



**ENGL 1301
Composition 1
Fall 2021
T/Th 6:00pm-7:20pm (LRC 248)**

Instructor Information: Blaine Ganter, bganter@com.edu

Course Description: English 1301 is designed as an introduction to college-level, academic writing. This course teaches the principles and techniques of written composition, textual analysis of non-fiction prose, and critical thinking. Activities and assignments include paragraphs, essays, research, and analysis and discussion of assigned readings.

Course requirements:

Short Answer Questions:

The learner will respond to 3 sets of short answer questions based around the topics highlighted in pre-selected paired materials in the course blackboard. Each response will be at least 150 words and will be graded based upon the provided rubric.

The Library Research Tutorial:

Near the beginning of the semester, the learners will complete the research tutorial in the class blackboard.

Essay 1: The Role of the Writer

The learner will create a 3-page essay, 750-word minimum, which defines their role as an academic writer and researcher, what they hope to achieve over the course of their academic career and offer a personal explanation on their thoughts on the importance of scholarly discourse.

Essay 2: Annotated Bibliography

The learner will create an annotated bibliography of 5 different academic sources using correct MLA style that will be used later in the semester for their research paper. Each citation will need to include the necessary information for a full MLA citation, and a brief paragraph summarizing information on the source.

Research Paper: Selected Topic

The learner will select a topic from one of the 3 that were previously written about for the critical paragraphs at the beginning of the semester. They will then proceed to write a 6 page research paper of at least 1,350 words using correct MLA style and citing several of the sources that were collected for the annotated bibliography.

Presentation:

On the last day of class, each learner will submit a 10-slide PowerPoint presentation discussing their chosen research topic, and their findings. The presentation should NOT be simply copy and pasting sections of your research preparation.

Detailed Grading Formula:

The grading scale for this class will consist of a several weighted percentages that break down as follows:

Short Answer Questions (4 Total)	20%
Essays (2 Total)	20%
Library Tutorial	10%
Monty Python Questions	10%
Participation and Attendance	10%
Research Paper	20%
Final Oral Presentation	10%

Each individual assignment will receive a number grade on a scale from 0-100. These assignment grades will then be combined, using the weighted percentages above to calculate the student's final grade in the class using the traditional grade scale as follows:

A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	0-59

Late Work, Make-Up, and Extra-Credit Policy: No late work is accepted, and there won't be any extra credit attempts.

Attendance Policy:

Students are expected to attend all class periods and to be on time. Attendance is taken at the beginning of class. Good attendance is necessary to get maximum benefit from the course and to develop habits of punctuality, self-discipline, and responsibility. Participation points are directly related to your attendance. Taking notes is included in your participation points. For an absence to be excused, dated documentation should be submitted when appropriate and available. Personal matters that do not qualify as excused include: weddings, family vacations/trips, non-emergency situations, oversleeping, travel delays that occur during class dates, etc.

When, in the judgment of the faculty, students have been absent so many times that they are unlikely to complete the objectives of the course, the faculty member can initiate steps to drop them by notifying the Admissions and Records Office. The student will receive a "W" for the course. Students are also expected to be on time to class and to stay until the instructor dismisses the class. Coming in late or leaving early constitutes a partial absence.

Communicating with your instructor: ALL electronic communication with the instructor must be through your COM email. Due to FERPA restrictions, faculty cannot share any information about performance in the class through other electronic means. (Faculty may add additional statement requiring monitoring and communication expectations via Blackboard or other LMS)

Student Learner Outcome	Maps to Core Objective	Assessed via this Assignment
1. Demonstrate knowledge of individual and collaborative writing processes	Teamwork	Peer Reviews
2. Develop idea with appropriate support and attribution	Personal Responsibility	Critical Paragraphs Essays Research Paper
3. Write in a style appropriate to audience and purpose	Communication Skills	Critical Paragraphs Essays Research Paper
4. Read, reflect and respond critically to a variety of texts	Critical Thinking Skills	Critical Paragraphs Essays Research Paper
5. Use edited American English in academic essays	Unmapped	Critical Paragraphs Essays Research Paper

Academic Dishonesty:

Any incident of academic policy will be dealt with in accordance with college policy and the Student Handbook. Academic dishonesty – such as cheating on exams is an extremely serious offense and will result in a **grade of zero** on that exam and the student will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for the appropriate discipline action.

Student Concerns: If you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of this course, please contact me using the contact information previously provided. If, after discussing your concern with me, you continue to have questions, please contact Brian Anderson, Humanities Dept. Chair at 409-933-8186 or banderson@com.edu.

