



RANGER COLLEGE
STEPHENVILLE, TEXAS

COURSE SYLLABUS

COMPOSITION i

ENGL 1301

3 credit hours

Fall 2017

INSTRUCTOR:

Lisa Weber

INSTRUCTOR: Lisa Weber
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OFFICE: Off Campus, RCEC
PHONE: 254-485-5089
HOURS: M/W/F 4:00-7:00 pm

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 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. Credit 3 semester hours.

III. Required Background or Prerequisite

Course Prerequisites: A passing score on appropriate section of the TSI or equivalent alternate test.

IV. Required Textbook and Course Materials

Miller, George. *The Prentice Hall Reader*. Boston, MA: Pearson, 2015. ISBN 13: 9780321899712.

Wysocki, Anne Frances and Dennis A. Lynch. *The DK Handbook*. Fourth Edition. ISBN 13: 9780134139869

Dictionary and Thesaurus of student's choice.

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

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

- Demonstrate knowledge of individual and collaborative writing processes.
- Develop ideas with appropriate support and attribution.
- Write in a style appropriate to audience and purpose.
- Read, reflect, and respond critically to a variety of texts.
- Use Edited American English in academic essays.

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; evaluation 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 is a multimedia class, and as such it may include lectures, assigned readings, discussions, group projects, videos, electronic documents, PowerPoints, and more.

IX. Methods of Assessment

- **Class participation (20 percent of total grade) (PR, COM, TW)** – This includes regular attendance and participation in class discussions, including required posts uploaded to the Discussion Board in Blackboard. Strong class participation does not mean simply “talking a lot” in class. It means speaking in an informed way about the readings, synthesizing the comments of others, and listening with respect and attention to the diverse backgrounds and perspectives of your peers. You will receive a class participation grade at the midpoint of the semester and again at the end, based on your attendance and active participation, as well as your completion of, or failure to complete, any given assignments.
- **Quizzes (20 percent) (CT, COM, PR)** – Careful examination of assigned readings is essential for this reading-and-discussion-based course, so you will be held accountable for completion of the reading assignments. Quizzes will assess your knowledge and understanding of what you have read, focusing especially on the technical terminology of comparative writing. These quizzes may also focus on matters that are not in the readings but that emerge as a special focus of collective student interest during preceding class discussions. NOTE: You are responsible for knowing the information in all of the readings even if I do not directly talk about all of it in classroom lectures and discussions.
- **Essays and Term Paper (20 percent) (CT, COM, TW)** – You will write four essays (400-600 words in length) as well as a research paper (4-6 pages) in which you will demonstrate specific organizational structure and demonstrate the use of unified thesis statements that are followed by support. The essays will demonstrate the ability to use grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, and spelling acceptable to semi-formal standards with each writing assignment.
- **Midterm Exam (20 percent) (CT, COM, PR)** – There will be an in-class midterm exam focusing on the technical terminology of the material that we have studied up to that point.
- **Final Exam (20 percent) (CT, COM, PR)** – There will be a comprehensive proctored final exam focusing on 1) the technical terminology of the material that we have studied throughout the semester, and 2) two essays (2-3 pages in length) on a given prompt that will be provided on day of exam.

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

X. Course/Classroom Policies

The following rules and guidelines about classroom behavior are to be memorized, internalized, and strictly adhered to. Failure to do so will negatively impact your experience of this class, not to mention your grade.

1. **Arrive on time.** Class begins promptly at the scheduled time. This means you should be in your seat and ready to begin.
2. **Always bring the assigned reading to class.** If there is an assigned reading on a given class day, class time will be devoted to discussing that reading. We will also read some things aloud together. In order for you to participate in close readings and discussions, it is imperative that you have in hand all of the assigned texts for each day, including printouts (preferably annotated by you) of any texts provided electronically.
3. **Come to class prepared.** You are expected to participate in class discussions and come to class meetings having completed all assigned readings and written work.
4. **Turn in assignments on time.** By accepting this syllabus, you agree to accept a score of zero on any late work. All essays/research paper need to be submitted in to SafeAssign prior to turning the hard copy in.
5. **Don't cheat.** Any assignment reflecting cheating, plagiarism, or any other form of academic dishonesty will receive an opportunity to redo assignment with a 70% as the highest grade possible. A second instance will result in automatic failure of the class and a report being filed with Ranger College's Vice President of Instruction. The consequences of this report can be quite severe for your academic future. For more details, see the section of the Ranger College Catalog (available at www.rangercollege.edu/catalog.pdf), titled "Student Misconduct," subsection "Academic Dishonesty."
6. **Six absences = Dropped from class with a failing grade.** I expect you to attend class regularly. As per Ranger College's stated absence policy in the general college catalog (see pages 25-26 at <http://rangercollege.edu/catalog.pdf>), the only absences that will be excused are "official" ones, defined as those that occur due to authorized Ranger College activities (such as sporting events). Unofficial absences are counted from the first day of class as listed in the College Calendar, regardless of the date of your registration.
7. **No phones, laptops, or tablets. Ever. This even includes using a phone or computer to access course materials.** Your phone must be turned off and properly stowed in your bag or otherwise stored off your person prior to class takeoff. Your phone should NEVER be in your hand, on your desk, in your pocket, or anywhere else that it might distract you, your classmates, or me.

