
ENGLISH 1301

COMPOSITION & RHETORIC I

SPRING 2014

Required Texts

- *The Arlington Reader*, 3rd ed. Lynn Z. Bloom & Louise Z. Smith
- *A Writer's Reference*, 7th ed. (with "Writing About Literature")
Diana Hacker & Nancy Sommers
- *Outliers: The Story of Success*, Malcolm Gladwell

Additional Materials

- in-class writing tools (pen or pencil and paper)
- a two-pocket folder (for submitting revised essays)
- a stapler

Attendance

You should attend all of every class. Excessive Tardies and Absences will affect your grade (see "Professionalism"). Failure to attend constitutes grounds for failing the course; if you miss **nine** days of class or more, you will receive an "F." I make no distinction between "excused" and "unexcused" absences; an absence is an absence. I take role at the beginning of each class session; if you arrive after role call, check in with me at the end of class. It is your responsibility to find out, from your classmates, what you missed if you were absent.

Writing Assignments

You will write three Major Essays (a Literacy Narrative, an Analysis of *Outliers*, and an Informative Essay), with required Rough Drafts and Peer Reviews for each; the third essay will be in lieu of a final exam. You will also submit ten Writing Exercises, graded Excellent (+), Satisfactory (✓), or Unsatisfactory (-). You must hand in assignments to me at the beginning of class on the day they are due. Papers not submitted directly to me will not receive grades. I never assign extra credit or make-up work. I discuss grades only in private, and only forty-eight hours (at least) after I have returned an assignment.

Late Assignments

For Major Essays, I deduct ten points from the grade for each class period after the assigned due date you submit it. Late Writing Exercises receive an Unsatisfactory (-) if late by one class period, a zero afterwards. I do not accept Rough Drafts submitted after the Peer Review Workshop. I will give no written comments or feedback on late submissions.

DR. MARK WOMACK

ask@drmarkwomack.com

drmarkwomack.com/engl-1301/

"Office" Hours: MW 9:00-10:00

Division One Office

CASA 114

832.482.1053

Section 5006

Monday/Friday 7:00-7:55

CASA 327

Wednesday 7:00-7:55

CASA 319

Section 5009

Monday/Friday 8:05-9:00

CASA 327

Wednesday 8:05-9:00

CASA 319

Credit Hours

3

Prerequisites

Placement by testing or completion of ENGL 307 or 326 and ENGL 305 or 313

Co-requisites

None

Professionalism

Your grade depends in part on how professionally you behave in class. You should always arrive in class on time with your assignments ready to turn in and your text books in hand; you should have completed the readings for that day and be ready to discuss them intelligently. Professionalism includes all of these as well as regular attendance and a sincere effort to improve your own writing and that of your peers through revision and peer reviews. Every Absence lowers your professionalism grade by five points, every Tardy by one point. Professionalism will often mean the difference between one grade and the next—or, in borderline cases, between passing and failing.

Cell Phones

You may not use cell phones in class. Keep your cell phone turned off and out of sight from the moment the class starts until the moment it ends. **Every time I see or hear your cell phone during class, I will deduct ten points from your Professionalism grade.** (Notify me before class begins if there is an emergency situation that absolutely requires you to leave your cell phone on.)

Laptops & Tablets

You may use your laptop or tablet computer only for taking notes, accessing the class website, or other specifically class-related work. If you use it to IM, e-mail, play games, shop or any other such activity during class, you lose ten points from your Professionalism grade and forfeit your right to bring the device to class for the rest of the semester.

Manuscript Requirements

Make and keep a copy of any work turned in for grading. Print out all your assignments on 8 ½ x 11 inch paper. MLA style requires one-inch margins, double spacing, and page numbers. I require you to staple pages together. *I will not accept, read, or grade any unstapled papers.* Use only readable typefaces (like Century Schoolbook or Palatino). Always print with a good ink cartridge to ensure legibility. I won't grade papers I consider illegible. Edit and proofread everything you turn in; make every assignment as error-free as you can before you submit it.

Website

I will make all course materials—including the the syllabus, assignment sheets, peer reviews, and so on—available on the class website: drmarkwomack.com/engl-1301.

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.

