



ENGL 1301–G2E
COLLEGE READING AND WRITING
COURSE SYLLABUS: FALL 2026

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Rachel Wahstrom

Office Location: A110, Grand Prairie Fine Arts Academy

Office Hours: M-F 10:25-11am (during Academic Workshop)

University Email Address: rachel.wahlstrom@etamu.edu

Preferred Communication: rachel.wahlstrom@gpisd.org (for dual credit students)

Communication Response Time: 24 hours weekdays// 48 hours on weekends

COURSE INFORMATION

Textbook(s) Required: For this course, **you will not need to make any additional purchases.** Course readings will be accessible through our course shell in D2L.

Software Required:

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

Course Description

ENGL 1301: College Reading and Writing. Three semester hours. Introduces students to writing as an extended, complex, recursive process and prepares students for English 1302, which more rigorously examines the forms and structures of argument and means to approaching multiple audiences. In 1301 students will write weekly, and will work on essay organization and development. The course will emphasize close reading, summarizing, and analysis of expository texts, including student writing.

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;

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

- **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 (Should be measurable; observable; use action verbs)

1. **Define** important terms/concepts including, but not limited to, literacy, sponsor, code-switching, code-meshing, embodiment, and writing processes;
2. **Discuss** the ways these terms expand based on cultural and communicative practices;
3. **Examine** scholarly, personal, and/or multimodal course texts that detail varying understandings and applications of key terms/concepts;
4. **Develop** writing processes that allow for personal exploration of key terms/concepts;
5. **Engage** in collaboration that supports individualized and communal understanding and writing development;
6. **Consider** the various affordances and constraints of composing using different technologies (analog, digital, and/or multimodal), practices, styles, and/or languages;
7. **Compose** texts across different genres and media of writing that further expand key terms/concepts based on personal experiences and engagement with important course texts;
8. **Reflect** on your writing experiences and literacy practices;
9. **Design** individualized learning goals appropriate for a first-year writing course; and
10. **Assess** individualized learning goals based on labor and performance alongside feedback from peers and the instructor.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Late Work Policy

Late work is not encouraged; however, I understand that sometimes life's circumstances may prevent you from turning assignments in on time. As a result, if you miss a deadline, a 30 point deduction will be taken from the assignment's grade. I will not accept work that is more than 2 weeks late. If a certified emergency prevents you from submitting an assignment by the due date listed in the syllabus and you contact me before that due date, I will offer you an extended deadline and will waive the late penalty. Emergencies include personal hospitalization, hospitalization of immediate family members, death in the family, etc... Procrastination and other obligations (such as work or extracurriculars) are not extenuating circumstances. I reserve the right to ask for documentation.

Wrong Assignment Upload

For all assignments uploaded to D2L, students are responsible for checking to ensure that the document has successfully uploaded into the assignment portal. Also, students receive notification from D2L indicating when an assignment has been submitted. **Check your submission!** Be certain that you have inserted the correct document for the assignment. Students may upload essays and other assignments multiple times when preparing for a deadline. However, once the assignment deadline has passed, incorrectly uploaded or missing assignments will be considered as late assignments. For every assignment, be sure to check that the appropriate document that you want graded is available for the professor by the due date/time.

Emailing Assignments:

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

The course is archived, so keeping a clear record of your performance on every assignment is essential. To ensure that your course work is available if any question should arise, assignments **MUST** be uploaded to the designated assignment portal for each assignment. **Students must not email assignments to the professor.** Emailed assignments will not be accepted and will be deleted immediately. If you are having difficulty uploading an assignment, please contact the student help desk for technical assistance.

Double Dipping or Recycling Assignments

Students may not use essays that have been written for another course. Even though you may be the originator of these materials, this is known as double dipping or recycling materials and is a form of plagiarism and academic dishonesty that will earn a zero. In other words, students are not allowed to submit the same work for more than one class.

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.

Assignments	Percentage of Final Grade
My Top 4 Paper	5
Summary Response Paper	5
Voices in Controversy Project	10
Literacy Narrative Essay	10
Rhetorical Analysis Essay	15
Argument Paper	15
Semester Capstone	20
Participation	20
Total	100

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ASSIGNMENT DESCRIPTIONS

Below is a general overview of major writing assignments. Full prompts for assignments and participation credit can be found in Canvas.

My Top 4: A short essay where you describe major pieces of media and their impact on your development as a literate thinker.

Summary Response Paper: You will summarize a text's main points and respond to the author's ideas in a short paper.

