



## ENGL-1302-005IN

### Composition II

(Spring 2024)

ONLINE

#### Instructor Information:

Name: Angela Valdes

Email: [avaldes@com.edu](mailto:avaldes@com.edu)

Office Hours: Monday, 5:00pm - 6:00pm ; Wednesday, 5:00pm - 6:00pm via COM email

Office: Virtual

#### Student hours and location: Virtual

- Weekly Content opens each Sunday
- All assignments are due weekly, as indicated in the course calendar. Pay attention to due dates.
- Students should check class announcements on D2L and COM email daily for any critical information, updates, or correspondence from the instructor.

#### Required Textbook/Materials:

Novella Collection: *Different Seasons*

Author: Stephen King

ISBN: 0-451-19712-7

For this course, required reading will be *Rita Hayworth and Shawshank Redemption* which is contained in the collection noted above.

***Students are responsible for purchasing the required reading materials above at any retailer of choice.***

***Any additional required reading materials will be provided by the instructor.***

#### 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

This course will be broken down into four units consisting of Rhetorical Analysis, Character Analysis, Argument, and Multimodal. More in-depth descriptions of assignments appear in the course requirements section.

### **Course requirements:**

Essays: (Rhetorical Analysis, Character Analysis, Argument, Multimodal)

- Rhetorical Analysis: During this unit, students will explore speeches given in TED talks as well as a speech by a historical or cultural figure. Students will be tasked with analyzing a speech/talk using the rhetorical situation and devices to demonstrate the effectiveness or ineffectiveness of the speech/talk based on those elements.
- Character Analysis: During this unit, the assigned reading is *Rita Hayworth and Shawshank Redemption* By: Stephen King. Students will explore character analysis by choosing a character from the novella which will serve as the basis of an essay. Elements of rhetorical devices will be required to be explored as demonstrated by characters in the reading.
- Argument: During this unit, students will explore the art of effective argument in order to make a claim about a topic to write an essay.
- Multimodal: During this unit students will be required to make a vlog which documents the journey with revising one of the previous major essays and additional assignments.

Reading Quizzes:

- Quizzes will be based on assigned reading material which will be specified. The readings will be from the novella or from additional readings. Students are responsible for purchasing the required texts. Any additional reading materials will be provided.

Participation:

- Peer Reviews: Peer Reviews are an essential tool that can be very helpful to the writing process. Each major essay assignment in units 1-3 will conduct a peer review of at least two peers' essays. Detailed instructions will be posted on how to conduct peer review. Failure to participate in peer review will result in an absence and will cause point deductions to the final grade of any major essay. Peer Reviews are NOT optional. Failure to participate in any peer review will result in an absence and a full letter grade deduction to the grade of the final draft of any major essay.
- Discussions: This is an online course. Class discussions are an essential part of participation and learning in this course. Failure to participate in any class discussion will result in an absence.

Short Response Assignments:

- These assignments will be based on various lessons within each unit pertaining to that unit's assignments geared toward writing the major essay.

Journals:

- These assignments will vary based on the unit. Requirements may include assignments such as written open-ended reflections and others depending on the lesson or unit being taught.

**Determination of Course Grade/Detailed Grading Formula:**

<b>Grading Category</b>	<b>Assessment Details</b>	<b>Points Possible</b>	<b>Percent of Final Average</b>
Rhetorical Analysis Essay	Rubric of point breakdown will be provided	100	15%
Character Analysis Essay:	Rubric of point breakdown will be provided	100	15%
Persuasive Essay:	Rubric of point breakdown will be provided	100	15%
Multimodal Assignment:	Rubric of point breakdown will be provided	100	15%
Reading Quizzes	15@ 15 points each	225	15%
Participation	Peer Reviews: 3 @ 15 points each  Discussions: 13 @ 15 points each  Journals: 10 @ 6 points each	300	15%
Short Response Assignments	5 @ 15 points each	75	10%
<b>TOTAL:</b>		<b>1000</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Grading Formula for each grading category:**

(Points Earned  $\div$  Points Possible)  $\times$  Percent of Final Average  $\times$  100

Add together the percentages for each grading category to get a final grade percentage

**90% - 100% = A**

**80% - 89% = B**

**70% - 79% = C**

**60% - 69% = D**

**59% or below = F**

## **How Assignments are assessed for Grading:**

### *Essays:*

Major Essays will be assessed via a detailed grading rubric which will be provided ahead of time for students to review assessment areas.

- Plagiarism: Essays that contain plagiarism will earn a zero and may be reported to the Dean of Students office for further action.

