



**English 1302, 92W**  
**Written Argument and Research**  
COURSE SYLLABUS: SPRING 2025

**INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

Instructor: Chasity Woolbright  
Office Location: Virtual - <https://tamuc.zoom.us/j/7225239419>  
Office Hours: Virtual- Tuesday/Thursday 3-5  
University Email Address: [Chasity.Stafford@tamuc.edu](mailto:Chasity.Stafford@tamuc.edu)  
Communication Response Time: within 48 business hours

**COURSE INFORMATION**

**Textbook(s) Required:** For this course, we will be using a platform called Top Hat that is included through East Texas A&M's Inclusive Access fee that was charged to your bursar account when you registered for this course. **You will not need to make any additional purchases.** Top Hat will be accessible through our course shell in D2L. While you will receive an email about being able to opt out of this inclusive access, Top Hat is required for the course.

To gain access to Top Hat, you will create an account using your LeoMail (university email) when you receive an email from the campus bookstore. Be on the lookout for this email at the start of the semester. If you have any issues with Top Hat, you should contact [support@tophat.com](mailto:support@tophat.com).

To join Top Hat, you must click on the *Top Hat* link in your D2L course on a web browser. A Deep Link or the Top Hat launch link should be in the "Content" menu. Upon being re-directed to Top Hat, you can create an account if you are new to Top Hat or log in if you have an existing account. ***Please follow your teacher's specific directions and report any access issues immediately.***

Through Top Hat, you will gain access to the following course materials:

Johnson, Gavin P., Ashanka Kumari, Emily Littlejohn, Brian McShane, and Rachel McShane, Eds. *Writing Inquiry* [2023 edition]. Top Hat.

**Software Required:**

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

- D2L
- Top Hat
- LeoMail
- A word processing program: *Students have free access to [Office 365](#).*

## Course Description

**ENG 1302 – GLB/US Written Argument/Research • 3 credit hours.** This course provides students with advanced training in communication skills emphasizing the writing and reading of argumentative prose and adapting writing to alternate audiences. Students will write weekly, including such texts as journals, reading response logs, summaries of argumentative texts, argumentative papers, and longer papers integrating secondary research. Activities include close reading of sample texts, both student and professional. Some sections will emphasize special topics in both reading and writing. Prerequisites: Grade of C or better in English 1301 or advanced placement or CLEP.

## Core Curriculum Course Objectives

- **Critical Thinking Skills:** to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information;
- **Communication Skills:** to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication;
- **Teamwork:** to include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal;
- **Personal Responsibility:** to include the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making.

## English 1302 Learning Outcomes

- **Define** important terms/concepts including, but not limited to, literacy, community, research, ethics, knowledge, ethnography, and writing processes;
- **Discuss** the ways these terms expand based on cultural and communicative practices;
- **Locate** scholarly research related to key terms/concepts;
- **Examine** scholarly, personal, and/or multimodal texts that detail varying understandings and applications of key terms/concepts;
- **Develop** writing and research processes appropriate for ethically studying the literacy of a specific community;
- **Engage** in collaboration that supports individualized and communal understanding and writing development;
- **Collect** primary ethnographic data;
- **Organize** collected data in order to understand specific literacy community practices;
- **Consider** the various affordances and constraints of composing using different technologies (analog, digital, and/or multimodal), research methods, practices, styles, and/or languages;
- **Compose** texts across different genres and media of writing that further expand key terms/concepts based on primary ethnographic research and engagement with trustworthy secondary research;

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- **Reflect** on your writing experiences and literacy practices;
- **Design** individualized learning goals appropriate for a first-year writing course; and
- **Assess** individualized learning goals based on labor and performance alongside feedback from peers and the instructor.

## **Instructional Methods**

This course is completed online. For dual credit students, you are allotted time in your proctored class to work on this course. It is your responsibility to ensure you have the proper resources to be able to work on the assignments- charged computer with login access to D2L and Top Hat. There are reading and writing assignments due each week. Instructions, weekly discussions, and assignments will be under the weekly content in D2L course shell. Assignments and discussion can also be found on D2L under Activities -> Discussions and Assignments. Unless otherwise noted, all assignments and/or posts for discussions are due by 11:59pm on Fridays. All major assignments, unless otherwise noted, will be due by 11:59pm on the due date (usually Fridays).

