



**ENG 2326.90E (22421)**  
**Introduction to Literature**  
**CHS Room 116**  
**7:45-8:33**  
**COURSE SYLLABUS Spring 2025**

“Take Advantage of the today and place no trust in tomorrow/ Carpe diem, quam minimum credula postero “

Under construction

**Instructor: Dr. von Neuhaus**

**Office Location:** Ferguson, room 130

**Office Hours:** by appointment

**CHS Classroom Location: Room 116**

**Office Phone:** N/A on campus or (903) 886.3756

**University Email Address:** [Frank.vonNeuhaus@tamuc.edu](mailto:Frank.vonNeuhaus@tamuc.edu)

**Preferred Form of Communication:** Email

**Communication Response Time:** 24 hours during the week, longer on weekends

† Preferred form of Communication: Email Response Time: 24 hours on business days.

- "A man's reach should exceed his grasp." Words from the poet Robert Browning suggest that to achieve anything worthwhile, a person should attempt even those things that may turn out to be impossible. Do not let anybody limit your desires and ambitions.

### COURSE INFORMATION

**Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings:**

ALL TEXTS PROVIDED IN CLASS OR DIGITALLY

**Course Description:**

English 2326: Introduction to Literature

An introduction to literature continues the attention to effective composition and improved reading skills developed in previous English courses. The reading in this course will examine three major literary genres (poetry, drama, and fiction) and possibly some aspects of film as it relates to literature. We will work together to improve your analytical and critical reading and writing skills. Prerequisite: ENG 1302.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

1. Students will be able to analyze, evaluate, or solve problems when given a set of circumstances, data, texts, or art.
2. In written, oral, and/or visual communication, A&M-Commerce students will communicate appropriately for the audience and occasion, with an evident message and organizational structure.
3. Students will understand and practice academic honesty.
4. Students will demonstrate awareness of societal and/or civic issues.

### **TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS**

#### **LMS (Learning Management System)**

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

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](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-System-Requirements>

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool

[https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom\\_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu](https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu)

#### **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>

#### **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 coursework 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**

Please contact your instructor with any questions you may have. **Your instructor's communication preference is e-mail, and her address is: [Frank.vonNeuhaus@tamuc.edu](mailto:Frank.vonNeuhaus@tamuc.edu)** Also, each instructor in the Department of Literature and Languages is required to keep at least three office hours per course per week. These are kept at the high school to be more convenient for dual-credit high school students.

### Grievances

Students who have concerns regarding their courses should first address those concerns with the assigned instructor in order to reach a resolution. Students who are unsatisfied with the outcome of that conversation or have not been able to meet individually with their instructor, whether in person, by email, by telephone, or by another communication medium, should then schedule an appointment with the Director of Writing, Dr. Ashanka Kumari, by emailing her ([ashanka.kumari@tamuc.edu](mailto:ashanka.kumari@tamuc.edu)). Before an appointment is scheduled, the student must provide clearly documented and explained issues as to why the meeting is being requested. The student must also state when they discussed the issue in person or via phone (not email) with the instructor already. Where applicable, students should also consult University Procedure 13.99.99.R0.05 (“Student Appeal of Instructor Evaluation”).

### Departmental Chain of Command for ENG 100/1301/1302 courses:

Instructor -> Dr. Ashanka Kumari, Director of Writing -> Dr. Karen Roggenkamp, Assistant Department Head or Dr. Hunter Hayes, Department Head

### Writing Center

The Writing Center (or the “Communication Skills Center”) offers writers free, one-on-one assistance. We welcome all writers, majors, and disciplines—undergraduate and graduate students alike. Research shows that all writers benefit from sharing their work with a focused reader. The Writing Center staff is trained to support writers in any stage of the writing process (from a blank page to polishing the sentences), and we work with writers to verbalize writing goals and stay on track to finish larger writing projects. The writers with whom we work bring projects like important emails, weekly writing assignments, midterm and final essays, and theses and dissertations. The Writing Center will re-open for Fall 2021 after the semester begins. If you'd like to make an appointment, email us [at\\_writing.tamuc@gmail.com](mailto:at_writing.tamuc@gmail.com).

### Tutoring

The tutoring center is located in Velma K. Waters Library on the TAMUC campus. It is on the second floor in room #201C. This service is available to any university student, including Pride Prep and Dual Credit. For help with coursework, please visit the tutoring center or make an appointment for online tutoring services at: <http://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/campusservices/AcademicSuccessCenter/tutorInfo/default.aspx>

### Library Services

Velma K. Waters Library is located in the center of the TAMUC campus. Their services are available to any university student, including Pride Prep and Dual Credit students. They can assist with research, books, and other library services. You can find help and more information at <https://www.tamuc.edu/library/>.

