

Revised 06/12/2025



EAST TEXAS A&M

— UNIVERSITY —

ENG 1302- CME 20260

Written Argument and Research

COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2026

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Ms. Ashlee Blount

Office Location: Caddo Mills HS

Office Hours: 9am-1pm Onsite, Zoom Request

Office Phone: [903-527-3164](tel:903-527-3164)

Office Fax: N/A

University Email Address: ashlee.blount@etamu.edu

High School Email: ablount@caddomillsisd.org

Preferred Form of Communication: Caddo or ETAMU Email

Communication Response Time: M-F 24hrs; If you would like a Zoom Meeting, please send an email request with time and date availability.

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Readings, Supplementary Readings Provided within the course shell. Use of TopHat & Writing Spaces, WC Commons, WAC Clearing House, Try This Reading (Imported into D2L).

Software Required:

Free access to Microsoft Office 365 here:

<https://www.microsoft.com/enUS/education/products/office>

Free Access to Adobe Creative Suite here: <https://www.etamu.edu/adobe/>

Course Description

English 1302: Written Argument and Research: 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

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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 with an emphasis of 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.

Student Learning Outcomes

- Assess individualized learning goals based on labor and performance alongside peer review feedback from peers and the instructor
- Analyze, evaluate, or solve problems when given a set of circumstances
- Communicate in a manner appropriate to the audience and occasion
- Consider the various affordances and constraints of composing using different technologies (analog, digital, and/or multimodal), practices, styles, and/or languages
- Compose texts focusing on ethnographic writing that further expand key terms/concepts based on research and engagement with important course texts
- Define important terms/concepts, including but not limited to research and digital literacy, Artificial intelligence, data, and ethics
- Discuss the ways these terms expand based on cultural and communicative practices
- Examine scholarly, personal, and/or multimodal course texts that detail varying understandings and applications of key terms/concepts
- Engage in collaboration that supports individualized and communal understanding and writing development toward a shared purpose.
- Reflect on your writing experience, literacy practices, and writing process
- Understand and practice academic honesty
- View themselves as engaged citizens, writers, & researchers

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WRITING PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY

Writing as a Process for Empowerment

Practice a pedagogy of listening and collaboration to nurture critical thinking and foster students' agency as they make their writing decisions.

Linguistic Justice

We know *students have a right to their own language*, so our classes should be affirm multilingual writers and value linguistic justice.

Data-Driven Analysis + Assessment

Assessment is not just for reporting information but for improving practices to ensure growth aligned with the university mission.

Collaboration + Campus Engagement

We thrive on collaboration across disciplines with faculty, students, and staff and must be integrated effectively into the broader campus ecosystem.

A Place for Mentorship

I see Writing Programs not only as sites for writing support, but as collaborative spaces where equity, learning, innovation, and rhetorical engagement converge.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Instructional Methods

This class meets in-person Tuesday/Thursday, 2nd – 5th Period (9:22-1:00)
Students will arrive on-time, ready to begin class. Please come to class prepared– DO YOUR READINGS! All students will be expected to participate in class activities and discussions. Have something physical to write with and on each class.

Student Responsibilities

Students are responsible for completing assignments by the posted deadline, attending/participating in discussions and class activities, communicating any difficulties/concerns with the instructor, and completing the assigned readings PRIOR to class. Students who miss class will also be responsible for making up any missed classwork/getting notes from a classmate.

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Tips for Success

- Mark all important deadlines in some sort of calendar/schedule, and check D2L Announcements and ETAMU email regularly for any changes to the course schedule and important information.
- Take notes on discussions and annotate your readings before class! You are in several other classes as well, and annotations/notes will help you remember what is going on in this class.
- If you are confused about something, email the instructor for clarification. Don't wait to communicate your needs!
- Just because homework is assigned for a certain day doesn't mean you can't do it early. I highly recommend reading ahead when possible, although certain assignments are fixed or will be due in class.
- Stay on top of your writing assignments. You will need to work on them outside of class, so make sure you start on them early so you don't feel rushed.

COURSE ASSESSMENT

As an instructor, my approach to classroom assessment is holistic. Feedback on assignments will address ideas, arguments, research as well as grammar and syntax. I will provide written feedback on major assignments as well as offer individual meetings with students to help explain any critiques that I give your writing. Please note that the feedback that I give is not final! My goal in assessing your writing is to help you express your own ideas as clearly and unambiguously as possible, not to force you to take my own perspective. Throughout the revision and peer review process, you will be given the opportunity to challenge any feedback that you feel does not help you articulate your ideas (Of course, I will ask you to explain your decisions!)

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

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

Attendance 5%

Participation 5%

Assignments 20%

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Discussions	20%
Midterm Exam	25%
Final Exam	25%
TOTAL	100%

Assessments

UNITS

Unit 7 - Understanding Literacies
Unit 8 - Digital Literacies
Unit 9 - Practicing Ethics
Unit 10 - Entering the Field
Unit 11 - Research Proposal
Unit 12 - Performing Ethnographic Research

ASSIGNMENTS - Full prompts and instructions will be available on D2L.

Topic Proposal
Annotated Bibliography
Adobe Midterm
Research Proposal
Capstone Portfolio
Learning Showcase

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 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

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool

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

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Students must be able to compose and format their essays on a computer using

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software like Microsoft 365 and Adobe. They must also know how to access materials through the D2L learning management system and to upload their essays by the designated deadline.

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.

*Mrs. Summers will be your contact if you have technical or login issues.

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 through email, ask questions in class, or come during available office hours.

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 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

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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.

<https://inside.etamu.edu/admissions/registrar/documents/studentGuidebook.pdf>.

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>

ETAMU Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedures 13.99.99.R0.01](#)

<http://www.etamu.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

*If you miss class, please obtain makeup work through email or office hours. To gain full attendance points, you must be in class for the full time (Not Late or Leaving Early). Please let me know in advance if you will be missing for sports, medical or personal for excused absences. It is important to be present for Midterm and Finals Weeks (See D2L for more details).

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.etamu.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/documents/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf>

Graduate Students Academic Integrity Policy and Form

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<https://inside.etamu.edu/aboutus/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10.pdf>

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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

Website: [Student Disability Services](http://www.etamu.edu/student-disability-services/)

<https://www.etamu.edu/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 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.etamu.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

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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.

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 connections 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.etamu.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.



<http://telusproduction.com/app/5108.html>

AI use policy [Draft 2, May 25, 2023]

East Texas A&M University acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, ChatBots, or other software that have 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.

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13.99.99.R0.03 Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty

13.99.99.R0.10 Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty

*AI or LLMs use is not permitted unless stated in assignment instructions.

Department or Accrediting Agency Required Content Above

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Will be available in D2L.

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