Learning Outcomes

- Demonstrate knowledge of individual and collaborative writing processes.
- Develop ideas with appropriate support and attribution.
- Write in a style appropriate to audience and purpose.
- Read, reflect, and respond critically to a variety of texts.
- Use Edited American English in academic essays.

Academic Integrity Policy

All student work for this course must be original to the student and original to the course. If clear evidence of academic dishonesty is found for any assignment, a 0 (0 points) for the assignment will be recorded. If a second incident of academic dishonesty occurs, an F for the course grade will be recorded.

GRADING CRITERIA FOR MAJOR ESSAYS

I consider four areas when assessing grades for your major essays: your thesis statement, your argument, your use of evidence (including quotations and proper documentation of sources), and your prose style.

The better each of those areas is, the higher your grade will be.

A

- Original and interesting thesis
- Persuasive argument
- Lots of convincing evidence
- Lucid prose style

B

- Workable thesis
- Well-structured argument
- Solid supporting evidence
- Decent prose style

C

- Obvious and boring thesis
- Coherent argument
- Some supporting evidence
- Correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation

D

At least **one** of the following:

- No discernible thesis
- Incoherent argument
- Little or no supporting evidence
- Chronic grammar, spelling, and punctuation errors

F

Two or more of the following:

- No discernible thesis
 - Incoherent argument
 - Little or no supporting evidence
 - Chronic grammar, spelling, and punctuation errors
- Or** Fails to meet basic requirements for the assignment

Course Grade

Professionalism	10%
Writing Exercises	15%
Literacy Narrative	25%
Analysis of <i>Outliers</i>	25%
Informative Essay	25%

Numerical Values for Letter Grades

A+ 100–97

A 96–93

A– 92–90

B+ 89–87

B 86–83

B– 82–80

C+ 79–77

C 76–73

C– 72–70

D 69–60

F 59–0

SCHEDULE OF READINGS & ASSIGNMENTS

Week One

Monday 1/13	Wednesday 1/15	Friday 1/17
Review instructions, policies, and syllabus	Assignment for Essay 1 “Planing” & “Drafting” <i>A Writer’s Reference</i> [AWR] (C1–C2)	Writing Classic Prose
	Diagnostic Paragraph	Writing Exercise: Two Messages

Week Two

Monday 1/20	Wednesday 1/22	Friday 1/24
MLK HOLIDAY	“Mother Tongue,” <i>The Arlington Reader</i> [TAR] (34–38)	“Aria: A Memoir of a Bilingual Childhood,” <i>TAR</i> (275–84) &
	Writing Exercise: Mind Map	Signed Course Agreement

Week Three

Monday 1/27	Wednesday 1/29	Friday 1/31
“On Keeping a Notebook” & “CONTEXTS,” <i>TAR</i> (54–66) [Official Day of Record]	“The Joy of Reading and Writing: Superman and Me,” <i>TAR</i> (45–47)	<i>Peer Review Workshop</i>
Writing Exercise: Informal Outline		Literacy Narrative Draft

Week Four

Monday 2/3	Wednesday 2/5	Friday 2/7
“Shooting an Elephant,” <i>TAR</i> (516–21)	“Politics and the English Language” (on-line)	“Active Verbs” & “Passive Verbs,” <i>AWR</i> (W3 & M1-b)
		Writing Exercise: Believing/Doubting

Week Five

Monday 2/10	Wednesday 2/12	Friday 2/14
“Write or Die,” <i>TAR</i> (71–73) “Revising” <i>AWR</i> (C3)	“The Roseto Mystery,” <i>Outliers</i> (3–11) “Evaluating Arguments,” <i>AWR</i> (A3)	Assignment for Essay 2
		Literacy Narrative Revised

Week Six

Monday 2/17	Wednesday 2/19	Friday 2/21
“The Matthew Effect,” <i>Outliers</i> (15–34) & “The Relative Age Effect In Sports: It’s Complicated” (on-line)	“The 10,000-Hour Rule,” <i>Outliers</i> (35–68) & “Malcolm Gladwell, Eclectic Detective” (on-line)	“The Trouble With Geniuses, Part 1,” <i>Outliers</i> (69–90)
		Writing Exercise: Mind Map

