



ENGL 1301.115CL/152CL
Composition I
Spring 2024
M/W 12:30 pm – 1:50 pm

Instructor Information

Name: Nichole Kyle
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Office Phone: (409) 933-8222
Office Location: Learning Resource Center (LRC), Building #8, Suite B Rm #240

Office Hours

Office hours are a resource for students interested in individualized attention for mentoring, academic help, or advisement. Students are welcome to attend office hours as listed below or outside of these hours by appointment. Office hours and appointments are held in my office, via phone, or virtually through Teams.

Mondays	Tuesdays	Wednesdays	Thursdays
11:00 am -12:30 pm 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm	9:30 am – 10:30 am (remote)	11:00 am -12:30 pm 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm	9:30 am – 10:30 am (remote)

Communicating with Instructor

ALL electronic communication with the instructor **MUST** be through your COM email/account or via D2L. Due to FERPA restrictions, faculty cannot share any information about performance in the class through other electronic means. Please allow 24-48 hours for email responses and note that the instructor does not monitor emails over the weekend or on holidays. The instructor will use D2L announcements and messaging to communicate important class information.

Required Textbook/Materials

- FREE: [The Rough Writer’s Handbook](#)
- FREE: [The OWL Website](#) (Purdue University’s Online Writing Lab)
- Assigned articles as made available on Brightspace (free printing at the Tutoring Center)
- Journal Notebook
- Writing utensils
- Colored writing utensils and/or highlighters
- Device with internet access (labs and free Wi-Fi on campus)

- Flash drive
- Office 365 (free to COM students)

Prerequisite

One of the following TSI scores combinations or equivalent developmental courses (1) TSI Reading 351 and TSI Writing 350 and TSI Essay 5 (2) TSI Reading 351 with TSI Writing 363 and Essay 4 (3) TSI Reading 351 and TSI Writing less than 350 with ABE 4 and TSI Essay 5.

Course Description

ENGL 1301. COMPOSITION I (LECTURE 3, LAB 0). CREDIT 3. AGCM. Intensive study of and practice in writing processes, from invention and researching to drafting, revising, and editing, both individually and collaboratively. Emphasis on effective rhetorical choices, including audience, purpose, arrangement, and style. Focus on writing the academic essay as a vehicle for learning, communicating and critical analysis.

Elaboration

We live in a world connected and informed by technology. In fact, our culture now seems inseparable from technological use; we all walk around with a device more powerful than the computer that sent Apollo 11 to the moon. Through exceptionally powerful search engines, we essentially have the digital equivalent of the Library of Alexandria at our fingertips.

It's a lot to take in.

Of course, lots of communication takes place in digital spaces these days. Policy decisions are made through Twitter, TikTok has made child stars mega-famous, and, for some reason, people post pictures of their food to Instagram. Since we work and play in these digital spaces on the daily, I think it's time we interrogated what uses they have, what limits they have, and what stories are being told through them.

In this class, we will survey technological "progress." We'll be looking at the age of information by examining social media, globalization, AI, and the fluidity of reality. We'll also take a step back and review how we know what we know in an era where Google can tell us virtually anything we want, and AI seems on the verge of being able to create damn near anything.

All of this means something and propels us somewhere, but is it anywhere we want to be?

Course Requirements

This is a composition course, meaning there will be a significant amount of reading and writing, emphasizing the writing process. Students will utilize informal and academic writing in short reflective responses and detailed essays.

Additionally, this course is collaborative in nature. You will participate in discussions, class activities, peer reviews/workshops, and complete at least two presentations. Major assignments for the course include a documentary analysis, a short essay, an annotated bibliography, a final

paper, and a research presentation. Additionally, students can expect to be graded on auxiliary assignments, attendance, and participation. No formal examinations will be given.