### *Discussions, Peer Reviews, Short Responses, Journals:*

Discussions, Peer Reviews, Short Responses, and Journals will be graded according to the

following general guidelines:

- Assignment Instructions: Point deductions apply for not following assignment instructions. For discussions and Peer Reviews, active engagement with peers is required.
- Assignment Completion: Point deductions apply for submitting incomplete work.
- Assignment Understanding: Each of these assignments will also be graded based on the student's submission in reference to the student's overall understanding and delivery of the assignment instructions. Questions should be asked by students via email to the instructor to clarify understanding at least two days prior to submission if there is any confusion.
- Plagiarism: Assignments that contain plagiarism will earn a zero and may be reported to the Dean of Students office for further action.

### *Reading Quizzes:*

Each quiz has point values assigned for each question and are based on required reading assigned each week. Quizzes are automatically graded upon submission.

### *Instructor Feedback:*

In addition to a grade for each assignment, instructor feedback will be provided on D2L which is highly beneficial in providing guidance on learning each writing style. It is recommended that each student review instructor feedback on all assignments to gain an understanding on how to improve.

## **Online Gradebook:**

The online gradebook (in D2L) is for reviewing and keeping track of completed grades and getting an overview of your grade. Please note that the grade display may be incomplete at any given time and is simply for your convenience (not a substitute for the instructor's official records). Certain assignment points, like extra credit, may not be posted until the end of the semester, and the final gradebook may require some adjusting if the class schedule has been changed or just to correct for technical problems or design errors in the learning management system.

Students are responsible for keeping track of progress in the class and keeping up with all assignments. The instructor does not provide individual grade calculations upon request. Students should use the detailed grade breakdown noted above to perform their own calculations as the semester progresses.

*Please refrain from emailing the instructor to ask when any assignment will be graded. All assignments are graded as timely as possible and will be posted as soon as instructor assessment is complete.*

**Caveat on Grading:**

The instructor reserves the right to make subjective decisions on student grades and assessment based on her own expertise and judgment in the subject matter. The instructor also reserves the right to assign a final grade based on a student's overall mastery of the material and improvement over the course of the semester.

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

Work should be submitted by the due date and in the form listed on assignment instructions. **No late work accepted.** This is an online course that is asynchronous. This means there are no regularly scheduled class meeting times. The student is responsible for knowing due dates and practicing good time management skills to complete assignments for this course. There will be no make-up work accepted. If a student experiences extenuating circumstances, contact the instructor immediately via COM email. Whether or not circumstances are acceptable is up to the discretion of the instructor. Documentation may be required for students who request a makeup or deadline extension due to an emergency. Excuses such as but not limited to: a job, vacation, busy schedule, or other classes are not acceptable.

Extra credit opportunities may be offered with assigned due dates. Any extra credit opportunities will be communicated via a class announcement on D2L and/or an email to the class. Any points earned will be applied at the end of the semester when final grades are posted. Any individual requests for extra credit to improve your grade at the end of the semester will not be offered.

**Attendance Policy:**

Since this is an online course, your weekly attendance will be based on turning in your assignments. Discussion board responses are required and show that you are engaged in the course with your instructor and with your peers. Peer Reviews are also required and show engagement in the course with your peers. Discussion board responses and peer reviews are considered your virtual attendance in this online course. **Please note that if you do not participate in weekly discussions and/or peer reviews, it will count as an absence.** You will receive zeros for missed assignments and no make up work is accepted.

**Students in online classes must participate during the first week of classes or they will be dropped from the class for non-attendance.** If you have met attendance requirements after the first week of classes but fail to complete a weekly discussion board, or assigned peer review in any subsequent week, it will count as an absence. **Four or more weekly absences may result in a failing grade in the course.**

COM recognizes no excused absences other than those prescribed by law: religious holy days and military service. For more information, please visit:

<http://coursecatalog.com.edu/getting-started-at-COM/registration/class-attendance>

**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.

Please note that email etiquette is expected. Please write in a formal, professional manner and avoid use of slang and text language. In the subject line of your email include your course and section in which you are enrolled. Ex: ENGL-1302-005IN. Be sure to begin your email with a greeting and close your email with your first and last name so that I can locate the assignment and the class in which you are inquiring. **If the instructor is unable to determine your name and the class section you are attending, she will be unable to respond until you have provided this information.**

Student emails will be answered in the order they are received during scheduled instructor office hours. For all other emails, allow 24 hours for a response. Instructor response times may vary during scheduled holidays on the academic calendar. Practice good time management skills and look through your assignments well in advance of due dates to ensure your questions are answered.

