English 1301

Dr. Dessie Davis
Fall 2018 Online

Contact Info
dessie.davis@angelo.edu
325-486-6137
Academic 001B
On Tuesdays and
Thursdays, I’ll be in my
office from 9-1015 AND
I’ll be online in case you
email me for help.

All notes, assignments,
and other course
related information
will be in or linked
from Blackboard.
Make it a favorite on
your computer!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade Weights</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daily Work</td>
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<td>(discussion</td>
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<td>boards,</td>
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<td>quizzes, etc.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Module 1</td>
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<td>Capstone</td>
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<td>Module 2</td>
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<td>Capstone</td>
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<td>Capstone</td>
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<td>Final</td>
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Course Description: Per the ASU course catalog, English 1301 emphasizes the writing process and offers abundant practice in producing effective prose essays and analyzing and discussing selected readings. Prerequisite: Students must complete the English Texas Success Initiative (TSI) requirements.

What does this mean? You will read quite a bit. You will discuss and analyze what you have read, both to see if you understand it and in terms of course notes. You will also write about nearly every topic that comes up.

Student Learning Outcomes: Upon successful completion of this course, you should be able to

- Employ problem-solving strategies (such as inquiring about an issue, comprehending consequences, and analyzing and synthesizing information) to generate positions and arguments and to examine basic principles of information to support a thesis.
- Comprehend, analyze, synthesize, and evaluate their own communication and that of others to raise questions, make assertions, and generate discussion about a topic or question.
- Take into consideration audience, context, purpose, conventions, and circumstances relevant to written communication; use relevant and appropriate content for the specific rhetorical situation in order to express their position(s) effectively in writing.
- Work individually and collectively toward a shared purpose or goal with members of a team, creating and evaluating their peers’ drafts.
- Identify their own core beliefs and the sources of those beliefs in order to connect their choices and actions to decision making; also recognize and evaluate possible consequences of their decisions.

Required Text: In short, there is not a required physical textbook. The course will be in Blackboard, and there will be Word documents, Power Point presentations, and links to external sites (among other possible content) that you must
use to complete work in the course. If you feel a writing handbook would help you, let me know and I can recommend several for you to choose from.

**Course Outline:** This course will be divided into three modules. Each module will be scaffolded, meaning each will start with relatively simple, single-step assignments. These assignments will build on one another. Each module will culminate in a capstone prose piece, varying in rhetorical purpose and audience and employing a variety of rhetorical strategies. A basic outline of the course follows:

- **Module 1 – Summary**  
  - This module will build your ability to summarize various texts, to possibly include newspaper articles, book excerpts, Internet information, speeches, and movie scenes. Covered topics will include but are not limited to thesis statements, topic sentences, idea development, conclusions, and grammar. You will be expected to work individually and in groups, and you will write multiple drafts culminating in the final summarization capstone prose piece.

- **Module 2 – Textual Analysis**  
  - Building on your work from the first module, we will begin working on your ability to analyze the text of the various readings from the first module and other readings. Covered topics will include but are not limited to audience, direct and implied evidence, bias, context, purpose, and grammar. You will be expected to work individually and in groups, and you will write multiple drafts culminating in the final textual analysis capstone prose piece.

- **Module 3 – Synthesis**  
  - This module will extend the work and readings from Module 1 and Module 2 into the ability to analyze and synthesize the information from all of the readings as a whole. Covered topics will include but are not limited to quoting, paraphrasing, documentation, logical fallacies, and grammar. You will be expected to work individually and in groups, and you will write multiple drafts culminating in the final synthesis capstone prose piece.

- **Final Exam**  
  - Final exams for the Fall 2018 semester will take place December 10-14. The final exam will be cumulative, meaning you will have to write a prose piece demonstrating mastery of the topics covered in the course.