Week Seven

Monday 2/24	Wednesday 2/26	Friday 2/28
“The Trouble With Geniuses, Part 2,” <i>Outliers</i> (91–115)	“The Three Lessons of Joe Flom” <i>Outliers</i> (116–58)	“Harlan, Kentucky,” <i>Outliers</i> (161–76)
		Writing Exercise: Informal Outline

Week Eight

Monday 3/3	Wednesday 3/5	Friday 3/7
“The Ethnic Theory of Plane Crashes,” <i>Outliers</i> (177–223)	“Rice Paddies and Math Tests,” <i>Outliers</i> (224–49)	<i>Peer Review Workshop</i>
		Analysis Essay Draft

SPRING BREAK: MARCH 10 TO MARCH 14

Week Nine

Monday 3/17	Wednesday 3/19	Friday 3/21
“Marita’s Bargain,” <i>Outliers</i> (250–69)	“A Jamaican Story,” <i>Outliers</i> (270–85)	“Supporting a Thesis” & “Integrating Sources” <i>AWR</i> (MLA-1, MLA-3)
		Writing Exercise: Creative Imitation

Week Ten

Monday 3/24	Wednesday 3/26	Friday 3/28
Concision: “Wordy Sentences,” <i>AWR</i> (W2)	Unity & Flow: “Writing Paragraphs,” <i>AWR</i> (C4)	Assignment for Essay 3
		Analysis Essay Revised

Week Eleven

Monday 3/31	Wednesday 4/2	Friday 4/4
“Why We Crave Horror Movies” (on-line) Password: Copyright1981!	“Documenting Sources,” <i>AWR</i> (MLA-4) [“W” Day: Thursday 4/3]	“Citing Sources” & “Quotation Marks,” <i>AWR</i> (MLA-2 , P5)
		Writing Exercise: Mind Map

Week Twelve

Monday 4/7	Wednesday 4/9	Friday 4/11
“I Have a Dream” (text / video) “Letter from Birmingham Jail,” <i>TAR</i> (494-507)	“Designing Documents” <i>AWR</i> (C5)	“Typography in Ten Minutes” (on-line) “Research Papers” (on-line)
		Writing Exercise: Informal Outline

Week Thirteen

Monday 4/14	Wednesday 4/16	Friday 4/18
“The Naked Source,” <i>TAR</i> (320-25)	<i>Peer Review Workshop</i>	GOOD FRIDAY
	Informative Essay Draft	

Week Fourteen

Monday 4/21	Wednesday 4/23	Friday 4/25
“Evolution as Fact and Theory,” <i>TAR</i> (437-43)	“Where I Lived and What I Lived For,” <i>TAR</i> (594-98)	“Sentence Fragments,” & “Run-on Sentences,” <i>AWR</i> (G5, G6)
		Writing Exercise: Enlivened Prose

Week Fifteen

Monday 4/28	Wednesday 4/30	Friday 5/2
Revision Workshop	Revision Workshop	Last Day of Class
		Informative Essay Revised

Lone Star College-CyFair requires me to include the following 2,098-word-long list of information, regulations, and official policies in my syllabus. So here it is, ghastly typography and turgid prose unaltered.

Lone Star College-CyFair Programs and Services

If you are experiencing challenges achieving your academic goals, please contact your instructor or an advisor. We can provide assistance with academic needs, ADA accommodations, classroom difficulties, financial concerns, and other issues.

Academic Success Center (Barker Cypress Campus - Learning Commons - 2nd Floor)

The Academic Success Center offers:

Tutoring: For all disciplines <http://www.lonestar.edu/tutoring-cyfair.htm> or 281.290.3279, The Science Center (LRNC 203), Math Center (LRNC 205) and the Writing Center (LRNC 206). Student success seminars are also offered throughout the semester.

Academic Success Center Open Labs (TECH 104 & CASA 223)

The Academic Success Center Open Labs are quiet work and study areas available to all students. Students access the labs with their LSCS ID card. The ASC Open Labs are available during extended hours during all semesters. Basic software assistance, access to Mac and PC computers loaded with courseware, printing, copying, and scanning are available in TECH 104 and CASA 223. For more information, please visit [http:// www.lonestar.edu/13669.htm](http://www.lonestar.edu/13669.htm) or contact 281.290.5980 or cfasclabs@lonestar.edu.

