



English 1302.344
Composition II
Spring 2023

Instructor Information: Donny Wankan, dwankan@com.edu, 281-229-6476

Office hours and location: N255, T-F 12:50-1:30, M T TH 2:45-3:15

Required Textbook/Materials: Readings and assignments will be assigned and accessible online. Students need access to the internet and a device from which they can complete online assignments. Students also need to have access to alternative electronic devices so that they can complete and turn in assignments if personal devices have issues.

Course Description: Intensive study of and practice in the strategies and techniques for developing research-based expository and persuasive texts. Emphasis on effective and ethical rhetorical inquiry, including primary and secondary research methods; critical reading of verbal, visual, and multimedia texts; systematic evaluation, synthesis, and documentation of information sources; and critical thinking about evidence and conclusions.

Course Requirements:

Writing Assignments/Presentations

Students will complete several writing assignments throughout the semester. These will consist mostly of rhetorical analysis and persuasive writing and speaking.

Reading

Throughout the semester, students will read material related to the course's focus on rhetoric. Students will also read, independently, 3 self-chosen books throughout the semester.

Classwork/Professionalism

Minor assignments will be placed in this category. Students will also be scored periodically for professionalism, including, but not limited to attendance and punctuality, appropriate interaction with peers and instructor, and active participation in discussions and learning activities.

Portfolios

Students are expected to keep a copy of each writing assignment, and at the end of the semester, students will turn in a writing portfolio including/reflecting the work from both semesters.

Detailed Grading Formula:

Writing Assignments	40%
Reading	20%
Classwork	20%
Portfolios	20%

Grading Scale: A=90-100, B+=80-89, C+=70-79, D=60-69, F=0-59.

Late Work, Make-Up, and Extra-Credit Policy:

Late work may be accepted for classwork and essays within limits and according to instructor discretion. Students will lose points on assignments accepted late. Essays will not be accepted more than one day late, if turning in assignments late becomes a habit, they will no longer be accepted for credit.

Attendance Policy:

Attendance and punctuality are both requirements of the course. Therefore, frequent/excessive absence and tardiness will be penalized. I understand that sickness and emergencies occur, so I allow four absences. On the fifth absence, the student's score will be lowered by ten percentage points. On the sixth absence, the student will be dropped from the class, or given a failing grade if the final drop date has passed. Students with 10 or more tardies will have their Classwork percentage reduced to 0. A student more than fifteen minutes late will be considered absent.

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.

Student Learner Outcome	Maps to Core Objective	Assessed by Assignment(s)
Demonstrate knowledge of individual and collaborative writing processes.	Personal Responsibility, Teamwork, Empirical and Quantitative Skills	Rhetorical Analysis, Argumentative Writing
Develop ideas with appropriate support and attribution	Critical Thinking Skills, Social and Personal Responsibility	Argumentative and Analytical Writing
Write in a style appropriate to audience and purpose.	Communication Skills	All writing assignments
Read, reflect, and respond critically to a variety of texts.	Social Responsibility	Argumentative and Analytical Writing
Use Edited American English in academic essays.	Communication Skills	All writing assignments

Academic Dishonesty: The instructor, the school, and copyright law require that each student turn in original work. Academic dishonesty includes failing to document sources, turning in an essay written by another student, copying and pasting text from the internet into a paper, copying responses on a non-collaborative assignment from another student's assignment, and/or buying an essay or utilizing text generators and claiming the product as original work. Essentially, if you did not produce what you have turned in, or if you have used information from someone else's work without properly crediting the source, you will receive a 0 for that assignment. There are no exceptions, and students who have plagiarized will not be allowed to resubmit the

assignment. If you have questions about documenting your sources, ask me so that you can avoid losing credit.

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 D. Brian Anderson at 409-933-8186/BAnderson@com.edu.

Course Outline: the following provides a general outline and sequence of the course work. As a calendar it is tentative and will likely change as we move through the semester.

Daily Focus/Readings	Writing Assignments
Week 1 · Course Introduction · Introduction to Rhetoric	Independent Book Choice 1 Reading Questions
Week 2 · History of Rhetoric · “Rhetoric and Audience”	Reading Questions
Week 3 · “Situation and Speech Types” · “Argument and Persuasion” · Speech Analysis/Analytical Writing	IBC 1 Midway Reading Questions
Week 4 · “Organization” · “Style” · Speech Analysis Essay Due	Speech Analysis
Week 5 · “Rhetoric in Contemporary Life” · Persuasive Speech planning	IBC 1 Final Response Reading Questions
Week 6 · Persuasive Speech planning/drafting · Persuasive Speech Presentations	IBC 2 Reading Questions Presentations
Week 7 · 3 Types of Argument · Reading and annotating an argument	IBC 2 Midway Reading Questions
Week 8 · Planning/Drafting Analytical Essay · Persuasive Writing Analysis Due	Reading Questions Analysis of Persuasive Writing
Week 9 · Review Rhetorical Strategies · Planning/Drafting Persuasive Essay	IBC 2 Final Response Reading Questions

Week 10 · Review research and documentation · Planning/Drafting Persuasive Essay	IBC 3 Choice Reading Questions
Week 11 · Persuasive Essay Completion · Persuasive Essay Due	IBC 3 Midway Reading Questions Persuasive Essay
Week 12 · Review of Persuasive Speaking Strategies · Planning/Drafting/Researching for Speech	Reading Questions
Week 13 · Planning Persuasive Speech · Written Plan for speech	IBC 3 Final Response Reading Questions
Week 14 · Portfolio Introduction · Begin Persuasive Speeches	Reading Questions Persuasive Speeches
Week 15 · Portfolio Compiling · Persuasive Speeches	Persuasive Speeches
Week 16 · Final Portfolios Due · Grade Conferences	Final Portfolios Due

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 [Student_Handbook_2022-2023_v4.pdf](#) (com.edu). 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.

Academic Success & Support Services: College of the Mainland is committed to providing students with 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 Kimberly Lachney at 409-933-8919 or klachney@com.edu. The Office of Services for Students with Disabilities is located in the Student Success Center.

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 March 1. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is April 24. The last date to withdraw for the 2nd 8-week session is May 3.

FN Grading: The FN grade is issued in cases of failure due to a lack of attendance, as determined by the instructor. The FN 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 FN grade is at the discretion of the instructor. The last date of attendance should be documented for submission of an FN 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.

Resources to Help with Stress:

If you are experiencing stress or anxiety about your daily living needs including food, housing or just feel you could benefit from free resources to help you through a difficult time, please click here <https://www.com.edu/community-resource-center/>. College of the Mainland has partnered with free community resources to help you stay on track with your schoolwork, by addressing life issues that get in the way of doing your best in school. All services are private and confidential. You may also contact the Dean of Students office at deanofstudents@com.edu or communityresources@com.edu.