8. **Email:** I am happy to communicate with you by email and will do my best to respond within 24 hours during the week. Messages sent over the weekend will be read on Mondays. In the subject line of any email that you send me, please indicate the content of the email. Then begin your message in the following manner:

Dear Mrs. Weber,

My name is _____ and I am in your Comp I class.

XI. Course Outline/Schedule

Reading assignments and the dates of exams and written assignments are subject to revision as needed. I will announce all revisions in class, post them on Blackboard, and do my best to make sure that everyone knows about the changes. If you miss class, you are still responsible for submitting assignments according to any revisions that we make to the schedule.

WEEK	DATE	TOPIC/ASSIGNMENT
1	Aug. 29	<p>Student Orientation Due 9/3/17 Complete the Diagnostic Assignment (Online Students only) Student Orientation Quiz (Online students only) Discussion Board (Online students only) Contact Information (Online students only)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graded Assignment: Plagiarism Quiz <p>Writing Basics Unit Due 9/3/17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Chap 1 in the <i>DK Handbook</i> pages 84-91 • Watch the video on Point of View • Read the “Ethos, Pathos and Logos” Lesson • Graded Assignments • Discussion Board: Rhetorical Appeals • F2F Study for Quiz: Point of View/Rhetorical Quiz for next week’s class (Online students will take quiz this week)
	Sept. 4	Labor Day Holiday
	Sept. 5	<p>Unit 1: Narrative Essay</p> <p>Quiz: Point of View/Rhetorical Quiz</p> <p>Read Pages 540-560 in <i>The DK Handbook</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Chapter 2 in <i>The Prentice Hall Reader</i> • Discussion Board (Online students only) • Graded Assignment: Student Review 1 on commas (Online students) • F2F Study for Review 1 for next week’s class
3	Sept. 12	<p>Unit 2: Narrative Essay Unit (Continues)</p> <p>F2F Study for Review 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read pages 561-563 and 584-587 in <i>The DK Handbook</i> Semicolon and End Mark Review • Outline Instruction / Rubric • Discussion Board (Online students only) • Graded Assignment: Student Review 1 on commas (Online) • F2F Study for Quiz for next week’s class on semi-colons and end marks

4	Sept. 19	<p>Unit 3: Division/Classification Essay</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Chapter 4 in <i>The Prentice Hall Reader</i> Read Chapter 4 in <i>The Prentice Hall Reader</i> • Read page 333 in <i>The DK Handbook</i> • Grammar Review on Subject/Verb Agreement: Read pages 458-461 in <i>The DK Handbook</i> • Essay Instructions • Graded Assignments: Submit your Narrative Essay • Quiz: Subject/Verb Agreement (Online) • F2F study for quiz next week
5	Sept. 26	<p>Unit 4: Division/Classification Essay F2F Quiz on Subject/Verb Agreement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turn in your Division/Classification writing plan and begin essay • Read pages 588-597 in <i>The DK Handbook</i> • Discussion Board (Online students only) • Writing plan instructions • Graded Assignment: Mechanics Quiz (Online Only) • F2F study for quiz next week
6	Oct. 3	<p>Unit 5A: Division/Classification Essay (continued) F2F Mechanics Quiz</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review for Quiz • Division/Classification Quiz • Division/Classification Essay Due
7	Oct.10	<p style="text-align: center;">Unit 5B: Midterm Exam Review</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mid-term information • Discuss Compare/Contrast Unit • Read Chapter 5 in <i>The Prentice Hall Reader</i> • Ideas for Compare/Contrast Essay • Graded Assignments: Turn in Mid-term Review • Discussion Board (Online only) • Compare/Contrast Writing Plan
8	Oct. 17	Unit 6: Midterm Exam
9	Oct. 24	<p>Unit 7A: Final Essay: Persuasive Research</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Chap 9 in <i>The Prentice Hall Reader</i> • Class Activities: Research Paper requirements • Graded Assignments: Intro Research Paper Quiz (Online Only) • Research Topics with Database Info • Pros/Cons • Compare/Contrast Essay Due • F2F study for Intro to Research for next week's class

10	Oct. 31	Unit 7B: Persuasive Research (continued) F2F Intro to Research Paper Quiz <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Reading Assignment this week • Researching your topic • Graded Assignments: • Discussion Board (Online only) • How to Write a Rebuttal • Submit your Research Outline and Thesis • Essay Quiz • Chapter 9 Reading quiz • F2F study for both quizzes for next week
11	Nov. 7	Unit 8: Research Paper Introduction F2F study for both quizzes
12	Nov. 14	Unit 9: Research Paper
November 20-24: Thanksgiving Break		
13	Nov. 28	Unit 10: Research Paper
14	Dec. 5	Unit 11: Research Paper
15	Dec. 12	Unit 12: Research Papers Due/ Semester Exam Review
16	Dec. 19	Finals Week

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.