Late assignments are not accepted past the due date. However, in extreme circumstances, exceptions may be made if prior notice is given to the instructor. In such cases, late work will only be accepted for major writing assignments, excluding the final portfolio, due to university deadlines. Communication is key; any questions regarding assignments or expectations should be emailed directly to me.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

### **Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course**

- Stay active by consistently completing assignments.
- Dedicate time to assigned readings on Top Hat for deeper understanding.
- Actively participate in course discussions to share and learn.
- Approach complex writing questions critically and analytically.
- Stay organized, meet deadlines, and take accountability.
- Take responsibility for your academic success.
- Develop problem-solving skills and strive for independence.
- Take initiative without relying on professors or classmates.
- Carefully read and follow directions independently.
- Accept consequences for mistakes and use them as learning opportunities.
- Ask questions
- Stay organized and engage in time management strategies.
- Monitor your progress by checking your grades and feedback regularly.

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## COURSE ASSESSMENT

As an instructor, my approach to classroom assessment is to check for understanding of the content through discussions, writing assignments, and projects. Feedback will be given in multiple forms including writing response to assignments or general class discussions.

Midterm and 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

Weights of the assessments in the calculation of the final letter grade.

<b>Writing Assignments</b>	<b>40%</b>
Writing Histories and Your Goals Reflection	<i>complete/incomplete</i>
Considering Communities and Literacies	10%
Preliminary Topic Proposal and Annotated Bibliography	10%
Ethnographic Research Proposal	10%
The Learning Showcase	10%
<b>English 1302 Semester Portfolio</b>	<b>40%</b>
<b>Writing Activities</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>Top Hat Questions</b>	<b>10%</b>
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<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>

### Assignments

Full prompts for assignments are available in Top Hat and/or D2L. Most assignments will be given weekly, although larger assignments will be given in advance.

- *Writing Histories* assignment: is to see where you are in regard to understanding literacy outside of “the ability to read and write.”
- *Considering Communities and Literacies*: explain your understanding in relation to a discourse community that you belong to.

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- *The Preliminary Topic Proposal & Annotated Bibliography*: find a general discourse community that you are interested in studying for the remainder of the semester while gathering academic sources to support your research.
- *The Ethnographic Research Proposal* is perhaps the most important assignment of the semester as it is required to pass the course. Each student must have an approved community to study by the due date listed on the schedule; without an approved Ethnographic Research Proposal, you cannot complete ethical research.
- *Semester Portfolio* : A culmination of all of your work on your research project and worth 40% of your final grade in the course.
- *The Learning Showcase*: a presentation of your research and writing on your semester portfolio. You have the opportunity to present on campus at the designated time or turn in a video presentation in D2L.
- *Writing Activities* are online discussions, pre-writing activities, drafts, peer reviews, conferences, and anything else that is not a major assignment.
- *Top Hat* questions are participation points as long as you do them correctly. You will be given readings on Top Hat, many of which will have questions for you to answer both before and after you read. If you do not do the Top Hat readings, then you will struggle in this course as Top Hat is our text book.

## TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

### Minimal Technical Skills Needed

#### LMS

All course sections offered by East Texas A&M University 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](https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm)

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)

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## 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 East Texas A&M campus open computer lab, etc.

## COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

### Course Specific Procedures/Policies

- A. Communication: Effective communication is key to your success in this course. If you foresee a circumstances that impact your success in the course, email me.
- B. Course Attendance: For online courses, the general guideline is to login every, check e-mail daily Monday through Friday, and log in regularly to D2L course shell. I am able to see login history and track your session in the course, so students should participate in class frequently, engaging with the professor, with the other students, and submitting assignments prior to deadlines. Attendance starts on the first scheduled day on which the class meets.
- C. No late work will be accepted unless extreme circumstances which have already been communicated with the instructor. No late work will be accepted for Top Hat assignments.
- D. MLA Style and Format: A vital aspect of the course is the correct use of the Modern Language Association (MLA) style for assignment format, documentation and citation. Deductions will be made on assignments not properly formatted. ALL assignments MUST be:
  - COMPLETELY double-spaced with NO spaces between header information
  - (name, professor's name, class, date)
  - No extra space between paragraphs
  - In 12-point type ONLY (no larger or smaller);
  - Times New Roman font ONLY
- E. Incomplete Assignments: Assignments that do not meet the minimum word count requirement will not be accepted and will receive an automatic zero. Partial credit is not awarded for incomplete work in this course. Students are responsible for checking the word count requirement for each assignment and ensuring their submissions meet at least the minimum requirement.
- F. Submission of Assignments: Assignments MUST be submitted in either .doc, .docx, or .pdf formats. I CANNOT open documents uploaded in .pages or .gdoc

