



RANGER COLLEGE
RANGER, TEXAS

COURSE SYLLABUS

ENGLISH COMPOSITION II

ENGLISH 1302

3 credit hours

INSTRUCTOR:

Jo Ann Gordon

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EMAIL: jgordon@rangercollege.edu
OFFICE: Eastland High School Room 102
PHONE: 254.631.5000
HOURS: Monday through Friday 3:30

I. Texas Core Curriculum Statement of Purpose

Through the Texas Core Curriculum, students will gain a foundation of knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world, develop principles of personal and social responsibility for living in a diverse world, and advance intellectual and practical skills that are essential for all learning.

II. 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. Credit 3 semester hours.

Required Background or Prerequisite

English 1301

IV. Required Textbook and Course Materials

Meyer, Michael. The Bedford Introduction to Literature. Bedford, 2016. 11th Edition. ISBN - 9781319086251.

V. Course Purpose

Courses in this category focus on developing ideas and expressing them clearly, considering the effect of the message, fostering understanding, and building the skills needed to communicate persuasively. Courses involve the command of oral, aural, written, and visual literacy skills that enable people to exchange messages appropriate to the subject, occasion, and audience.

VI. Learning Outcomes

Demonstrate knowledge of individual and collaborative research processes. Develop ideas and synthesize primary and secondary sources within focused academic arguments, including one or more research-based essays. Analyze, interpret, and evaluate a variety of texts for the ethical and logical uses of evidence.

VII. Core Objectives

This course meets the following of the six Core Objectives established by Texas:

- Critical Thinking Skills (CT)** – Creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis; and synthesis of information
- Communication Skills (COM)** – effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication
- Empirical and Quantitative Skills (EQS)** – The manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions
- Teamwork (TW)** – The ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal
- Social Responsibility (SR)** – Intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities
- Personal Responsibility (PR)** – The ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making

VIII. Methods of Instruction

This will include lectures, assigned readings, discussions, group projects, videos, electronic documents, Power Points, and possibly other methods if needed.

IX. Methods of Assessment

I will evaluate your work in light of a set of “evaluation criteria,” which I will put on every assignment and/or peer revision sheet. Take note of these criteria because they are what I am looking for when I grade your papers.

Every paper must be saved to a jump drive so that you can make changes as needed or print if necessary in our computer lab. I will not grade the rough draft, but I will expect you to keep up with the parts of the writing process. At this point I do not want papers emailed to me unless we have made prior arrangements.

- I consider peer review an important element in the writing process. Therefore, I will require guided peer reviews for most major out of class writing assignments. Having your draft circulate on these days is part of each assignment. Your paper will receive a full-grade penalty if it does not circulate. I also note who is reading critically and who is not. Peer revision is part of your evaluation.
- 40% Research Paper
- 30% Exams
- 10% Participation/Professionalism - based upon attendance, daily grades, quizzes, activities related to reading assignments, group work, postings, etc.
- 20% Final Examination/Portfolio Assessment

Grading scale: A = 90-100% B = 80-89 C = 70-79 D = 60-69 F = Below 60

X. Course/Classroom Policies

Attendance:

Prompt and regular class attendance is considered necessary for satisfactory work. It is the responsibility of the instructor to keep an accurate and comprehensive record of attendance.

Ranger College recognizes that **absence from class may occur due to illness, death or illness in the immediate family, observance of a religious holiday, or participation in a school-sponsored activity.** (Absences due to participation in a school-sponsored activity must be authorized by the proper authority.)

When absences occur due to the above, I will consider the absence excused, and the student is allowed to make up work missed; however, if a major paper is due on the day of your absence, you must get the paper to me on that day unless it is physically impossible. I will listen to your explanation, but since you know in advance that a major assignment is due by a certain date, you must get the paper to me if possible (a fellow classmate, family member, etc. . .) According to college policy, the instructor may require the work to be made up within two weeks. ***My policy provides you one week (more about this under “Make-up Work” below).***

If the instructor deems a student failing due to excessive absences and/or failure to make up work due to absences, the student **may** be dropped from the class after 6 unexcused absences in classes meeting twice a week. (Please see below for how excessive absences affect your participation/professionalism grade.)

The student will receive a grade of W for the course if withdrawn before the “last day to drop with a W” and F if withdrawn after the “last day to drop with a W.”