**If the instructor needs to communicate something important to the class, it will be sent via COM email and also be posted on D2L in Class Announcements. If there's something particularly important to any particular student, the instructor may send an instant message via D2L which directs the student to check COM email.**

Student Learner Outcome	Maps to Core Objective	Assessed via this Assignment
1. Demonstrate knowledge of individual and collaborative research processes.	Teamwork	Peer Reviews, Discussions, Short Responses
2. Develop ideas and synthesize primary and secondary sources within focused academic arguments, including one or more research-based essays.	Critical Thinking Skills	Research Based Essay
3. Analyze, interpret, and evaluate a variety of texts for	Personal Responsibility	Professionalism Grade or Assessment

the ethical and logical uses of evidence.		
4. Write in a style that clearly communicates meaning, builds credibility, and inspires belief or action.	Communication Skills (CS1)	Essays and Multimodal Assignment
5. Apply the conventions of style manuals for specific academic disciplines (e.g., APA, CMS, MLA, etc.)	N/A	Essays, Short Responses, Discussions where applicable

### Academic Dishonesty:

Scholastic dishonesty and plagiarism are defined in the student handbook. Plagiarism (failure to acknowledge or cite sources of ideas and/or works, representing another's work as your own, etc.) will not be tolerated in this class. It can result in a failing grade for the assignment, the course, and in the most extreme cases, it will be reported to COM. There will be reading material and quiz questions assigned on plagiarism. If you do not understand what constitutes plagiarism after the aforementioned assignments, please contact me. If you are unsure whether something included in one of your writing assignments may be considered plagiarism, please contact me during my office hours or at least three days before the assignment is due. Please note that failure to credit a source in a discussion post is also plagiarism. If you use a source, credit the author no matter what type of assignment it is.

### Policy Against Use of AI:

***In this course, you may not use AI for any assignment in any way, shape, or form. Use of AI will be treated as plagiarism and as academically dishonest.*** Consequences for using any type of AI on any assignment will result in a grade of zero for the assignment followed by a report to the Dean of Students office for further action. If it is determined that a student continues to use AI despite consequences on previous assignments, it will result in automatic failure of the course.

Below are some examples of certain types of AI that include but are not limited to the following:

- ⚠ Do not use artificial intelligence (AI) to write all or part of an academic essay or other academic assignment.
- ⚠ Do not use an AI paraphrasing or rephrasing tool like Quillbot or ProWritingAid.
- ⚠ Do not use Grammarly to edit your work.
- ⚠ Do not use ChatGPT

**The above are examples and are not an all inclusive list of AI tools available. In short, use of ANY AI tool for writing will result in the aforementioned consequences.**

D2L contains a plagiarism checker which also includes a component that assesses each writing assignment for AI generated content. A report is generated for each submitted assignment and students have access to each report for each assignment.

### **HUMANITIES DEPARTMENT POLICY STATEMENT: PLAGIARISM**

Plagiarism is a form of academic dishonesty. To plagiarize is to steal the words or ideas of another and pass them off as one's own. Two forms of plagiarism are common. In the first form, the writer incorporates published or otherwise recorded material without properly acknowledging its sources. In the second form, the writer submits work actually done by someone else. (The student who allows his/her work to be used by others is also guilty.) Any student who plagiarizes will receive a grade of "0" on his/her plagiarized work and may, as a result, receive a failing grade in the course. Ignorance will not be an acceptable defense: all students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the rules of documentation.

Violation of the Plagiarism Policy may result in a referral to the College of the Mainland Judicial Coordinator or further disciplinary actions as stated in the current Student Handbook.

"Source" may refer to published works (including material available from electronic/computer networks or databases), electronically broadcast programs, films, recordings, interviews, speeches, or lectures.

1. You must document when you quote directly from another source.
2. You must document when you paraphrase words from another source.
3. You must document when you summarize ideas from another source.
4. You must document when you use facts (statistics in a chart or graph, for example) or visual material from another source.

### **Student Concerns:**

Concerns/Questions Statement: 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 Humanities Department Chair Brian Anderson at 409-933-8186.

### **Course outline:**

This outline is tentative. If a change needs to be made, a new outline will be posted in D2L for that unit.) You should check your COM email and D2L daily for any updates. Weekly assignments will be made available to you on Sunday of each week.

Course Outline Changes: The instructor reserves the right to change the syllabus and/or schedule as needed. Readings may also be added, but no major assignments will be added unless needed due to a weather emergency or other outside circumstances. You will be notified of any changes.

