I. **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.

Prerequisite: ENGL 1301

II. **Required Text:**


III. **Learning Objectives**

Upon completing the course, students should:

- 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.
• Write in a style that clearly communicates meaning, builds credibility, and inspires belief or action.
• Apply the conventions of style manuals for specific academic disciplines.

IV. Attendance Policy / Makeup Work

a. Attendance: Class attendance is necessary, mandatory, and expected. Students are expected to be present and on time for all classes unless there is an urgent reason to be absent or tardy. It is impossible to pass the course without attending the class. If a student is absent, he or she should visit with the instructor about missed assignments before the next class period. **It is the student’s responsibility to ask about material missed.**

b. Tardies: Promptness is expected. Students should be seated when the bell rings with their books and necessary materials on their desks.

c. Assignments: Assignments will be announced periodically in class. Students are expected to come to class properly prepared, even if they have been absent. It is the student’s responsibility to find out what assignments are due for class. Students are expected to participate in class. Assignments are due at the start of class on the day due unless otherwise indicated. **NO EXCUSES. If a student is absent, he or she should contact the instructor about making up missed in-class activities. NO LATE WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED AT ANY TIME. NO EXCEPTIONS.**

V. Course Requirements

a. Midterm Exam – There will be a midterm exam. Students who cannot take the exam on the appropriate day are responsible for scheduling a time with the facilitator to take the exam. All exams must be proctored.

b. Written Assignments – Students will be required to complete several essays of varying length over the course of the class, as well as a select number of shorter written assignments. These will include a research paper abstract. All assignments should be typed, unless otherwise indicated, and submitted as instructed.

c. Interactive Notebook – Students will keep a composition notebook that will be added to throughout the semester. Notebooks will be checked at announced AND unannounced times.
d. **Participation** – Students will be given a grade based on participation in class, participation in peer reviews, mini-individual presentations, and team presentations given throughout the semester.

e. **Annotated Bibliography** – Students will complete an annotated bibliography in accordance with the guidelines provided by the instructor.

f. **Research Paper** – Students will complete a research paper on a topic agreed upon by the student and instructor. It will have multiple components and be due toward the end of the semester.

### VI. Class Assessment / Grading

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annotated Bibliography</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Informative Abstract</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Paper</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Written Assignments</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Notebook</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Participation</em></td>
<td>10%</td>
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*Participation grades are a great way to boost your final score in the class. Your grade for participation (10% of your final grade) is based on attendance and participation in class.

To earn 100 points for participation, you must have (near) perfect attendance; you must frequently participate in lectures and discussion in the form of commenting on readings, asking questions, offering reflections and engaging others’ opinions; and you must have absolutely no behavior concerns, outstanding mini and team presentations (prepared, articulate, and thorough), and thoughtful participation in all peer reviews.

Points will be deducted from your participation grade for infrequent participation in lectures and discussion, behavioral concerns, unexcused absences, missing class due to OCS, DAEP or being in the office for disciplinary reasons during this class period.

### VII. Course Calendar

Lesson 1 – Review of MLA and English 1301
Lesson 2 – Analyzing and Argument
Lesson 3 – Visual Argument
Lesson 4 – Constructing an Argument
Lesson 5 – Research in Writing
Lesson 6 – Writing in the Disciplines
Lesson 7 – Citation Forms
Lesson 8 – Constructing a Research Paper

VIII. **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.

IX. **Students with Disabilities:** Persons with disabilities that may warrant academic accommodations must contact the Student Life Office in the University Center in order to request such accommodations prior to any being implemented. You are encouraged to make this request early in the semester so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

X. **Course Policies:**
1. Students should arrive at class on time with their books, materials, notebooks and homework (if applicable) ready. Reading assignments and other out-of-class assignments are expected to be completed before the start of class. Students who are late or must leave class to print, fetch supplies, or run personal errands will be counted TARDY.
2. As per the standard in college classes, students should expect to spend 2.5 hours outside of class for every hour in class. This is a three hour course which means you should spend, on average, 7.5 hours per week outside of class on this course.
3. This course requires regular computer usage for completing discussion boards and submitting assignments. Students should secure a reliable internet/computer source be it home, school, public library, or other location so that they may complete assignments on time. It is advised that students have a backup location should their first location have difficulties. Students who do not have internet/computer access at home should plan accordingly so that all assignments may be completed in a timely manner.
4. Class members who leave class during an exam/quiz will be expected to turn in the exam/quiz regardless of whether the exam/quiz has been completed.
5. Students with computer access during class should avoid working on other assignments, attending to personal business, or in any other way wasting time on the internet (or any other technological device) during class.
6. Questions of general interest may be asked in class, such as clarification of concepts, assignments, and deadlines. Students are encouraged to participate in class. Questions related to personal issues such as grades should be asked during my conference periods or through email.
7. Students should be timely in their questions. All concerns, clarifications, or questions regarding specific assignments or readings should be asked AT LEAST 24 hours before
the deadline. This gives the instructor ample time to respond and the student the ability to ask any necessary follow-up questions.

8. Due to FERPA privacy laws, parents will not be given information regarding the student’s performance, attendance, or other elements. Students should contact the instructor directly with such questions and concerns regarding grades and performance. In instances such as potentially failing for the semester or cheating, administrators and/or counselors may be contacted by the instructor. Parents should speak to their student and/or the counselor/administrator directly in lieu of the instructor.

9. Students should be polite in all forms of communication, including discussion boards, emails and in-class discussions. Remember that anything on the internet is permanent.

10. Students are expected to behave in an appropriate manner for the college classroom, showing respect for the instructor and class members.

11. Should TurnItin not be working at the time the assignment is due, students should be prepared to email the assignment in an attachment to the instructor along with an explanation of the issue. Neither of these issues excuse you from turning in assignments on time. The student should email that assignment to the instructor BEFORE the deadline for that assignment and inform the instructor of the issue.

*All disputed issues will be resolved in accordance with established institutional guidelines.

XI. **Plagiarism and Academic Integrity**

**Plagiarism:** All written material must be the student’s original ideas unless specifically indicated otherwise. Quotation marks should be used when the exact words of a person, a textbook, an article, or a webpage are used, and proper MLA credit should be given to that source. Failure to do so is one form of plagiarism. Students should also remember that using quoted, paraphrased or summarized ideas or information from a person, written source, or online source without giving the source credit is also plagiarism. Students may not turn in duplicate work or work that expresses the same ideas in the same manner, which is also plagiarism. Submitting work that was previously written for another class (“recycling” papers) is plagiarism. ALL FORMS OF PLAGIARISM WILL RECEIVE ZEROS, and the Dean of Students will be contacted. The instructor has the final say on what is and what isn’t plagiarism. All student work will be submitted to TurnItIn.com to check for plagiarism.

**Academic Integrity:** Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding the Academic Honor Code, which is available on the web at [http://www.angelo.edu/forms/pdf/honorcode5.pdf](http://www.angelo.edu/forms/pdf/honorcode5.pdf). At minimum, students who are determined to have violated this policy will receive a failing grade on the assignment and may also receive a failing grade in the course and be referred to the English Department Chair for possible further action.
XII. Absences for Observance of Religious Holy Day

Students who intend to be absent from class to observe a religious holy day (as defined in ASU OP 10.19) must inform the instructor in writing prior to the absence and make up any scheduled assignments within an appropriate timeframe determined by the instructor. While the absence will not be penalized, failure to complete the make-up assignment satisfactorily and within the required timeframe will result in penalties consistent with other absences and assignments.