



**English 1302  
Composition II  
Spring 2025**

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

**Office hours and location:** N254, M-F 1:45-2:45 pm, F 7:00-8:45 am

**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. Prerequisite: ENGL 1301 with a grade of "C" or better.

**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.

**Determination of Course Grade:**

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.

**Digital Assignments:**

Much of the coursework will be assigned and turned in electronically via COM's learning system D2L Brightspace. Turning in work in assigned formats is required, not optional. It is the student's responsibility to work with the college to correct any log in problems. If a log in problem occurs, students must do the following: immediately inform the instructor, turn in the work on time via email or other agreed upon method, immediately correct the problem with the college, and turn in the assignment via the required system again once the problem has been corrected. COM can correct such problems generally

on the same day, so repeated failure to use the required assignment system will result in not receiving credit for assignments.

**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.

Students will have access to class slideshows, online assignments, and course documents through course software online, so due dates will apply even with absences. Exceptions will be made only in exceptional circumstances. Technology problems, extracurricular activities, and tests or projects in other classes are not acceptable excuses for missing assignment due dates. In other words, plan ahead and be ready when/if these kinds of things come up.

**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.

<b>Student Learner Outcome</b>	<b>Maps to Core Objective</b>	<b>Assessed by</b>
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	<b>Independent Reading Book Choice 1</b>
Week 2 · History of Rhetoric · "Rhetoric and Audience"	<b>Reading Questions</b>
Week 3 · "Situation and Speech Types" · "Argument and Persuasion" · Speech Analysis/Analytical Writing	<b>IR 1 Midway Reading Questions</b>
Week 4 · "Organization" · "Style" · Speech Analysis Essay Due	<b>IR 1 Project Speech Analysis</b>
Week 5 · "Rhetoric in Contemporary Life" · Persuasive Speech planning	<b>IR 2 Reading Questions</b>
Week 6 · Persuasive Speech planning/drafting · Persuasive Speech Presentations	<b>IR 2 Reading Questions Presentations</b>
Week 7 · 3 Types of Argument · Reading and annotating an argument	<b>IR 2 Midway Reading Questions</b>
Week 8 · Planning/Drafting Analytical Essay · Persuasive Writing Analysis Due	<b>Reading Questions Analysis of Persuasive Writing</b>

Week 9 · Review Rhetorical Strategies · Planning/Drafting Persuasive Essay	<b>IR 2 Project</b> <b>Reading Questions</b>
Week 10 · Review research and documentation · Planning/Drafting Persuasive Essay	<b>IR 3 Choice</b> <b>Reading Questions</b>
Week 11 · Persuasive Essay Completion · Persuasive Essay Due	<b>IR 3 Midway</b> <b>Reading Questions</b> <b>Persuasive Essay</b>
Week 12 · Review of Persuasive Speaking Strategies · Planning/Drafting/Researching for Speech	<b>Reading Questions</b>
Week 13 · Planning Persuasive Speech · Written Plan for speech	<b>Reading Questions</b>
Week 14 · Portfolio Introduction · Begin Persuasive Speeches	<b>IR 3 Project</b> <b>Reading Questions</b> <b>Persuasive Speeches</b>
Week 15 · Portfolio Compiling · Persuasive Speeches	<b>Persuasive Speeches</b>
Week 16 · Final Portfolios Due · Grade Conferences	<b>Final Portfolios Due</b>

### **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://www.com.edu/student-services/docs/Student\\_Handbook\\_2024-2025\\_v2.pdf](https://www.com.edu/student-services/docs/Student_Handbook_2024-2025_v2.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.

**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:

Kimberly Lachney, Student Accessibility Services Coordinator

Phone: 409-933-8919 Email: [AccessibilityServices@com.edu](mailto:AccessibilityServices@com.edu)

Location: COM Doyle Family Administration Building, 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 February 26. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is April 21. The last date to withdraw for the 2nd 8-week session is April 30.

**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](mailto:deanofstudents@com.edu) or [communityresources@com.edu](mailto:communityresources@com.edu).

**Nondiscrimination Statement:** The College District prohibits discrimination, including harassment, against any individual on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, age, veteran status, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender (including gender identity and gender expression), or any other basis prohibited by law. Retaliation against anyone involved in the complaint process is a violation of College District policy.