Unit	Week	Assignment Due Dates
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<b>Unit 1: Rhetorical Analysis</b>	<b>1</b>  1/16-1/20	<b>Wednesday, 1/17 Course Introduction Letter</b> <b>Wednesday, 1/17 Introduction Discussion</b> <b>Wednesday, 1/17 Syllabus Quiz</b> <b>Wednesday, 1/17, MLA Quiz - Purdue Owl</b> <b>Saturday, 1/20 Short Response - Diagnostic</b>
	<b>2</b>  1/21 -1/27	<b>Wednesday, 1/24 Quiz - Rhetorical Analysis</b> <b>Wednesday, 1/24 Discussion - Cultural Figure Speech</b> <b>Saturday, 1/27- Short Response - Steve Jobs Speech</b>
	<b>3</b>  1/28 - 2/3	<b>Wednesday, 1/31 Quiz Logical Fallacies</b> <b>Wednesday, 1/31 Discussion- TED Talk - Procrastination</b> <b>Saturday, 2/3 Short Response - TED Talk</b>
	<b>4</b>  2/4-2/10	<b>Wednesday, 2/7 Quiz</b> <b><u>Saturday, 2/10 Peer Review-Rough Draft Due</u></b> <b>Saturday, 2/10 Journal - Essay Outline</b>
	<b>5</b>  2/11-2/17	<b>Wednesday, 2/14 Discussion - Unit Closing</b> <b>Wednesday, 2/14 Journal- Reflection</b> <b><u>Saturday, 2/17 Final Draft: Rhetorical Analysis</u></b> <b>Saturday, 2/17 Quiz - Characterization</b>
<b>Unit 2: Character Analysis</b>	<b>6</b>  2/18-2/24	<b>Wednesday, 2/21 Quiz - <i>Shawshank Redemption</i> Pgs. 15-45</b> <b>Wednesday, 2/21 Discussion - <i>Shawshank Redemption</i></b> <b>Saturday, 2/24 - Journal - Understanding Characters</b>
	<b>7</b>  2/25-3/2	<b>Wednesday, 2/28 Quiz - COM Library Guide</b> <b>Wednesday, 2/28 Quiz - <i>Shawshank Redemption</i> Pgs. 46-74</b> <b>Wednesday, 2/28 Discussion <i>Shawshank Redemption</i></b> <b>Saturday, 3/2 - Journal - Critical Thinking</b>
	<b>8</b>  3/3-3/9	<b>Wednesday, 3/6 Quiz - Pgs. 75-107 <i>Shawshank</i></b> <b>Wednesday, 3/6 Discussion</b> <b>Saturday, 3/9 Journal - Choose a Character</b>
	3/11-3/16	<b>Spring Break</b>
	<b>9</b>  3/17-3/23	<b>Wednesday, 3/20 Quiz: Role of Rhetoric in Literature &amp; Characterization</b>

		<b><u>Wednesday, 3/20 - Journal - Essay Outline</u></b> <b><u>Saturday, 3/23 Peer Review: Rough Draft Due</u></b>
	<b>10</b> 3/24-3/30	<b>Wednesday, 3/27</b> Unit Closing Discussion <b>Wednesday, 3/27 Final Draft: Character Analysis</b> <b>Saturday, 3/30</b> Video Journal Reflection <b>Saturday, 3/30</b> Quiz - Argument
<b>Unit 3: Argument</b>	<b>11</b> 3/31-4/6	<b>Wednesday, 4/3</b> Quiz <b>Wednesday, 4/3</b> Discussion - Argument <b>Saturday, 4/6</b> - Journal
	<b>12</b> 4/7-4/13	<b>Wednesday, 4/10</b> Quiz <b>Wednesday, 4/10</b> Discussion <b>Saturday, 4/13</b> Journal: Essay Outline
	<b>13</b> 4/14-4/20	<b>Wednesday, 4/17</b> Journal <b><u>Saturday, 4/20 Peer Review: Rough Draft Due</u></b>
	<b>14</b> 4/21-4/27	<b>Wednesday, 4/24</b> Discussion <b>Wednesday, 4/24</b> Journal- Reflection <b><u>Saturday, 4/27 Final Draft - Argumentative Essay</u></b>
<b>Unit 4: Multimodal</b>	<b>15</b> 4/28-5/4	<b>Wednesday, 5/1</b> Discussion - Revision <b>Saturday, 5/4</b> - Short Response: Multimodal Plan
	<b>16</b> 5/5-5/10	<b>Monday, 5/6</b> Discussion - Presentation <b>Tuesday, 5/7</b> Comprehensive Quiz <b>Tuesday, 5/7</b> Multimodal Assignment Due

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## 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\\_2023-2024\\_v2.pdf](https://www.com.edu/student-services/docs/Student_Handbook_2023-2024_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 at 409-933-8919 or [klachney@com.edu](mailto: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 1<sup>st</sup> 8-week session is February 28. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is April 22. The last date to withdraw for the 2<sup>nd</sup> 8-week session is May 1. The last date to withdraw for spring mini session is May 29. For more information visit: <http://coursecatalog.com.edu/general-information/academic-calendar/>

**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).