Student Learner Outcome	Maps to Core Objective	Assessed via this Assignment
1. Demonstrate knowledge of individual and collaborative writing processes.	Teamwork	Presentations
2. Develop ideas with appropriate support and attribution	Personal Responsibility	Final Essay
3. Write in a style appropriate to audience and purpose.	Communication Skills	Documentary Analysis Essays
4. Read, reflect, and respond critically to a variety of texts.	Critical Thinking	Annotated Bib Reflection
5. Use Edited American English in academic essays.	Communication Skills	Essays

Determination of Course Grade

Documentary Analysis	10%
Short Essay	10%
Annotated Bib	15%
Final Essay	20%
Attendance	10%
Presentations	10%
Auxiliary Assignments	10%
Participation	15%

Grading Scale

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

Late Work/Make-Up

Work should be submitted by the due date and in the form requested. Generally, I do not accept late work. Missed in-class assignments, e.g., journal writings, activities, and participation points, cannot be made up. If you miss a class where an assignment is turned in during class, you have until the next class to turn in the assignment. Any exceptions to this policy are made on a case-by-case basis.

Revisions/Rewriting

Requests to make revisions or rewrite assignments will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

Extra-Credit

- **Tutoring:** If you take a major writing assignment to the tutoring center and provide documentation, you may receive up to 5 points extra credit on the assignment.
- **Live Event:** Extra credit may be earned once during the semester by attending (in person or online) an event of educational or professional value at the college and submitting a half-page report on your experience to the Extra Credit Prompt on Brightspace.
- **Other:** I may provide other extra credit opportunities throughout the semester as I see fit.
- **Requests for extra credit:** Requests for extra credit will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

Honors Contracts/COM Scholars

Any student wishing to enter an honors contract for this course must meet with the instructor within the first three weeks of the course. Contract approval is based on the student's ability and the instructor's availability. For more information on honors designations and COM scholars, visit COM's [Honors Program](#) website.

Attendance Policy

The success of this course and your success IN the course depends on your active engagement and participation. I expect you to be prepared and a vocal and constructive participant during each class meeting.

- You are expected to be on time and in attendance. More than 3 absences or failure to participate over a two-week period may result in receiving a grade of "F" for the course.
- Failure to participate in peer reviews/workshops will result in an absence for that day and a lower grade for that assignment.
- Tardiness or breaks is considered unprofessional and is a disruption to our learning environment. For this reason, being late to class or taking excessive breaks may impact your attendance and participation grade.

Participation/Professionalism

Our class will reproduce a "real-world" work environment in many ways, and students will be expected to participate professionally in class. You should arrive on time, meet deadlines, and contribute meaningfully to class discussions, group work, and workshops.

Professional behavior is a cooperative endeavor that affects the entire class. All class participants must always behave civilly and respectfully. Disrespectful or threatening behavior toward classmates or the instructor is unacceptable and will be reported to the Dean of Students.

Your level of professionalism in this class will directly affect your participation grade. Unproductive behavior from students in relation to class discussions and activities, behavior such as neglecting class (e.g., texting, browsing, sleeping, etc.), competing, or "performing to

the instructor,” may negatively impact your participation grade and may result in being considered absent.

Recording

I do not allow recordings of any kind (video, audio, photography, etc.) in my classroom without my express written permission. Violators will be asked to leave the class and will be reported to the Dean of Students.

Academic Dishonesty

All assignments are turned in on D2L with software that detects plagiarized and AI-generated content. Academic dishonesty and plagiarism are defined in the student handbook. Plagiarism of any kind (including AI-generated work) will not be tolerated in this class. It can result in a failing grade for the assignment or course and will be reported to the Dean of Students. **Ignorance will not be an acceptable defense:** All students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the documentation rules.

Please contact me if you are unsure whether something may be considered plagiarism.

Student Concerns: If you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of this course, please contact me using the provided contact information. If you continue to have questions after discussing your concern with me, please contact the Humanities Department Chair, Dr. Brian Anderson, at 409.933.8186 or banderson@com.edu.

GCIC Academic Symposium

COM’s GCIC Academic Symposium is an opportunity for students to showcase their best academic and creative projects. To learn more, visit: com.edu/symposium. Participation in the symposium helps develop your professional skills and widens your professional networks, and it should be noted on your resume/CV. This academic year, the symposium is on Friday, March 22, 2024, from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the STEAM building. **The abstract submission deadline is Thursday, Feb. 15, 2024, at 11:59 p.m.** Please speak with me if you are interested or have questions.

Syllabus/Schedule Changes

I reserve the right to change the syllabus/schedule to accommodate the class dynamics. Changes will be announced in class, on Brightspace, and/or by email.

