ENGL 1301.3A1 – Summer II 2025

INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Instructor: Daniel J. Valdez Jr., M.A.

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Office Phone: 409-247-5242

Office Location: TC Room 222

Office Hours: Not available, please schedule an appointment if necessary

CREDIT

3 Semester Credit Hours (3 hours lecture, 0 hours lab)

MODE OF INSTRUCTION

In-Person

PREREQUISITE/CO-REQUISITE:

TSI Complete in Reading and Writing.

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.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to

1. Demonstrate knowledge of individual and collaborative writing processes.

2. Develop ideas with appropriate support and attribution.

3. Write in a style appropriate to audience and purpose.

4. Read, reflect, and respond critically to a variety of texts.

5. Use Edited American English in academic essays.

Core Objectives

1. Critical Thinking Skills: To include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information.

2. Communication Skills: To include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication.

3. Personal Responsibility: To include the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND MATERIALS
An electronic device with access to the Internet**.** Your readings can be found in the specific week's folder.

ATTENDANCE POLICY
This is an asynchronous course. Students are not required to attend any online class. However, students are expected to check BlackBoard and their LIT e-mail daily. Students who do not engage with the class daily will fall behind.

DROP POLICY
If you wish to drop a course, you are responsible for initiating and completing the drop process by the specified drop date as listed on the Academic Calendar. If you stop coming to class and fail to drop the course, you will earn an "F" in the course.

STUDENT EXPECTED TIME REQUIREMENT
For every hour in class (or unit of credit), students should expect to spend at least two to three hours per week studying and completing assignments. For a 3-credit-hour class, students should prepare to allocate approximately six to nine hours per week outside of class in a 16-week session OR approximately twelve to eighteen hours in an 8-week session. Online/Hybrid students should expect to spend at least as much time in this course as in the traditional, face-to-face class.

COURSE CALENDAR

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS (Due on this Date)	ASSIGNMENTS (Due on this Date)
Week 1: Start Here and The Basics	Welcome to ENGL 1301 Classroom Orientation MLA Format Works Cited and In-Text Citations Nouns and Pronouns	How to Write a Formal Email **(07/11/25)** Documents for Your Academic Writing MLA and Works Cited Examples "English Is Not Normal" by John McWhorter **(07/12/25)**	Professional Introduction Forum **(07/09/25)** Orientation Quiz **(07/10/25)** Send Me a Formal Email **(07/11/25)** MLA Template Assignment Works Cited Page Assignment

			Nouns and Pronouns Quiz **(07/12/25)**
Week 2: The Informative Essay, Revising, and Writing Strong Papers	The Informative Essay AI Ethics Verbs and Adverbs Reviewing Papers Common Errors Adjectives What is a "Good" Essay Anyway? Conjunctions and Prepositions	Essay Examples	Informative Essay Outline **(07/14/25)** AI Ethics Discussion Verbs and Adverbs Quiz **(07/15/25)** **INFORMATIVE ESSAY ROUGH DRAFT (07/16/25)** Adjectives Quiz Common Errors Quiz **(07/17/25)** Spot the Difference Assignment Conjunctions and Prepositions Quiz **(07/18/25)**
Week 3: The Research Essay and Grammar	The Research Essay Thesis Statements Diction & Syntax Peer Review Punctuation Confidence in Writing Phrase, Hyphens, Dashes, and Parentheses	Essay Examples Various Readings (TBD)	**INFORMATIVE ESSAY FINAL DRAFT (07/21/25)** Research Essay Outline **(07/23/25)** Thesis Statement Practice Diction and Syntax Quiz **(07/24/25)** **RESEARCH ESSAY ROUGH DRAFT (07/25/25)** Punctuation Quiz Phrases Quiz Hyphens, Dashes, and Parentheses Quiz **(07/26/25)**
Week 4: The Research Essay and Annotated Bibliography	Logical Fallacies LU Library, JSTOR, and Google Scholar Good Sources The Annotated Bibliography Avoiding Bias	Logical Fallacies Videos Biased Articles What Academic Research Looks Like	**RESEARCH ESSAY FINAL DRAFT (07/29/25)** Annotated Bibliography Prewriting **(07/30/25)** Logical Fallacies Quiz

			Sources Quiz Bias Quiz Citations Quiz **(07/31/25)** **ANNOTATED** **BIBLIOGRAPHY** **(08/04/25)**
Week 5: The Persuasive Essay and Overview of Rhetoric	The Persuasive Research Essay Rhetoric Spelling & Syntax	Video Aids Persuasive Essay Examples	Persuasive Research Essay Outline **(08/05/25)** Rhetoric Quiz **(08/06/25)** **PERSUASIVE RESEARCH** **ESSAY ROUGH DRAFT** **(08/08/25)**
Week 6: Final Drafts Workshop and Final Exam Prep	Grammar Overview Workshop Final Exam Prep	N/A	Persuasive Research Essay Peer Review **(08/11/25)** Grammar Quiz **(08/12/25)** **PERSUASIVE RESEARCH** **ESSAY FINAL DRAFT** **(08/13/25)**

COURSE EVALUATION
Final grades will be calculated according to the following criteria:
- Essay #1 10%
- Essay #2 15%
- Persuasive Research Essay--Common Assignment 20%
- Short Writing Assignments 15%
- Daily Grades 20%
- Participation 5%
- Final Exam 15%
- Total 100%
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GRADING SCALE
90-100 A
80-89 B
70-79 C
60-69 D
0 – 59 F

LIT does not use +/- grading scales

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Students found to be committing academic dishonesty (cheating, plagiarism, or collusion) may receive disciplinary action. Students need to familiarize themselves with the institution's Academic Dishonesty Policy available in the Student Catalog & Handbook at http://catalog.lit.edu/content.php?catoid=3&navoid=80#academic-dishonesty.