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

**Grading:** As noted on the first page of the syllabus, your final average in this course will reflect several categories:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attendance (3%)</th>
<th>Daily Work (10%)</th>
<th>Module 1 Capstone (18%)</th>
<th>Module 2 Capstone (20%)</th>
<th>Module 3 Capstone (22%)</th>
<th>Final Exam (27%)</th>
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- **Attendance:** Attendance in an online course is just as important as attendance in a face-to-face setting but is defined differently. Ideally, you will check Blackboard daily for new announcements, notes, assignments, and information. At a minimum, and for the
purposes of the 3% of your course grade reflecting your attendance, you must check Blackboard at least 3 days per week. If I notice that you have stopped logging in to Blackboard, I will attempt to contact you via email. Failure to participate in the course does not constitute dropping the course; you must officially drop the course through Ramport. If you intend to miss class to participate in a school-related function or observe a religious holy day, notify me in writing prior to the absence.

- **Daily work** will include but is not limited to discussion boards, quizzes, grammar work, and other assignments involved in the scaffolding of each module. Grading methods depend on the assignment and will be explained in the instructions for each assignment. Each module will include 3 grammar assignments. At the end of each module, the grammar assignment grades for the module will be averaged, and that average will be entered into the gradebook as a single daily grade.

- As noted prior, there will be 3 **module capstone prose pieces**. Failure to submit any of the 3 capstone pieces will result in failure of the course as a whole.

- A description of the final exam can be found in the course outline.

**Grading Policies:** Every assignment will be accompanied by explicit instructions regarding what I expect to see in your work. Prose work will be graded holistically based on the stated expectations. At every appropriate opportunity, I will provide feedback in addition to a grade for your work. You are expected to read my feedback and apply it to all subsequent assignments. A rubric will be provided with each module capstone prose piece. The rubric will serve as my feedback on these assignments.

- **All work will be submitted via Blackboard, no exceptions.** Do not email me your work. All prose writing must be one of the following three file types: .docx, .rtf, or .doc. If I cannot open a file you submit, you will receive a zero; you can submit it again, but it will fall under the appropriate late work policy below.

- **Late Work:** Because of the scaffolded nature of the assignments in this course, it is imperative that you submit work on time. I cannot provide feedback on work I have not received, which means you cannot apply my feedback to subsequent work. However, I also recognize that life can be unexpected.
  - Daily Work – I will accept daily work up to 3 days after the original due date and time. All late daily work assignments will receive a 10% penalty.
  - Capstone Prose Pieces - I will not accept these assignments late. If you feel you have a justifiable reason for missing a due date and time, you must contact me as soon as possible. It is likely I will require some sort of documentation of your reason. I will decide whether or not to accept your work on a case-by-case basis.
  - Final Exam – No late work will be accepted.

It is your responsibility to keep me informed of issues affecting your ability to keep up with the course.

**Plagiarism:** Plagiarism is a type of academic dishonesty. It occurs when writers use another person’s language, ideas, or materials and present them as their own without acknowledging the
source. This class will cover plagiarism in detail, so there is little excuse for failing to understand what constitutes plagiarism or the possible consequences.

- **Types of Plagiarism**
  - Failing to cite the source of material used
  - Failing to properly quote material from a source
  - Submitting work written by another person
  - Submitting work written by you for another course
  - Submitting work substantially edited by another person

- **Possible Consequences** (determined by the instructor and/or university)
  - Redo or revise the assignment
  - Fail the assignment
  - Fail the course
  - Be subject to more severe sanctions imposed by the Dean of Students

**Final averages** will be determined according to the following percentages:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90-100%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>80-89%</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>70-79%</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60-69%</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Below 60%</td>
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**Writing Center:** The writing Center is an academic support service available to all ASU students. Peer tutors help experienced and inexperienced writers with all steps of the writing process. Tutors will help students review writing assignments in order to provide suggestions for and recommendations about organization, paragraph development, grammar, documentation, etc.; however, tutors cannot edit papers. They are capable of helping students either face-to-face or via e-submission of papers. To learn more about their services, visit the Writing Center website at [http://www.angelo.edu/dept/writing_center/](http://www.angelo.edu/dept/writing_center/).

**Accommodations:** If you have a documented disability or think you may have a disability and, as a result, need a reasonable accommodation to participate in this class or complete course requirements, contact the Student Affairs Office as soon as possible at 325-942-2047 or studentservices@angelo.edu. It is located in the Houston Harte University Center, Suite 112. To receive any academic accommodation, you must be appropriately registered with Student Affairs. Student Affairs works with students confidentially and does not disclose any disability-related information without students’ permission.