Voices in a Controversy: You will research a contemporary literacy controversy and explore the perspectives of the people, groups, or stakeholders involved, ultimately composing an original piece that represents the voices that emerged from your research, reflecting on the choices you made and how your poem engages with the larger conversation.

Rhetorical Analysis Paper: You will analyze a source's central argument and key points. Building on that analysis, you will evaluate and respond to the author's ideas using critical thinking and reasoned analysis to develop their own perspective on the text's claims.

Literacy Narrative: Compose a narrative that explores your development as a literate individual in traditional, digital, or new literacy contexts. Using a combination of written text, visual design, and digital media, you will tell a meaningful story about h

Argument Paper: You will write an essay with a central argument using rhetorical strategies, research and course readings to support your points.

Semester Portfolio: Students will demonstrate growth as writers by making substantive revision to previously completed assignments from the semester. Drawing on instructor feedback, peer review, and self-reflection, students will refine their writing and submit a portfolio that showcases their revision process and development as a writer.

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

The following table lists only the units and topics for each module. The place to find everything you need to complete along with clear deadlines is in the course on myLeo. You should be logging into d2L, checking ongoing deadlines, and completing work weekly.

<i>Focus: Introduction College Writing</i>	
Week	Topics
Major Writing Assignments	Top 4 Paper
1	• Review Syllabus and Course Overview • Goal Setting • Critical Thinking

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	Active Reading
2	- Writing Process: Prewriting and Invention - Writing Process: Drafting, paragraph structure
Focus: Writing as a Conversation	
Major Writing Assignments	Primary Response Paper
Week	Topics
3-4	- Summarizing - Identifying the author's purpose - Responding to Reading - Integrating Sources
Focus: Joining the Conversation	
Major Writing Assignments	Issues in a Controversy Project Rhetorical Analysis Paper
Week	Topics
5	- Controversies - Research Fundamentals - Synthesizing research - Identify and understand bias
6	- Audience Awareness - The Rhetorical Situation
7	- Evaluating Arguments - Rhetorical Appeals
8	- Responding to Arguments - Writing thesis statements
9	- Selecting Appropriate Evidence - Evaluating Evidence
Focus: Entering the Conversation	
Major Writing Assignments	Argument Paper Persuasive Narrative
Week	Topics
10	Writing Process: drafting, selecting appropriate evidence
11	Writing Process: drafting, elaboration and development

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12	Understanding and applying feedback
13	- Social Literacy Theory - Narrative Writing
14	Developing Style and Voice
Nov 24	Flex
Focus: Revision and Reflection	
Major Writing Assignments	semester Capstone Project
Week	Topics
15	Revision strategies
16	Reflecting on writing

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.

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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 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](#).

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- 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](#).

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

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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. Undocumented uses of AI, GenAI, and AGI can constitute an instance of academic dishonesty, including cases related to issues like plagiarism and misrepresentation in student deliverables.

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 .

ENSURE TRANSPARENCY IN YOUR WRITING

It is your responsibility to assure the quality, integrity, and accuracy of work you submit. It is recommended that you keep a record of your thinking and writing process to verify that your writing process is authentic and original and to help demonstrate how your ideas and writing have developed over time. Here are some examples of what you can do and save in case there is a question about an assignment's authenticity. *I reserve the right to ask you for documentation if there is a grading dispute.*

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- Provide handwritten brainstorming or outlining notes.
- Include multiple dated drafts or share your document's edit history. Use Microsoft Word online and add me as an editor so I can view your revision history.
- Submit screenshots of your sources showing how you gathered information. Show the title, author, and portion of the text you used.
- Keep a short AI use log if applicable (date, tool, prompt, how it helped).
- Be prepared to discuss your writing and sources in class or office hours.
- If you have questions about what counts as appropriate AI use or how to document your process, reach out and ask me before you submit.

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: [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.

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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.



As an Institutional Member of the National Association of Schools of Music, East Texas State A&M University supports the Association's commitment to student health and wellness. The following web address provides links to information for resources related to physical and mental well-being, as well as assists in offering preventative measures that students can take to avoid serious and/or chronic conditions: [Musician Health and Safety - East Texas A&M University](#)

Department and Accrediting Agency Statement:

School of Music Mission Statement:

The School of Music at East Texas A&M University promotes excellence in music through the rigorous study of music history, literature, theory, composition, pedagogy, and the preparation of music performance in applied study and ensembles to meet the highest standards of aesthetic expression.

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