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

The latest technical requirements, including hardware, compatible browsers, operating systems, etc. can be online at https://lit.edu/online-learning/online-learning-minimum-computer-requirements. A functional broadband internet connection, such as DSL, cable, or WiFi is necessary to maximize the use of online technology and resources.

DISABILITIES STATEMENT

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are federal anti-discrimination statutes that provide comprehensive civil rights for persons with disabilities. LIT provides reasonable accommodations as defined in the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, to students with a diagnosed disability. The Special Populations Office is located in the Eagles' Nest Room 129 and helps foster a supportive and inclusive educational environment by maintaining partnerships with faculty and staff, as well as promoting awareness among all members of the Lamar Institute of Technology community. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Special Populations Coordinator at (409)-951-5708 or email specialpopulations@lit.edu. You may also visit the online resource at Special Populations - Lamar Institute of Technology (lit.edu).

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT STATEMENT

It is the responsibility of all registered Lamar Institute of Technology students to access, read, understand and abide by all published policies, regulations, and procedures listed in the *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook*. The *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook* may be accessed at www.lit.edu. Please note that the online version of the *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook* supersedes all other versions of the same document.

STARFISH

LIT utilizes an early alert system called Starfish. Throughout the semester, you may receive emails from Starfish regarding your course grades, attendance, or academic performance. Faculty members record student attendance, raise flags and kudos to express concern or give praise, and you can make an appointment with faculty and staff all through the Starfish home page. You can also login to Blackboard or MyLIT and click on the Starfish link to view academic alerts and detailed information. It is the responsibility of the student to pay attention to these

emails and information in Starfish and consider taking the recommended actions. Starfish is used to help you be a successful student at LIT.

ADDITIONAL COURSE POLICIES/INFORMATION
ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE STATEMENT

Lamar Institute of Technology (LIT) recognizes the recent advances in Artificial Intelligence (AI), such as ChatGPT, have changed the landscape of many career disciplines and will impact many students in and out of the classroom. To prepare students for their selected careers, LIT desires to guide students in the ethical use of these technologies and incorporate AI into classroom instruction and assignments appropriately. Appropriate use of these technologies is at the discretion of the instructor. Students are reminded that all submitted work must be their own original work unless otherwise specified. Students should contact their instructor with any questions as to the acceptable use of AI/ChatGPT in their courses.

ADDITIONAL COURSE POLICIES/INFORMATION
- **Personal Responsibility**:
  - It is *my* responsibility to convey the course information to students in a clear and concise manner that is aligned with the course objectives. It is *the student's* responsibility to interact with the material, ask questions as needed, complete assignments in a timely manner, and check Blackboard and their email daily.
  - It is the student's responsibility to reach out to me with any questions or concerns they may have.
  - Students *must* listen to lectures and take notes in this course.
  - Technical issues are not a valid excuse for not completing an assignment if you wait until the day the assignment is due. You should work on assignments before the day they are due.
- **Grading**:
  - If a student receives their rough draft and does not correct any of the suggestions from the instructor for the final draft, they will receive an even lower grade than the rough draft.
  - Assignment due dates are subject to change at instructor discretion.
  - Any assignment containing *any* AI generated work will receive a zero. AI used for grammar correction is sometimes marked as AI generated content by the checkers I use (ZeroGPT, QuillBot, Scribb, GPTZero, and Undetectable). I understand that sometimes students may need it to identify a certain grammar issue. However, be cautious. Using AI to generate ideas or compose sentences is not allowed for any reason.
  - Plagiarized assignments will receive a zero.
  - Students who collude on assignments will receive zeroes.
  - I do not mark every little error on a students' essay. I mark the most frequent errors I notice a student is committing, leave feedback for correction, and it is then up to the student to go through their own essay and find errors on their own.

- o Gradebook will be updated weekly, but essays may take up to 2 weeks to grade.
- **Contac**t:
    - o I do not offer office hours since this is a summer course. I will be available through email during the days we meet for the course as well as Fridays. However, I will not answer any emails after 5 PM. If you email me past 5 PM on Friday, you will not receive a reply until Monday morning.
    - o I will occasionally check my emails over the weekend, but I reserve the right to determine whether an email is urgent or not.
- <u>**I reserve the right to update my syllabi as needed throughout the semester.**</u>

LATE WORK

All late work will receive a zero. Students must tell me **at least twenty-four hours before the due date** if they are going to miss work. The assignment must *only* be turned into Blackboard. Once the student turns in the assignment, they *must* immediately email me, or I will not know to look at the assignment. **Students who turn in late assignments but do not notify me will not get the chance to have their assignments re-graded.** Approved late assignments will be re-graded for full credit. Students who turned in assignments late may not get detailed feedback on how to improve their assignments. Depending on the excuse, I will most likely ask for some kind of proof that the excuse is valid. Extenuating circumstances such as severe illness or death of a loved one are valid excuses for missing assignments.

Extenuating circumstances do **not** include going out of town, going on vacation, Internet/technology issues that can quickly be solved by IT/Blackboard support, time management issues, etc.

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

I strive to create an open and respectful environment in which every student feels comfortable expressing their thoughts and opinions without fear of judgment. In our classroom, thoughtful dialogue and mutual respect are essential, and I encourage everyone to participate and engage with different perspectives.

RETAKING ASSIGNMENTS

Other than late work and the major assignments I allow remediation for, I do not allow students to retake assignments. However, I may ask students to resubmit assignments if they do them incorrectly. Once an assignment is graded, it cannot be revised and resubmitted.