

University of North Texas at Dallas
Spring 2014
SYLLABUS

Course Abbreviation/Number/Title/Semester Hrs ENGL1323: College Writing I I 3Hrs				
Department of		English	Division of Liberal Arts & Life Sciences	
Instructor Name:		<i>Dr. Sura P. Rath</i>		
Office Location:		<i>Founders Hall #261</i>		
Office Phone:		<i>972.338.1545</i>		
Email Address:		sura.rath@unt.edu		
Office Hours:		MW 9-10 a.m. & TTH 2:30-3:30 p.m.		
Classroom Location:		1323-93 TTH 1:00-2:20 Dal 2 #240		
		1323-94 MW 10:00-11:20 Dal 2 #243		
Course Catalog Description:		Computer Assisted College Writing: Writing as a means of critical thinking; emphasis on the process of perfecting the essay through multiple drafts		
Prerequisites:		3 credits of college English (ENGL 1313 or equivalent)		
Required Text:		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Critical Thinking, Reading, and Writing: A Brief Guide to Argument</i> 8th. Ed. Sylvan Barnet and Hugo Bedau 2. <i>Elements of Style</i> by William Strunk and E. B. White 3. A good dictionary (Recommended: <i>American Heritage Dictionary</i>) 		
Useful telephone #s		UNT Dallas Library: (972) 780-3625; http://www.unt.edu/unt-dallas/library.htm UNT Dallas Bookstore: (972) 780-3652; 1012mgr@fheg.follett.com		
Course Goals or Overview:				
<p>Our goals in this course are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. to read texts critically; b. to think logically; and c. to write effectively. <p>I will ask you to keep a portfolio of all your readings, to participate in class discussions with a spirit of inquiry and openness; and to write a research paper using the standard steps of preparing a bibliography, taking notes, multiple drafting, and revising.</p>				
Learning Objectives/Outcomes: At the end of this course, you will				
Be able read a text critically, examining the author's underlying premises and questioning them				
Be able to pick a subject and prepare a topic for a research paper, citing sources for support				
Be able to prepare a working bibliography by using multiple methods of library research				
Demonstrate the ability to take notes and organize ideas in coherent paragraphs				
Define qualities of effective writing: unity, coherence, and emphasis				

Course Evaluation Methods

Your performance in the class will be based on my evaluation of the following:

1. Portfolio: A thorough and detailed record of your readings. These should be maintained in a three-ring binder that serves as a portfolio of your notes, questions, queries, and reflections, etc., on everything you read.
2. Record of your attendance and class participation.
3. Your successful completion of the research project on time. This is a hands-on studio course using continued practice of writing the research paper.

Successful completion of this course depends on your regular and punctual attendance, systematic completion of the steps of writing a research paper, and timely submission of all assigned work.

Grade points distribution for assignments:

TOPICS	TIMELINE
Portfolio of reading notes	200 points
Participation in class discussions	200 points
Research paper: Selecting a topic for a research paper, week 2	300 points
• Preparing a working bibliography, weeks 3-4	
• Note-taking, weeks 4-8	
• Preparing multiple drafts of a research paper, weeks 9-13	
• Documenting cited material (MLA and APA formats)	
• Revising the written text	

*Regular and punctual attendance is required for this class. To earn the full points for attendance, you will need to be present for all the meetings. For each unexcused absence, you lose ten points.

Grade Determination: (*grading will be on a ten-point scale*)

A > 90% B = 81 – 90 % C = 71 – 80 % D = 61 – 70 % F < 60%

University Policies and Procedures

Students with Disabilities (ADA Compliance):

The University of North Texas Dallas faculty is committed to complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students' with documented disabilities are responsible for informing faculty of their needs for reasonable accommodations and providing written authorized documentation. For more information, you may visit the Office of Disability Accommodation/Student Development Office, Suite 115 or call Laura Smith at 972-780-3632.

Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness Policy:

The Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness (SETE) is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. This short survey will be made available to you at the end of the semester, providing you a chance to comment on how this class is taught. I am very interested in the feedback I get from students, as I work to continually improve my teaching. I consider the SETE to be an important part of your participation in this class.

Assignment Policy:

All assigned work is due IN CLASS on the day it is due. Homework, such as summaries/synopses of readings, should be typed double-spaced.

Exam Policy:

Exams should be taken as scheduled. No makeup examinations will be allowed except for documented emergencies (See Student Handbook).

