



ENG 595 01W, 21473, Research Lit/Techniques

COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2026

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Salvatore Attardo

Office Location: Talbot Hall (Hall of Languages) 306

Office Hours: M-F 3:00 - 4:00 pm (by appointment and on zoom only)

Office Phone: 903-886-5260

Office Fax: 903-886-5980

University Email Address: salvatore.attardo@etamu.edu

Preferred Form of Communication: **email**

Communication Response Time: 1 business day (feedback on writing, 1 week)

Zoom meeting link: <https://tamuc.zoom.us/j/6458619518>

COURSE INFORMATION

This course is the capstone course for the MA/MS in Applied Linguistics. It is not intended for the English MA/MS.

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Textbook(s) Required: none. Recommended: APA manual 7th edition.

Software Required: access to LMS/D2L

Optional Texts and/or Materials: all other materials are included in the shell, this includes the Comprehensive exam.

Course Description

Required of students who opt for the 36-hour Masters. This course requires an extensive investigation into a topic agreed upon by the student and the advisory committee. It also requires passing a comprehensive exam, which is reported separately to the graduate school. Information on the comprehensive exam and a practice test are provided in the course.

ENG 595 is designed to provide graduate students with an opportunity to familiarize themselves with the techniques, procedures, methods, and approaches to undertaking scholarly research and participating in the modes of idea exchange and critical rigor. In this particular iteration of ENG 595, the emphasis is on becoming a professional linguistic writer. Students enrolled in this course will take a methodical approach to understanding how research is produced, evaluated, and conducted in the many fields of linguistics. Furthermore, since research methods vary a great deal, students will be expected to be an expert in their specific area. Students will also be expected to have a working knowledge of research

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methods, as covered in ENG 599, for example. Those students needing instruction on research methods, will negotiate it individually with the instructor. Thus, the course aims to help prepare graduate students for the sorts of research that professionals will expect of them. In practical terms, the students will discuss online or meet (in person or more commonly using other technology: zoom, phone, etc.) with the instructor and will work on a research paper from deciding the topic to turning in the paper for its evaluation.

Student Learning Outcomes (Should be measurable; observable; use action verbs)

1. Write a publication-ready research paper
2. Identify appropriate methods of research in Applied Linguistics
3. Find and appraise the quality of published research
4. Match relevant research questions with the methods in the specific field
5. Select an appropriate outlet for publication
6. Produce and deliver a conference-quality presentation

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Using the learning management system, using Microsoft Word, Web Browser, Google and Google Scholar, or similar search engines, use library web site.

Instructional Methods

The course is delivered entirely online. The course follows the writing of a research paper step by step: from the selection of a research topic, the gathering of sources, their evaluation, the creation of an annotated bibliography, the writing of a proposal/outline, a first draft, a final paper, and a presentation and discussion of the paper. Each step is assessed independently. Class participation (primarily in the form of class discussions, completion of the content, conferences with the instructor) is also part of the assessment (see below). Conferences, as indicated in the calendar, are required by the instructor, who notifies the students when a conference is necessary, but of course students may request conferences at other times as well. Students must pass the comprehensive exam in order to successfully complete the class and be allowed to graduate. The comprehensive exam may be taken more than once, but not more than twice in one semester.

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

- Students will be responsible for familiarizing themselves with the syllabus and all course instructions found in the online course platform
- Students will be responsible for reading all online materials
- Students will be responsible for completing and submitting all assignments online. Acceptable file formats are MSWord (.docx), PDF, .rtf, .txt. All other word processing formats will have to be converted to one of these formats. Preferred format is pdf. The final paper must be in pdf.
- Students will be responsible for contacting the professor via the LMS or email regarding questions on assignments PRIOR to the due date.
- Students are required to have virtual conferences with the instructor as indicated on the syllabus and may also be required to have extra virtual conference(s) with the instructor, especially in the last weeks, at the instructor's discretion. These conferences are part of the class participation.
- Work week: the work week starts on Monday at 0:00 am and ends on Friday at 23:30 (11:30 pm). All assignments are due on Friday at 23:30, unless otherwise indicated in the course. All times are CST. If you are in a different time zone, you will need to make adjustments.