Counseling Services

Counseling services are available to students who are experiencing difficulty with academic issues, selection of college major, career planning, disability accommodations, or personal issues. Students may contact Counseling, Career, and Disability Services at 281.290.3260, cyfair.counseling@lonestar.edu, or CASA 109. Students may contact counseling services at the Fairbanks Center at 832.782.5110, Fairbanks.counselor@lonestar.edu, or FBC120.

The Assistive Technology Lab

The Assistive Technology Lab is available for students who benefit from its various technologies to convert text to speech, magnify items, convert text to Braille, etc. To contact the Assistive Technology Lab directly, please call 281.290.3207 or e-mail the lab at cassistivetechlab@lonestar.edu. The AT Lab is located on the 1st floor of the CASA building. Students may contact the IT dept at the Fairbanks Center at 832.782.5072 or FBC 210 for assistance.

Library

The Lone Star College-CyFair Library is located in the Learning Commons building and contains information resources for both college students and community members. Librarians are available to assist with research. The Library contains over 125,000 books, online information databases, 185 computers, free wireless internet, and many more information/research related amenities to ensure student success. For Library hours and contact information, please visit <http://www.lonestar.edu/library> or call 281.290.3214.

Lone Star College-CyFair Campus and System Policies

Absence on Religious Holy Days

The student must notify the faculty member in writing within the first 12 days of the semester of the intent to be absent due to a religious holy day. Under Texas Education Code 51.911, a student who is absent from classes for the observance of a religious holy day shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within a reasonable time as established by the faculty member.

Academic Integrity

Lone Star College-CyFair is committed to a high standard of academic integrity in the academic community. In becoming a part of the academic community, students are responsible for honesty and independent effort. Failure to uphold these standards includes, but is not limited to, the following: plagiarizing written work or projects, cheating on exams or assignments, collusion on an exam or project, and misrepresentation of credentials or prerequisites when registering for a course. Cheating includes looking at or copying from another student's exam, orally communicating or receiving answers during an exam, having another person take an exam or complete a project or assignment, using unauthorized notes, texts, or other materials for an exam, and obtaining or distributing an unauthorized copy of an exam or any part of an exam. Plagiarism means passing off as his/her own the ideas or writings of another (that is, without giving proper credit by documenting sources). Plagiarism includes submitting a paper, report, or project that someone else has prepared, in whole or in part. Collusion is inappropriately collaborating on assignments designed to be completed independently. These definitions are not exhaustive. When there is clear evidence of cheating, plagiarism, collusion, or misrepresentation, disciplinary action may include but is not limited to requiring you to retake or resubmit an exam or assignment, assigning a grade of zero or "F" for an exam or assignment; or assigning a grade of "F" for the course. Additional sanctions including being withdrawn from the course, program or expelled from school may be imposed on a students who violate the standards of academic integrity.

Americans with Disabilities Act Statement

Lone Star College-CyFair is dedicated to providing the least restrictive environment for all students. We promote equity in academic access through the implementation of reasonable accommodations as required by the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title V, Sections 504 and 508, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), and the Americans with Disabilities Amendment Act (ADAAA) which will enable students with disabilities to participate in and benefit from all post-secondary educational activities.

A student requesting accommodations for a disability is required to provide documentation of the disability to the College's designated office for disability services. The documentation is required for the following three purposes:

- a. to establish that someone is a person with a disability and, thus, is a member of the protected class;
- b. to establish the need for accommodations in order to have equal access;
- c. and to be prescriptive in assigning reasonable accommodations.

In order for a student with a disability to receive accommodations, that student is required to register for services through the College's designated office for disability services. If possible, the student requesting services should make an initial contact with the College's designated office the semester prior to enrollment – at least 4 weeks prior to the first class. Disability Services is located on the LSC CyFair Barker Cypress campus in the CASA 109. You may contact Disability Services at the following number: 281.290.3260. Additional information may be accessed online at the following URL address: <http://www.lonestar.edu/disability-services.htm>

Behavior Expectations

Students are expected to conduct themselves appropriately while on College property or in an online environment. Students may receive disciplinary action up to and including suspension, if they violate System or College rules, disrupt classes, or interfere with the opportunity of others to obtain an education. Students who pose a threat to the safety of others will be subject to immediate withdrawal from the classroom, campus environment, and/or online environment, as well as face subsequent criminal charges, as appropriate. Please refer to the Student Code of Conduct located online at <http://www.lonestar.edu/student-responsibilities.htm> for additional information.

