English 681 (01W): Academic Discourse
Summer 2024

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION
Instructor: Dr. Charles Woods
Pronouns: he/him/his
Email: charles.woods@tamuc.edu
Office Location: Talbot Hall of Languages 326/Online
Office Hours: By appointment
Phone: 903-886-5260
Meeting Information: This section of ENG 681: Academic Discourse is online, self-propelled, and asynchronous.

COURSE INFORMATION
Textbooks
Required Textbooks
1. *Teachers Talking Writing: Perspectives on Places, Pedagogies, and Programs* by Shane A. Wood
2. *Explanation Points: Publishing in Rhetoric and Composition,* edited by John R. Gallagher and Dànielle Nicole DeVoss

Additional Required Materials
1. Course readings (articles, excerpts, digital media) made available via D2L
2. Digital storage (flash drive, cloud storage, etc.)

Note: You should check your email and D2L daily for updates pertaining to ENG 681.

Course Description
ENG 681 – Academic Discourse
Hours: 3
A workshop-based course designed to introduce graduate students to the nature of academic writing. Students will analyze their own texts and published scholarship with the goals of refining or producing texts that reflect the conversations associated with academic discourse and identifying strategies that will assist in developing a unique but professional voice/style.

The *syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

Student Learning Outcomes

Through a mixture of reading, writing, and discussion throughout the Summer I term, students will:

- Analyze a variety of texts to identify what makes a work effective (or not).
- Become familiar with academic genres such as conference proposals and abstracts.
- Consider how to approach academic and public audiences.
- Incorporate discourse associated with the discipline (English Studies).
- Recognize and include the work of key scholars associated with the field or subfield in which your work is situated.
- Demonstrate an awareness of academic discourse and apply these understandings to their own writing.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

You will need regular access to the internet, digital storage (hardware or cloud storage), a valid working TAMUC email address, knowledge of D2L, and a computer with a word processing software.

Instructional Methods

The modality for this 2024 Summer I section of ENG 681: Academic Discourse is online and the delivery is asynchronous. Students enrolled in ENG 681: Academic Discourse do not meet in person. We will follow institutional protocols if TAMUC reconsiders instructional methods during the term.

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

Your success in ENG 681: Academic Discourse is tied to active participation in digital spaces (D2L), including the completion of all readings, activities, and assignments throughout the course.

GENERAL OVERVIEW OF REQUIRED WORK

As a student enrolled in ENG 681: Academic Discourse, expect to post regularly to discussion boards, prepare a rhetorical analysis of a scholarly article in your area, develop an overview of an academic journal in your area, and work through the revision process.

In brief, you will work through the following tasks each week. Further details are provided on the ENG 681: Academic Discourse Course Schedule document.

- **Weekly Message:** Weekly Messages will be released on Mondays. Part of your weekly readings/assignments is to read these messages.

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- **Research:** Your research should be ongoing throughout the course. You should seek out research in your area of English Studies to complete activities and assignments for the course.
- **Write:** You will perform writing and revision assignments designed to hone your academic writing. This includes discussion board posts and the rhetorical analysis, among other activities.
- **Discuss:** Respond to your peers' writing and discussion boards as designated in the Course Schedule.

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

A = 90%-100%
B = 80%-89%
C = 70%-79%
D = 60%-69%
F = 59% or Below

Assessments

Memo of Introduction	5%
Rhetorical Analysis	20%
Journal Analysis	20%
Discussion Boards	30%
Final Project	20%
Reflection Essay	5%

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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: https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements
- LMS Browser Support: https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm
- YouSeeU Virtual Classroom Requirements: https://support.youseeu.com/hc/en-us/articles/115007031107-Basic-SystemRequirements

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, the TAMUC library, 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 the 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 here: https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport.

Interaction with Instructor Statement
I will work to respond to emails quickly during the week since this is an asynchronous online class. Please nudge me with a second email if a considerable amount of time has passed and you have not heard from me.

Writing Center
The TAMUC Writing Center offers writers free, one-on-one assistance. We welcome all writers, majors, and disciplines—undergraduate and graduate students alike. In fact, we

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work from the premise that all writers, no matter their ability level, benefit from the feedback of knowledgeable readers. The Writing Center staff is trained to provide writers with just this service. In short, we are here to help you help yourself. The Writing Center offers one-on-one sessions with writers—both face-to-face and online—begin on the hour and last up to 45 minutes. You cannot sign up for back-to-back appointments (for instance, you cannot sign up for sessions at both 1 p.m. and 2 p.m.), but you may sign up for as many appointments as you'd like each day and week. For more information, visit https://www.tamuc.edu/writing-center

COURSE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Syllabus Change Policy

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

Attendance Policy

As mentioned earlier, active participation is the key to success in this section of ENG 681: Academic Discourse. Therefore, timeliness is required for assignments. Consistently failing to actively participate or submit assignments on time will impede your ability to pass this class.

Late Work

ENG 681: Academic Discourse in Summer I (2024) is a consolidated graduate course during an abbreviated term. **It is imperative to our success as a class that your assignments are turned in on time.** The acceptance and assessment of late work in this section of ENG 681: Academic Discourse is on a case-by-case basis. Late work will result in a grade reduction at the discretion of the instructor. Consistently turning in late work will impede your ability to pass the class. Extensions for the final exam are unavailable.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND 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. http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette

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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 13.99.99.R0.03](#)
- [Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)
- [http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/documents/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf](#)
- [Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)
- [http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/graduateschool/faculty/GraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyFormold.pdf](#)
- [http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf](#)

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 Information
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](#)
[http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/](#)

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.

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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](http://www.tamuc.edu) document and/or consult your event organizer. Web url: http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf.

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&MCommerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903886-5868 or 9-1-1.

A&M-Commerce Supports Students' Mental Health

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**

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