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- Students should follow the order of the assignments. While all lectures and assignments are available from day 1, they should not try to start writing the paper before doing the annotated bibliography, for example.
- Students must pass the comprehensive exam in order to successfully complete the class.
- **Students should always keep a backup of all materials submitted online.**

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

Late work will be penalized or will earn zero points, at the instructor's discretion. Missed exams, quizzes, assignments, etc. will earn zero points, unless PRIOR arrangements had been made with the instructor. In the case of extenuating circumstances beyond the students' reasonable control, the instructor will make a decision on a case-by-cases basis. Failure to back up your work, system failures within the last 30 minutes of a submission window, or student error do not fall under extenuating circumstances. It is the students' responsibility to make sure that the assignments are properly submitted, on time, and backed up in multiple locations.

GRADING

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

Total points corresponding to the final letter grades

- A = 451- 500 Points
- B = 401- 450 Points
- C = 351- 400 Points
- D = 301- 350 Points
- F = 300 & > Points

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

- Class Participation: 10%
- Contract/Proposal: 10%
- First Bibliography: 5%
- Annotated Bibliography 5%
- Comprehensive Exam: 25% [this is reported to the Graduate School]
- Outline for final Paper: 10%
- Draft of paper: 5%
- Presentation and discussion: 25%
- Final paper: 5%

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Course Outline/Calendar

All deadlines are subject to change. Please see the announcements in the LMS. All assignments are due at 11:30 pm on the Friday of the week in which they are due, except the Pinal paper, which is due May 5th at 11:30 pm CST. The comps exam will be taken during the 5th week. If a student fails it, they can retake it by week 14 the last day for which we guarantee that the results of the exam will be Piled on time with the graduate school. If you fail to pass the exam by that deadline you will not be able to graduate this semester.

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Week	Days		all assignments are due the Friday of the week, by 11:30 pm CST (except the final)	
1	Jan 29 to 30		Introductions and topics discussion	Take COMPS by March 20
2	Feb 2 to 6		Topics discussion	
3	Feb 9 to 13		Contract/Proposal	
4	Feb 16 to 20		First bibliography	
5	Feb 23 to 27		Annotated bibliography	
6	March 2 to 6	HRC conference on 6th	Outline of paper	
7	March 9 to 13	Spring break	no class	
8	March 16 to 20		Write paper	
9	March 23 to 27	Deadline to submit comps to Grad school (cannot be changed!)	Write paper & Conferences	All conferences take place if required by instructor or upon request of the student.
10	March 30 to Apr 3		Write paper & Conferences	
11	Apr 6 to 10		First draft of paper due Apr 10, 11:30 pm CST	
12	Apr 13 to 17		Write paper & Conferences	
13	Apr 20 to 24		Write paper & Conferences	Upload slides of presentation
14	Apr 27 to May 1		Presentations (live)	
15	May 4 to 8	Finals week	Final paper due May 5, 11:30 pm CST	

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TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

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

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool

https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu

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@etamu.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 here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES FOR COURSE

CWID and Password

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@etamu.edu.

Technology-Related Issues

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

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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 ETAMU campus open computer lab, etc.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPORT

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.

Learning Management System (LMS) – D2L

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 the technical requirements:

- View the [Learning Management System Requirements Webpage](#).
- Learn more on the [LMS Browser Support Webpage](#).

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](#).

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Interaction with Instructor Statement

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your instructor. Correspondence will always be through university email (your “myLeo” mail) and announcements in myLeo online (D2L). You will not RECEIVE email through D2L, so be sure to check your ETAMU email for communication. Students are encouraged to check university email daily.

Include the Following in Emails with Instructor:

- Course name and subject in the subject line
- Salutation (Good afternoon, Dr. Jackson)
- Proper email etiquette (no “text” emails – use proper grammar and punctuation)
- Student name and CWID after the body of the email (possibly add to student signature on email)

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](#).

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

ETAMU Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy, please view the [Attendance Webpage](#) and the [Class Attendance Policy](#)

Academic Integrity

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

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty University Procedure 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

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

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

Use of Artificial Intelligence

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.

USE OF AI TO GENERATE OR MODIFY ANY TEXT THAT IS PRESENTED AS THE STUDENTS' WORK IS STRICTLY FORBIDDEN. THIS APPLIES ALSO TO EMAILS AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE INSTRUCTOR.

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@etamu.edu

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Website: [Office of Student Disability Services](#)

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.

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 ETAMU 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 East Texas A&M University campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

East Texas A&M Supports Students’ Mental Health – Counseling Services

The Counseling Center at East Texas A&M University, 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

Mental Health and Well-Being

The university aims to provide students with essential knowledge and tools to understand and support mental health. As part of our commitment to your well-being, we offer access to Telus Health, a service available 24/7/365 via chat, phone, or webinar. Scan the QR code to download the app and explore the resources available to you for guidance and support whenever you need it.