### Collection of Data for Measuring Institutional Effectiveness

In order to measure the level of compliance with the university’s Institutional Effectiveness guidelines throughout the semester, I will collect some of the ungraded texts you produce. The texts will be part of a portfolio created on your behalf and will be measured to ensure that our program “promotes practices that result in higher student academic achievement; an enhanced student experience; aligned and transparent decisions; and readily available information for improvement, accountability, and accreditation” (see “Department of Institutional Effectiveness,” <http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutus/institutionalEffectiveness/default.aspx>). This is solely an assessment of program effectiveness and in no way affects students’ course grades or GPAs.

## COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

**Course Specific Procedures:** online course: keep up with all assignments.

### *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](#).

<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>

#### **Attendance Policy**

This is an online course, and due dates are required for assignments during the semester and considered attendance.

Attendance is required in a face-to-face setting for all sections of this course. Attendance will be taken and used in factoring grades for the participation grade for the semester. Communication is key when-

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#### **TAMUC Attendance**

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).  
<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

#### **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](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

*"There is a passion in the human heart that is called aspiration. It flares with the noble flame, and by its light, Man has traveled from the cave of darkness to the darkness of outer space. But when this passion called aspiration becomes lust/power/negative ambition, then aspiration degenerates becomes vulgar ambition, by which sin the angels fell."*

### **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- Room 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: [studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu](mailto: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.

### **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.

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&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

### **Department or Accrediting Agency Required Content**

**Departmental-Specific Procedures**

**Student Grievance Procedure**

Students who have concerns regarding their courses should first address those concerns with the assigned instructor in order to reach a resolution. Students who are unsatisfied with the outcome of that conversation or have not been able to meet individually with their instructor, whether in-person, by email, by telephone, or by another communication medium, should then schedule an appointment with the Department Head or Assistant Department Head by completing a Student Grievance Form (available in the main office, HL 141). In the event that the instructor is the Department Head, the student should schedule a meeting with the Dean of the College of Arts, Sciences, and Humanities after following the steps outlined above; if the instructor is the Assistant Department Head, students should schedule a meeting with the Department Head. Where applicable, students should also consult [University Procedure 13.99.99.R0.05 \(“Student Appeal of Instructor Evaluation”\)](#).

### Collection of Data for Measuring Institutional Effectiveness

In order to measure the level of compliance with the accreditation, throughout the semester I may collect some of the ungraded texts you produce solely for an assessment of program effectiveness that in no way affects students’ course grades or GPAs.

### COURSE REQUIREMENTS

#### GRADING

90%-100%= A, 80-89%= B, 70-79%= C, 60-69%= D, 59% & below= F

Assignment Name	Percentage of Grade
*Writing Assignment #1:Quotes	10%
*Writing Assignment #2: Poetry	10%
*Writing Assignment #3: Short Stories	10%
*Writing Assignment #4: Plays	10%
*Writing Assignment #5: TV series	10%
*Writing Assignment #6: TV commercials	10%
*Writing Assignment # 7: Inspirational person	10%
*Miscellaneous Assignments (various assignments)	15%
*Final Project (a novel)	15%
“A man’s reach should exceed his grasp”	
Total	100%

### \*EXPLANATION OF ASSIGNMENTS

\*Be creative with your assignments, as they do not have to be all in essay form, as other formats are acceptable such as powerpoints, recordings, videos, audio, questions with answers, task cards, a comic strip, start a blog, survey students on Facebook interview students, create documentary film, Q R code, etc. **You may use written, oral, and/or visual communication to fulfill the requirements for this course; again, it is okay to be creative.**

\*WA 1 – (10%) Noted quotes or memorial lines. (Provided in D2L)

Students will choose **three** noted quotes or memorial lines : (1) summarize the meanings and (2) as they relate to your circumstances and either write a 1-2 page paper (250-500 words). If completed in an essay format, please use MLA format with a works cited page. The assignment may be fulfilled in another format. **You may use written, oral, and/or visual communication to fulfill the requirements for this assignment. It is okay to be creative.**

\*WA 2 – (10%) Poetry

Students will choose a poem (one assigned) and write a 1-3 page paper (250-750 words) summary of the poem, the poet, and how it relates to their circumstances. If completed in an essay format, please use MLA format with a works cited page. **You may use written, oral, and/or visual communication to fulfill the requirements for this assignment. It is okay to be creative.**

\*WA 3 – (10%) Short Stories

Students will choose a short story (one assigned) and write a 1-3 page paper (250-750 words) analyzing the short story for its plot... and how it relates to their circumstances. If completed in an essay format, please use MLA format with a works cited page. **You may use written, oral, and/or visual communication to fulfill the requirements for this assignment. It is okay to be creative.**

\*WA 4 – (10%) Plays

Students will choose a play and write a 1-3 page paper (250-750 words) analyzing the play and how it relates to contemporary times/your circumstances. If completed in an essay format, please use MLA format with a works cited page. **You may use written, oral, and/or visual communication to fulfill the requirements for this assignment. It is okay to be creative.**

