



**ENGL 1301 310IN**  
**Composition 1**  
**Fall 2022**

**Instructor Information:** Blaine Ganter, bganter@com.edu

**Required Textbook/Materials:** There is no required textbook for this course.

**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 Discussion Boards:

The learner will respond to 4 sets of short answer questions based around the topics highlighted in pre-selected paired materials in the course blackboard. Students will respond to each question with a 150-word response and respond to at least two of their classmates with 100-word replies.

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 6-minute audio narrated 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 Discussion Boards (4 Total)	25%
Essays (2 Total)	25%
Library Tutorial	10%
Research Paper	25%
Final Oral Presentation	15%

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 no extra credit will be offered.

**Attendance Policy:**

As this is an online class, regular attendance will not be taken as there aren't prescribed class times and days. However, students are expected to check into the class weekly to review their currently prescribed course materials, regularly participate in class assignments, and submit their assignments by the assigned due dates and times. Failure to do so will likely results in their unsuccessfull completion of the course.

**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)

<b>Student Learner Outcome</b>	<b>Maps to Core Objective</b>	<b>Assessed via this Assignment</b>
1. Demonstrate knowledge of individual and collaborative writing processes	Teamwork	Short Answer Discussion Boards
2. Develop idea with appropriate support and attribution	Personal Responsibility	Short Answer Discussion Boards Essays Research Paper
3. Write in a style appropriate to audience and purpose	Communication Skills	Short Answer Discussion Boards Essays Research Paper
4. Read, reflect, and respond critically to a variety of texts	Critical Thinking Skills	Short Answer Discussion Boards Essays Research Paper
5. Use edited American English in academic essays	Unmapped	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](mailto:banderson@com.edu).

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**Course outline:**

Date	Class Topic	Assignments (Due on Sunday by 11:59pm, unless otherwise specified)
8/21/22-8/27/22	Week 1: Reviewing Syllabus Topic Discussion 1	Short Answer Discussion Board 1
8/28/22-9/3/22	Understanding Your Role as a Writer Topic Discussion 2	Short Answer Discussion Board 2
9/4/22-9/10/22	Pre-Writing and Reading Strategies Topic Discussion 3	Short Answer Discussion Board 3
9/11/22-9/17/22	The Writing Process Essay 1	Essay 1 (Due 9/24/22)
9/18/22-9/24/22	MLA Citation Style/Evaluating Sources SENSE	
9/25/22-10/1/22	Critical Thinking Essay 2	Library Research Tutorial Essay 2 (Due 10/15/22)
10/2/22-10/8/22	Breaking Down Body Points	
10/9/22-10/15/22	Writing Lab	
10/16/22-10/22/22	Expository Essays	Short Answer Discussion Board 4 (Due 10/29/2)
10/23/22-10/29/22	Forming Arguments	
10/30/22-11/5/22	Writing a Research Paper Research Paper Assignment	Research Paper (Due 11/26/22) Monty Python Questions (Due 11/12/22)
11/6/22-11/12/22	Monty Python and the Holy Grail	
11/13/22-11/19/22	Editing and Revising	
11/20/22-11/26/22	Thanksgiving Break	
11/27/22-12/9/22	Designing a Presentation Presentation Overview	Final Presentation (12/6/22)

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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://build.com.edu/uploads/sitecontent/files/student-services/Student\\_Handbook\\_2019-2020v5.pdf](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](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 Michelle Brezina at 409-933-8124 or [mvaldes1@com.edu](mailto:mvaldes1@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 October 5. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is November 18. The last date to withdraw for the 2<sup>nd</sup> 8-week session is December 1.

**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).