Course outline:

Date	Class Topic	Assignments (Due following class period, unless specified otherwise)
8/24/21	Reviewing Syllabus	NA
8/26/21	Topic Discussion 1	Short Answer Questions 1
8/31/21	Understanding Your Role as a Writer	NA
9/2/21	Topic Discussion 2	Short Answer Questions 2

9/7/21	Pre-Writing and Reading Strategies	NA
9/9/21	Topic Discussion 3	Short Answer Questions 3
9/14/21	The Writing Process	NA
9/16/21	Essay 1	Essay 1 (Due 9/28/21)
9/21/21	MLA Citation Style/Evaluating Sources	Essay 1 (Due 9/28/21)
9/23/21	MLA Citation Style/Evaluating Sources Cont.	Essay 1 (Due 9/28/21)
9/28/21	Critical Thinking	NA
9/30/21	Critical Thinking Cont.	Library Research Tutorial
10/5/21	Essay 2	Essay 2 (Due 10/19/21)
10/7/21	Breaking Down Body Points	Essay 2 (Due 10/19/21)
10/12/21	Breaking Down Body Points Cont.	Essay 2 (Due 10/19/21)
10/14/21	Writing Lab	Essay 2 (Due 10/19/21)
10/19/21	Expository Essays	NA
10/21/21	Expository Essays Cont.	NA
10/26/21	Forming Arguments	NA
10/28/21	Forming Arguments Cont.	Short Answer Questions 4
11/2/21	Writing a Research Paper	NA
11/4/21	Writing a Research Paper Cont. Research Paper Assignment	NA
11/9/21	Monty Python and the Holy Grail	Research Paper (Due 11/30/21)
11/11/21	Monty Python and the Holy Grail Cont.	Research Paper (Due 11/30/21)
11/16/21	Editing and revising	Research Paper (Due 11/30/21)
11/18/21	Editing and revising cont.	Research Paper (Due 11/30/21)
11/23/21	Writing Lab	Research Paper (Due 11/30/21)
11/25/21	Thanksgiving Break (No Class)	Research Paper (Due 11/30/21)
11/30/21	Designing a Presentation	Final Presentation (12/7/21)
12/2/21	Writing Lab	Final Presentation (12/7/21)
12/7/21	Presentation Submission	Enjoy your winter break!

Institutional Policies and Guidelines

Grade Appeal Process: Concerns about the accuracy of grades should first be discussed with the instructor. A request for a change of grade is a formal request and must be made within six months of the grade assignment. Directions for filing an appeal can be found in the student handbook. <https://build.com.edu/uploads/sitecontent/files/student-services/Student_Handbook_2019-2020v5.pdf. *An appeal will not be considered because of general dissatisfaction with a grade, penalty, or outcome of a course. Disagreement with the instructor's professional judgment of the quality of the student's work and performance is also not an admissible basis for a grade appeal.* https://build.com.edu/uploads/sitecontent/files/student-services/Student_Handbook_2019-2020v5.pdf

Academic Success & Support Services: College of the Mainland is committed to providing students the necessary support and tools for success in their college careers. Support is offered through our Tutoring Services, Library, Counseling, and through Student Services. Please discuss any concerns with your faculty or an advisor.

ADA Statement: Any student with a documented disability needing academic accommodations is requested to contact Holly Bankston at 409-933-8520 or hbankston@com.edu. The Office of Services for Students with Disabilities is located in the Student Success Center.

Counseling Statement: Any student needing counseling services is requested to please contact Holly Bankston in the student success center at 409-933-8520 or hbankston@com.edu. Counseling services are available on campus in the student center for free and students can also email counseling@com.edu to set up their appointment. Appointments are strongly encouraged; however, some concerns may be addressed on a walk-in basis.

Textbook Purchasing Statement: A student attending College of the Mainland is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from the college-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

Withdrawal Policy: Students may withdraw from this course for any reason prior to the last eligible day for a “W” grade. Before withdrawing students should speak with the instructor and consult an advisor. Students are permitted to withdraw only six times during their college career by state law. The last date to withdraw from the 1st 8-week session is October 6. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is November 19. The last date to withdraw for the 2nd 8-week session is December 2.

F_N Grading: The F_N grade is issued in cases of *failure due to a lack of attendance*, as determined by the instructor. The F_N grade may be issued for cases in which the student ceases or fails to attend class, submit assignments, or participate in required capacities, and for which the student has failed to withdraw. The issuing of the F_N grade is at the discretion of the instructor. The last date of attendance should be documented for submission of an F_N grade.

Early Alert Program: The Student Success Center at College of the Mainland has implemented an Early Alert Program because student success and retention are very important to us. I have been asked to refer students to the program throughout the semester if they are having difficulty completing assignments or have poor attendance. If you are referred to the Early Alert Program you will be contacted by someone in the Student Success Center who will schedule a meeting with you to see what assistance they can offer in order for you to meet your academic goals.

COVID-19 Statement: All students, faculty, and staff are expected to familiarize themselves with materials and information contained on the College of the Mainland’s Coronavirus Information site at www.com.edu/coronavirus. In compliance with Governor Abbott's May 18 Executive Order, face coverings/masks will no longer be required on COM campus. Protocols and college signage are being updated. We will no longer enforce any COM protocol that requires face

coverings. We continue to encourage all members of the COM community to distance when possible, use hygiene measures, and get vaccinated to protect against COVID-19. Please visit com.edu/coronavirus for future updates.