\*WA 5 - (10%) Television Series

The student will choose a television series, contemporary or older, and write a 1-3 page paper (250-750 words) summarizing the series and how it relates to your circumstances. If completed in an essay format, please use MLA format with a works cited page. **You may use written, oral, and/or visual communication to fulfill the requirements for this assignment. It is okay to be creative.**

\*WA 6 – (10%) Television commercial

The student will choose a television commercial, contemporary or older, and write a 1-3 page paper (250-750 words) summarizing the ad and how it relates to your circumstances or why you fancy it. If completed in an essay format, please use MLA format with works cited page. **You may use written, oral, and/or visual communication to fulfill the requirements for this assignment. It is okay to be creative.**

\*WA 7- (10%) Inspirational Person

Robert Browning (Poet) suggested, “To achieve anything worthwhile, a person should attempt even those things that may turn out to be impossible.” In other words, “A Man’s reach should exceed his grasp.” In your lives, what inspirational figure (Literacy figure) influences you? The person may or may not have achieved what he/she was seeking, but still, the person reached for the stars. For instance, John Brown (1850s). **You may use, written, oral, and/or visual communication to fulfill the requirements for this assignment. It is okay to be creative.**

\*Miscellaneous (15%)

Various assignments during the semester, e.g., civility, global world, plagiarism...

**\*Final Project – (15%)**

Find a novel of your liking, and choose one of the following options (1) compare and contrast it with a movie version, or (2) how do you connect to the novel? You have many choices in fulfilling this assignment: written essay form, PowerPoint, video, ..... **You may use written, oral, and/or visual communication to fulfill the requirements for this assignment. It is okay to be creative.**

**Plagiarism Statement**

Many people think of plagiarism as copying another's work or borrowing someone else's original ideas. But terms like "copying" and "borrowing" can disguise the seriousness of the offense:

**According to the Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary, to "plagiarize" means**

1. to steal and pass off (the ideas or words of another) as one's own
2. to use (another's production) without crediting the source
3. to commit literary theft
4. to present a new and original idea or product derived from an existing source.

In other words, plagiarism is an act of fraud. It involves both stealing someone else's work and lying about it afterward.

**But can words and ideas be stolen?**

According to U.S. law, the answer is yes. The expression of original ideas is considered intellectual property and is protected by copyright laws, just like original inventions. Almost all forms of expression fall under copyright protection as long as they are recorded in some way (such as a book or a computer file).

**All of the following are considered plagiarism:**

1. turning in someone else's work as your own
2. copying words or ideas from someone else without giving credit
3. failing to put a quotation in quotation marks
4. providing incorrect information about the source of a quotation
5. changing words but copying the sentence structure of a source without giving credit
6. copying so many words or ideas from a source that it makes up the majority of your work, whether you give credit or not (see our section on "fair use" rules)

Most cases of plagiarism can be avoided, however, by citing sources. Simply acknowledging that specific material has been borrowed, and providing your audience with the information necessary to find that source, is usually enough to prevent plagiarism. If you have retained the essential idea of a source, and have not cited it, then no matter how drastically you may have altered its context or presentation, you have still plagiarized." ([www.plagiarism.org](http://www.plagiarism.org))

**If you plagiarize, you will receive a ZERO for the assignment in question. I also reserve the right to give you an F in the course. The matter will be referred to the Office of the Dean of the College of Humanities, Social Sciences, and Arts.**

**Important Fall Dates**

First Class Day – January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025

MLK, Jr. Day---January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025, no classes

Spring Break --- March 10<sup>th</sup> --14<sup>th</sup>, no classes

Last class day --- May 2<sup>nd</sup>

Finals—May 3<sup>rd</sup>—9<sup>th</sup>

Pride Prep class only: no Friday classes, but there will be assignments



Attendance Policy: as required by your high school.

## COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

### Weekly Schedule:

The instructor reserves the right to adjust this schedule throughout the semester to accommodate for class needs, unexpected weather, etc. This is highly likely to change due to the fluidity of the semester. All changes will be announced within D2L.

### Week 1

01/13 First Week of Class: Course Overview  
Miscellaneous 1 (videos (2): the History of the English language

### Week 2

01/20 Quotes  
 W.A. 1 “Noted quotes or memorial lines”  
 Poetry The Trojan War *The Illiad*

### Week 3

01/27 Poetry  
*The Odyssey*

### Week 4

02/3 Poetry  
*Oedipus ...*  
Miscellaneous 2 (Poems)

### Week 5

02/10 Poetry  
 Dante Allegieri *Divine Comedy*

### Week 6

02/17 Poetry  
 Dante Allegieri *Divine Comedy*  
 W.A. 2 “Poetry”

### Week 7

02/24 Short Stories  
Miscellaneous 3 (Short Stories)

### Week 8

03/3 Short Stories  
 W.A.3 “Short Stories”