Make-up Work:

A major assignment is due by 3:00 p.m. on the due date unless for some reason I announce a change or unless you have made special arrangements with me. Writing assignments turned in after that time receive a deduction in grade (one grade per calendar day). I will not accept major assignments after one week.

Essays that are written in class may not be done outside of class. In case of absence on the day of an in-class essay, the assignment must be made up during my office hours at my convenience or with an appropriately appointed supervisor within one week (or as soon as possible). **Also, in order to make up an in-class essay, you must contact me on or before the scheduled day of the writings.**

Course Content:

College-level courses may include controversial, sensitive, and/or adult material. Students are expected to have the readiness for college-level rigor and content.

Student Conduct/Student Technology Use in Classroom:

I expect you to respect the rights of the other class members by not speaking or whispering when I am talking or when anyone else has the floor. I am granted the right by the college and the State of Texas to remove a student from the classroom when he/she ignores such civility.

Use of communication devices, including but not limited to cell phones or tablets is prohibited during class. Use of any communication device or data storage device during a test may result in a charge of academic dishonesty.

Participation/Professionalism:

Whatever field you choose to study here at Ranger College, a major goal is to become a professional. Therefore, I will judge your progress toward professionalism in conjunction with your participation in the class. Each of you has something to contribute. Therefore, the participation/professionalism grade (10%) you will receive at the end of the term will be influenced by three factors: the quality and quantity of your participation in class (including your interactions with other class members and with me); the diligence with which you work during class and during peer reviews; and your class attendance. If you miss class excessively, you alter the classroom dynamic because your colleagues are not able to benefit from your unique perspective and insight. Therefore, on your 5th unexcused absence, you lose one half of your participation/professionalism grade. On your 6th unexcused absence, you lose all of it.

Academic Honesty/Integrity:

Plagiarism is another word for academic dishonesty and is a form of theft. This occurs when you attempt to present someone else's work as your own and/or you do not provide adequate documentation to another author's work.

All of the writing that you do and the ideas in your papers must either be your own or be correctly attributed to their source. Any attempt to pass off the work of someone else as your

own is a **SERIOUS** offense. If you plagiarize a large part of your paper by failing to document the source correctly, your paper will receive heavy penalties. Please be aware that cutting and pasting from internet sites IS plagiarism if you fail to acknowledge directly copied material with quotation marks, even if you attribute the information to the correct website. **If you attempt to turn in a paper written by someone else write or a paper from an online service, you will fail the course.**

XI. Course Outline/Schedule

English 1302 Class Schedule

- Week 1 general orientation, pre-test **assignment: "A Secret Sorrow" and "A Sorrowful Woman"**
- Week 2 Review short answer format for story questions and demonstrate lit analysis essay comparing the theme of domestic relationships **(class examples) CT COM**
- Week 3** "A Rose for Emily" Plot Structure "The Hand" Setting **CT COM**
- Week 4 "A Good Man is Hard to Find" Character "Barn Burning" theme of initiation **CT COM**
- Week 5 "A Good Man is Hard to Find" Character **CT COM**
- Week 6 "Everyday Use" "Battle Royal" narrative technique, theme and character **CT COM**
- Week 7 "The Lesson" and "The Birthmark" characterization **CT COM**
- Week 8 Review for short answer mid-term test **CT COM**
- Week 9 Mid-term exam part I and II **CT COM**
- Week 10 Begin Research Paper by library introduction – guest speaker Ranger librarian – assign data base exercise finding various sources and documenting **CT COM SR TW PR**
- Week 11 Coordinate short stories with research topics...must use stories as well as secondary sources **CT COM SR TW PR**
- Week 12 Complete working outline with primary and secondary sources...include Thesis Statement **CT COM**
- Week 13 **Complete rough draft with Cited Sources Page CT COM SR PR**
- Week 14 Peer revision and teacher comments on rough draft copy...turn in Final Copy **CT COM SR PR TW**
- Week 15 Review Final Exam Return Research **CT COM**

XII. Non-Discrimination Statement

Admissions, employment, and program policies of Ranger College are nondiscriminatory in regard to race, creed, color, sex, age, disability, and national origin.

XIII. ADA Statement

Ranger College provides a variety of services for students with learning and/or physical disabilities. Students are responsible for making initial contact with the Ranger College Counselor, Gabe Lewis (glewis@rangercollege.edu). It is advisable to make this contact before or immediately after the semester begins.