Essay F – Peer Review	“In Defense of Dangerous Ideas” – Steven Pinker	T – Response to Dangerous Ideas” F – In-class peer review
3	9/11	M – Music Monday: “For What it’s Worth” Buffalo Springfield T – Writing the Hook W – Tan TH – In Class Reading/Writing F – Peer Review	“Mother Tongue” – Amy Tan	M – In-class MM presentations Response to “Mother Tongue” Peer reviews due Friday  9/13 Fall Census Date

4	9/18	M – Music Monday: “Born in the USA” Bruce Springsteen T - Thesis Statement W– Duhigg T – In Class Reading/Writing F – Peer Review	“How <i>Frozen</i> was Almost a Failure” – Charles Duhigg	MM Discussions Response to “How <i>Frozen</i> Was Almost a Failure” Peer Review Due Friday
5	9/25	M – Music Monday: “Ohio” Neil Young T – Writing the Introduction W– Malcolm X T – In Class Reading/Writing F – Peer Review	Learning to Read – Malcolm X	MM Discussions Response to "Learning to Read" Peer Review <b>F- BEFORE MIDNIGHT ESSAY 1 DUE 9/29</b>
6	10/2	M – Music Monday: “Cotton Mill Blues” Pete Seeger T– Essay 2 – The Definition Essay W– Gregory TH – In Class Reading/Writing F– Peer Review	Shame – Dick Gregory	MM Discussions Response to “Shame” Peer Review
7	10/9	M – No School T – Body Paragraphs W– Ronson TH – In class Reading/Writing F– Peer Review	God That was Awesome – Jon Ronson	Response to “God that was Awesome” Peer Review
8	10/16	M- No School T– Writing the Conclusion W– Gladwell T – In Class Reading/Writing F– Peer Review	No Mercy – Malcolm Gladwell	Response to “No Mercy” Peer Review



<b>9</b>	10/23	M– Music Monday: “Strange Fruit” Billie Holiday T– Tone v. Mood W– Wang T– In Class Reading/Writing F– Peer Review	I’m Chronically Ill and Afraid of Being Lazy – Wang	MM Discussion T - Response to “I’m Chronically Ill and Afraid of Being Lazy” F – Peer Review <b>Essay 2 due 10/27</b>
<b>10</b>	10/30	M– Music Monday: “Killing in the Name” Rage Against the Machine T– Essay 3 – Critical Analysis Essay W– Orwell T – In Class Reading/Writing F– Peer Review	Shooting an Elephant – George Orwell	M – MM Group Presentation T – Response to “Shooting an Elephant” F – Peer Review <b>LAST DAY TO DROP 11/2</b>
<b>11</b>	11/6	M– Music Monday: “This is America” Childish Gambino T– Deconstructing a presented argument using pathos, logos, and ethos W– hooks T– In Class Reading/Writing F– Peer Review	Confronting Class in the Classroom – bell hooks	M – MM Group Presentation T – Response to “Confronting Class in the Classroom” F – Peer Review

<b>12</b>	11/13	M – Music Monday: “Trouble Every Day” Frank Zappa and The Mothers of Invention T– Tone v. Mood W –King T – In Class Reading/Writing F – Peer Review	Letter from Birmingham Jail – Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.	M – MM Presentations T – “Letter from Birmingham Jail” F – Peer Review <b>Essay 3 Due 11/17</b>
<b>13</b>	11/20	M– Music Monday: “The Bigger Picture” Lil Baby T– Essay 4 – The Research Essay W– Friedman T– In Class Reading/Writing F– Peer Review	What is Crime? - Lawrence Friedman	M – MM Presentations T – Response to “What is Crime?” F – Peer Review
14	11/27	No Classes – Thanksgiving Week		
<b>15</b>	12/4	M – Music Monday: “Fortunate Son” Creedence Clearwater Revival T – Using Quotes W – Works Cited T – In class writing F– Peer Review		M – MM Presentations F – Peer Review
<b>16</b>	12/11	M – Music Monday “A Change is Gonna Come” Sam Cooke T – End of Semester wrap-up W – Final Due T – End of course survey F – Dream Boards		M – MM Presentations  <b>W - Essay 4 Due 12/13</b>