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format. It is imperative that students upload assignments correctly before the deadlines. All major essays will receive an origination (plagiarism and AI writing) report through the Turnitin system. Technological issues are NOT valid excuses for work not submitted by the portal deadline. Assignments MUST be uploaded to the D2L portal for proper grading and should not be e-mailed to the professor under any circumstances. Please do not email the professor excuses after the penalty deadline for why assignments are not submitted on time unless it is an extreme circumstance. For final presentations, your videos may take longer than usual to upload, so plan accordingly.

G. Disruptive/Disrespectful Behavior will not be tolerated.

### **Interaction with Instructor Statement**

All formal communication with the instructor is via my university email [chacity.stafford@tamuc.edu](mailto:chacity.stafford@tamuc.edu) ; Please use your university email to email me with your section number for a quicker response. I typically respond to emails within 24-48 hours throughout the week.

### **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 **Dr. Gavin P. Johnson, the Director of Writing** ([gavin.johnson@tamuc.edu](mailto:gavin.johnson@tamuc.edu)). In the case when the Director of Writing is the instructor, the student should contact **Dr. Christian Hempelmann, Chair of the Department of Literature and Languages** ([c.hempelmann@tamuc.edu](mailto:c.hempelmann@tamuc.edu)). Where applicable, students should also consult University Procedure 13.99.99.R0.05 ("Student Appeal of Instructor Evaluation").

### **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).  
<http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

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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>

### **Nondiscrimination Notice**

East Texas A&M University 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.

### **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/rulesProcedure/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

### **AI Use in Courses**

East Texas A&M University acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, ChatBots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course.

Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism).

Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors' guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed.

In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.

13.99.99.R0.03 Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty

13.99.99.R0.10 Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty

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## **Academic Integrity**

Students at East Texas A&M University 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>

## **Collection of Data for Measuring Institutional Effectiveness**

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.

## **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**

East Texas A&M University

Velma K. Waters Library Rm 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/>

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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 East Texas A&M University 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 East Texas A&M 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/rulesProcedure/s/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

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

## **RESOURCES**

### **East Texas A&M Supports Students' Mental Health**

The Counseling Center at East Texas A&M, 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)

### **Writing Center**

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

### **Library**

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The Velma Waters Library supports the research, learning and teaching interests of students, faculty and staff. Connect with a librarian, explore our research and course guides, and attend workshops.

- **Chat with a Librarian!** Get immediate assistance with our [chat service](#) on the main Library page: <https://www.tamuc.edu/library/>
- **Email** [ask@tamuc.libanswers.com](mailto:ask@tamuc.libanswers.com). We will respond to your email within 24 hours, often much sooner.
- **Text** your question to 903.225.2862.
- **Call** the Waters Library at 903.886.5718 or contact the librarian for your college/department to discuss your research needs.
- **Meet With Us!** Don't stay up all night searching Google. Schedule a one-on-one consultation held in-person or via Zoom with the librarian for your college/academic department.
- **Visit Us!** We'd love to meet you in-person!
  - Waters Library Research Office: Second Floor, Room 213
  - Waters Library University Archives: 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Room 406A
  - A&M – Commerce at Mesquite Metroplex Center: Second Floor, Study Room

### **Student Career Preparedness Office**

Meet with career advisors who can help you with the resources and tools needed to prepare you for your next phase after graduation and beyond. To schedule an appointment, you can either call 903.468.3223, emailing [hirealion@tamuc.edu](mailto:hirealion@tamuc.edu) or go online by clicking [schedule an appointment](#).

### **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>

### **COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR**

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