ENGLISH 1301 Composition I  
Fall 2017

INSTRUCTOR: Shawn K. Newell  
PHONE: (512) 756-6193 ext. 2489  
EMAIL: snewell@burnetcisd.org

CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

Emphasizing the writing process, this course offers substantial practice in the production of effective prose essays as well as an analysis of selected readings. 
Prerequisites: Successful completion of 1301T and/or TSI Requirements Met.

TEXTBOOK AND ONLINE RESOURCES:

No textbook will be required. We will use handouts and online resources for our reading.

COURSE SUPPLIES:

- Class Notebook (for notes, assignments, and in-class work)
- Two Pocket Folder (for submitting hard copy essays)

ENGLISH 1301: A CORE COMMUNICATIONS COURSE

The ASU Core Curriculum Committee has designated English 1301 as a core course in the area of Communication1. According to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, courses in this foundational component area should “focus on developing ideas and expressing them clearly, considering the effect of the message, fostering understanding, and building the skills needed to communicate persuasively” and should “involve the command of oral, aural, written, and visual literacy skills that enable people to exchange messages appropriate to the subject, occasion, and audience.” In addition, every core course must help students develop four of the broad core objectives. The four designated for this class are

- Critical Thinking Skills – To include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information;
- Communication Skills – To include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication;
- Teamwork – To include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal; and
- Personal Responsibility – To include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making.
All student learning outcomes and course policies are designed to foster student growth in these four skill areas. Attached to this syllabus is the rubric used by the Department of English and Modern Languages to assess core outcomes in this class.

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**

All of the principles and conventions of good writing can be distilled into two rules: “Have something to say, and say it well.” More specifically, upon completing the course, you should

- understand the nature of the writing process and use all of its phases in writing;
- understand the principles of audience analysis and adapt content, structure, and language to the needs of specific readers;
- understand the basic prose structures and apply them on the sentence, paragraph, and essay level so that readers can easily understand your purpose and follow your progression of ideas;
- be able to generate sufficient and appropriate detail to convince readers of the validity of your thesis;
- be sensitive and attentive to language, applying principles of style and tone to enhance the appeal of essays.
- be able to write prose largely free of errors in grammar, diction, usage, and mechanics.
- be able to think critically about your own writing and the writing of others;
- be able to collaborate with others to produce more effective texts.

**PERSONAL CONDUCT AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

In this and all college courses, you should conduct yourself with professionalism and collegiality, and you should take responsibility for your own learning and performance. Excellent students are motivated, dedicated, and self-reliant; they have a positive attitude and a good work ethic. You will improve your chances of succeeding in this class by following these rules:

- **Stay focused.** Attend class and be actively involved. Pay attention and participate in discussions. Ask questions when you have them and consult your professor when you have concerns.
- **Be prepared every day.** Critically read all assignments. Conscientiously complete homework and class activities. Keep up with your work.
- **Follow instructions carefully**, especially those on assignment prompts, and prepare assignments according to the guidelines provided.
- **Encourage learning and collaborate** with classmates and support the instructor in the goal of learning.
• **Be courteous.** To avoid distracting others, arrive on time and leave when class is dismissed.

• **Avoid talking in class except when appropriate.** While it is sometimes acceptable and even desirable to question opinions and even facts offered by others (including the teacher), you should do so respectfully and thoughtfully, with learning goals in mind.

• **Silence and put away cell phones.** Do not use any personal electronic devices unless invited to do so as part of the lesson. If you believe your smartphone or tablet would be helpful to you during class, ask permission to use it.

**ATTENDANCE AND MAKEUP POLICY**

The Attendance and Makeup policies of Burnet CISD will be in effect for this class.

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:**

Students are expected to do their own work. Plagiarism will not be tolerated. Any instance of plagiarism will result in a zero for the assignment in question, with no make-up possible. If you are in doubt as to what constitutes plagiarism, please ask.

**GRADING:**

Your grade for the course will be based on the following:

• Class participation, in-class assignments, discussions, etc.
• Final Copies of 4-5 papers of varying point values
• A Final Examination

**Last day to drop for the Fall Semester:**

November 3rd

*I reserve the right to make changes to this syllabus or assignment calendar as needed to facilitate reaching the desired outcomes of the course.*
Tentative Activity Schedule

Week of 8/28
Week of 9/4
Week of 9/11
Week of 9/18
Week of 9/25
Week of 10/2
Week of 10/9
Week of 10/16
Week of 10/23
Week of 10/30
Week of 11/6
Week of 11/13
Week of 11/20
Week of 11/27
Week of 12/4
Week of 12/11