**Student Writing Samples:** By enrolling in this course, you agree to sharing samples of your writing for the purposes of mastering the student learning objectives for this course. Samples of student writing include but are not limited to excerpts from prose pieces, drafts, texts, and discussion board posts. I will only choose work that does not include any potentially embarrassing content, and your name will be removed.
Classroom Decorum: ASU students and instructors are bound by the terms of the Code of Student Conduct, which is published in the Student Handbook at https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/. You are expected to be courteous and behave appropriately at all times, including treating your fellow classmates and their ideas with respect.

**FINAL DRAFTS: A FIRST-YEAR STUDENT WRITING ANTHOLOGY**

Editorial Policy
The anthology features exceptional prose pieces written in response to English 1301/T prompts that fall into the following categories:

- Writing for self-expression: personal/reflective pieces,
- Writing in the academy: pieces written for academic audiences, or
- Writing in the world: pieces written for public audiences.

Each year, English 1301/T instructors nominate the strongest student submissions within their fall sections for inclusion in Final Drafts. As the name suggests, drafts should be polished and already very close to publication-ready at the time of submission. In making their recommendations, instructors should consider how much revision/editing a draft would need for it to meet publication standards and if the student would be willing and available to work under the instructor’s editorial guidance. From this instructor-filtered submission pool, an editorial board then selects exceptional pieces for final publication in the following spring semester.

**Tentative Course Calendar**

As noted in the title, this calendar is tentative. Changes to weeks and/or included content may occur at any time due to student needs as evidenced in their writing for this course or as a reflection of changes to university curriculum.

Week 1: Aug. 27 - Aug. 30
- Introduction Discussion Board
- Syllabus
- Email Assignment
- Google Form

Module 1 – Summary
- Week 2: Sept. 4 – Sept. 7
  - Prewriting
  - Thesis Statements (daily grade associated)
  - Capitalization/Punctuation
- Week 3: Sept. 10 – Sept. 14
  - Topic Sentences (daily grade associated)
  - Commas
- Week 4: Sept. 17 – Sept. 21
  - Idea Development (daily grade associated)
  - Conclusions
  - Semicolons/Colons
• Week 5: Sept. 24 – Sept. 28  
  o Summary Capstone Assignment (18% of course grade)

Module 2 – Textual Analysis
• Week 6: Oct. 1 – Oct. 5  
  o Author’s Purpose  
  o Audience/Context (daily grade associated)  
  o Fragment Sentences
• Week 7: Oct. 8 – Oct. 12  
  o Direct and Implied Evidence (daily grade associated)  
  o Subject/verb agreement
• Week 8: Oct. 15 – Oct. 19  
  o Editing  
  o Revision  
  o Drafting process (daily grade associated)  
  o Noun/pronoun agreement
• Week 9: Oct. 22 – Oct. 26  
  o Textual Analysis Capstone Assignment (20% of course grade)

Module 3 – Synthesis
• Week 10: Oct. 29 – Nov. 2  
  o Logical Fallacies (daily grade associated)  
  o Fragment and run-on sentences
• Week 11: Nov. 5 – Nov. 9  
  o Quotes  
  o Paraphrases  
  o Documentation (daily grade associated)  
  o Title Case
• Week 12: Nov. 12 – Nov. 16  
  o Quotes  
  o Paraphrases  
  o Documentation (daily grade associated)  
  o Essay Format (considered a grammar topic)
• Week 13: Nov. 19 – Nov. 23  
  o Wed – Fri, Angelo State University is closed for Thanksgiving  
  o “Make Up” week (limited!)
• Week 14: Nov. 26 – Nov. 30  
  o Synthesis Definition and examples (daily grade associated)
• Week 15: Dec. 3 – Dec. 7  
  o Synthesis Capstone Assignment (22% of course grade)

FINALS WEEK: DEC. 10 – DEC. 14
• Your final for this course will be assigned as early as course progress allows, will be reflective, will be an essay, and will be due by 1145 pm on Thursday, December 13, 2018. It will be worth 27% of your course grade.