Course Outline

**All assignments are due Sunday at midnight on the week indicated. Students are expected to prepare for class by reading and annotating the materials as outlined in the schedule, including RW chapters and theme articles.*

WEEK	IN CLASS	ASSIGNMENTS
Week 1 1/15 – 1/19	Welcome Syllabus RW Intro & Chapter 4 Getting to know you	

WELCOME & ORIENTATION		
1/15 COM Closed for MLK Jr. Day		
Week 2 1/22 – 1/26	In class writing Lesson: RW Chapters 1 Theme: Theme Intro	Assign Crash Course
INTRO TO COLLEGE	In class writing Lesson: RW Chapter 2 Theme: Theme Discussion	
Week 3 1/29 – 2/2	Crash Course - RW Chapter 5 In class writing Rhetoric Lecture Theme: Documentary	Assign Documentary Rhetorical Analysis
RHETORIC & DOCUMENTARY	Crash Course - RW Chapters 6 In class writing Theme: Documentary	
Week 4 2/5 – 2/9	Crash Course - RW Chapter In class writing Lesson Discussion/Activity Theme Discussion/Activity	
TOPICS	Crash Course - RW Chapter In class writing Lesson Discussion/Activity Theme Discussion/Activity	Documentary Rhetorical Analysis Due
Week 5 2/12 – 2/16	Crash Course - RW Chapter In class writing Lesson Discussion/Activity Theme Discussion/Activity	Assign Short Essay
RESEARCH QUESTION	Crash Course - RW Chapter In class writing Lesson Discussion/Activity Theme Discussion/Activity	Short Essay Due
Week 6 2/19 – 2/23	Crash Course - RW Chapter In class writing Lesson Discussion/Activity Theme Discussion/Activity	Assign Annotated Bib
ANNOTATED BIB	Crash Course - RW Chapter In class writing Lesson Discussion/Activity Theme Discussion/Activity	
Week 7 2/26 – 3/1	Crash Course - RW Chapter In class writing	

SOURCES	Lesson Discussion/Activity Theme Discussion/Activity	
	Crash Course - RW Chapter In class writing Lesson Discussion/Activity Theme Discussion/Activity	
WORKSHOPS	Week 8 3/4 – 3/8 Crash Course - RW Chapter In class writing Lesson Discussion/Activity Theme Discussion/Activity	3 copies of completed draft due
	Crash Course - RW Chapter In class writing Lesson Discussion/Activity Theme Discussion/Activity	Annotated Bib Due
March 11th -17th COM Closed for Spring Break		
OUTLINES	Week 9 3/18 – 3/22 Crash Course - RW Chapter In class writing Lesson Discussion/Activity Theme Discussion/Activity	Assign Final Project & Reflection
	Crash Course - RW Chapter In class writing Lesson Discussion/Activity Theme Discussion/Activity	
INTRODUCTION	Week 10 3/25 – 3/29 Crash Course - RW Chapter In class writing Lesson Discussion/Activity Theme Discussion/Activity	
	Crash Course - RW Chapter In class writing Lesson Discussion/Activity Theme Discussion/Activity	
BODY	Week 11 4/1 – 4/5 Crash Course - RW Chapter In class writing Lesson Discussion/Activity Theme Discussion/Activity	
	Crash Course - RW Chapter In class writing Lesson Discussion/Activity Theme Discussion/Activity	
Week 12 4/8 – 4/12	Crash Course - RW Chapter In class writing Lesson Discussion/Activity Theme Discussion/Activity	

CONCLUSION 4/9 Summer and Fall Registration	Crash Course - RW Chapter In class writing Lesson Discussion/Activity Theme Discussion/Activity	Complete Draft Due
Week 13 4/15 – 4/19	Crash Course In class writing Workshops	Assign Research Presentations
WORKSHOPS	Crash Course In class writing Workshops	
Week 14 4/22 – 4/26	Crash Course In class writing Workshops	
WORKSHOPS 4/22 W-Day	Crash Course In class writing Workshops	
Week 15 4/29 – 5/3	Crash Course In class writing Lesson: Revision/Edits Theme: Theme Article	Research Presentations Due
REVISION/EDITS PRESENTATIONS	In class writing Presentations	
Week 16 5/6 – 5/10	In class writing Presentations	Final Due
PRESENTATIONS	TBD	

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. *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. 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 February 28. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is April 22. The last date to withdraw for the 2nd 8-week session is May 1. The last date to withdraw for spring mini session is May 29.

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.