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity is a hallmark of higher education. You are expected to abide by the University's code of conduct and Academic Dishonesty policy. Any person suspected of academic dishonesty (i.e., cheating or plagiarism) will be handled in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to the Student Code of Conduct at http://www.unt.edu/csrr/student_conduct/index.html for complete provisions of this code.

Bad Weather Policy:

On those days that present severe weather and driving conditions, a decision may be made to close the campus. In case of inclement weather, call UNT Dallas Campuses main voicemail number (972) 780-3600 or search postings on the campus website www.unt.edu/dallas. Students are encouraged to update their Eagle Alert contact information, so they will receive this information automatically.

Attendance and Participation Policy:

The University attendance policy is in effect for this course. Class attendance and participation is expected because the class is designed as a shared learning experience and because essential information not in the textbook will be discussed in class. The dynamic and intensive nature of this course makes it impossible for students to make-up or to receive credit for missed classes. Attendance and participation in all class meetings is essential to the integration of course material and your ability to demonstrate proficiency. Students are responsible to notify the instructor if they are missing class and for what reason. Students are also responsible to make up any work covered in class. It is recommended that each student coordinate with a student colleague to obtain a copy of the class notes, if they are absent.

Diversity/Tolerance Policy:

Students are encouraged to contribute their perspectives and insights to class discussions. However, offensive & inappropriate language (swearing) and remarks offensive to others of particular nationalities, ethnic groups, sexual preferences, religious groups, genders, or other ascribed statuses will not be tolerated. Disruptions which violate the Code of Student Conduct will be referred to the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities as the instructor deems appropriate.

Optional Policies:

- ❖ Use of WebCT/Blackboard: **I do not use Blackboard.**
- ❖ Use of Cell Phones & other Electronic Gadgets in the Classroom: **Not allowed. All cell phones must be turned off or switched to "silence" mode.**
- ❖ Food & Drink in the Classroom: **Please do not bring food and drinks to the class.**
- ❖ Use of Laptops is allowed. **You may use your laptop to prepare drafts, but you must provide hard copies of drafts for peer review and for my comments.**

- ❖ Grade of Incomplete, “I”: I do not approve of “incomplete” grades except in major health related disabilities. Medical documentation will be required.
- ❖ ALL DRAFTS OF YOUR WRITING MUST BE SAVED UNTIL THE END OF THE SEMESTER.

Reading Schedule

Week	Beginning	Class Activity	Reading Assignment for next class
Week 1	1/13	Class introduction.	Ch 1, pp. 1-33
Week 2	1/20	Martin Luther King, Jr., Day, No class Monday Discussions on Ch. 1, pp. 1-23	
Week 3	1/27	Discussions on Ch. 1, pp. 24-33 Discussions on Ch. 2, pp. 34-60	Ch. 2, pp. 34-73
Week 4	2/3	Discussions on Ch. 2, pp. 61-73 Workshop on topic selection. From subject to topic. Group discussion on topic selection. Peer critique Library research Preparing a bibliography.	
Week 5	2/10	First draft of bibliography. Final working bibliography	Ch. 3, pp. 74-113
Week 6	2/17	Research and Note-Taking Group critique of notes	Ch. 3, pp. 114-140
Week 7	2/24	Research and Note-Taking (2/26—3/1 I will be away at a meeting.) Preparing a thesis: how to develop a thesis from your selected topic Library Presentation: 2/26 (#243) and 2/27 (#240)	
Week 8	3/3	First Draft of Introduction paragraph (proposal) Peer critique of intro paragraphs	Ch. 4, pp. 141-176
Week 9	3/10	Spring Break week. No class.	
Week 10	3/17	Writing the first draft of the paper Group critique of the first draft	Ch. 5, pp.179-227
Week 11	3/24	Group critique of the first draft	Ch, 6, pp. 228-266
Week 12	3/31	Draft 2	
Week 13	4/7	Draft 3	Ch. 7, pp. 267-317

- Week 14 4/14 Final draft Casebook, pp. 461-515
Documentation: End notes and Works Cited
This week I will preview your complete paper to add my own comments to them.
You will have one more chance to revise your work incorporating my
remarks/suggestions. Final submission of the paper will be due next week.
- Week 15 4/21 Presentation of the final work to class.
This week and the next you will get a chance to make an oral presentation of your
paper to the whole class. Each presenter will get a maximum of ten minutes to
discuss the central argument of the paper and answer any questions from the
peers.
- Week 16 4/28

There will be no final examination for this class.