Campus Safety and Security

Lone Star College System is committed to maintaining the safety of the students, faculty, staff, and guests while visiting one of our campuses. To help ensure your safety during an emergency (safety, fire, severe weather, etc.),

please follow the instructions of college officials. Safety information and resources may be found at <http://www.lonestar.edu/oem.htm> and are also posted on signage in each of the classroom. In the event you wish to report an emergency, please contact the police at 5911 or use the "Safe Watch" link on the Lone Star CyFair College home page.

Computer Virus Protection

Computer viruses are, unfortunately, a fact of life. Using removable devices on more than one computer creates the possibility of infecting computers and diskettes with a computer virus. This exposes the computers of the college, your personal computer, and any others you may be using to potentially damaging viruses. The college has aggressive anti-virus procedures in place to protect its computers, but cannot guarantee that a virus might not temporarily infect one of its machines. It is your responsibility to protect all computers under your control and use and ensure that each diskette you use, whenever or wherever you use it, has been scanned with anti-virus software. Since new viruses arise continually, your anti-virus software must be kept current. Moreover, since no anti-virus software will find every virus, keeping backup copies is extremely important.

Equal Opportunity Statement

It is the policy of the Lone Star College System to provide equal employment, admission and educational opportunities without regard to race, color, creed, national origin, gender, age, veteran's status, sexual orientation, or disability. Lone Star Colleges strive to provide an excellent learning environment free from harassment or intimidation directed at any person's race, color, creed, national origin, gender, age, veteran's status, sexual orientation, or disability. Any form of harassment will not be tolerated.

Evaluation of Instruction

Lone Star College-CyFair is committed to student success. As part of its' institutional effectiveness efforts, our instructors are assessed in several ways. For the continuous improvement of our instruction, all students are required to provide input for each course they take each semester using the Course Evaluations Questionnaire, which can be accessed through your myLonestar account. This occurs approximately half way through your course, and you will be notified when surveys are available for completion. Instructions on how to access and complete the Course Evaluations Questionnaire are located in the Student Help Center in myLonestar. Once you evaluate your course(s), print and maintain a copy of the receipt for your records. The college deans review these evaluations each semester. Additionally, the deans and/or department chairs may visit each instructor's class at some time during the semester to observe the instructional environment being provided and complete an assessment of the instructor.

FERPA

The academic, financial, and non-directory information on your student account is confidential and protected by the Family Educational Rights & Privacy Act (FERPA). We cannot release certain information to another person without your written authorization. The Authorization to Release Student Information Form can be found at http://www.lonestar.edu/departments/generalcounsel/OGC-S-2009-03_-_Authorization_To_Release_Educational_Records.pdf

Final Examinations

A final evaluation activity will occur during the published final evaluation period. The appropriate dean must approve any variation to this schedule.

Internet and E-mail

The System provides computing and network resources to students. You are encouraged to use the computers, software packages, and electronic mail (e-mail) for educational or System-related activities and to facilitate the efficient exchange of useful information. Instructors often use System e-mail to communicate important course-related information. This account is also used by campus personnel to share details about upcoming events and other important college information (e.g., financial aid status, announcements from the college president, etc.). Stay informed by setting up your System email account as soon as possible and checking your e-mail often.

The equipment, software, and network capacities provided through the district computer services are and remain the property of the System. Use of the equipment and networks is to comport with the policies and procedures of the System and access may be denied to any student who fails to comply with the System's policies and procedures regarding its use. Access to the System's e-mail and similar electronic communications systems are a privilege and certain responsibilities accompany that privilege. All users are expected to demonstrate the same

level of ethical and professional manner, as is required in face-to-face or written communications. Threatening, anonymous, or forged messages will be treated as a violation of this policy.

Six Drop Rule

Students who enrolled in Texas public institutions of higher education as first-time college students during the Fall 2007 term or later are subject to section 51.907 of the Texas Education Code, which states that an institution of higher education may not permit a student to drop (withdraw with a grade of “W”) from more than six courses, including courses that a transfer student has previously dropped at other Texas public institutions of higher education that have already been counted against their six drop limit. Each student should fully understand this drop limit before you drop any course. Please see a Counselor or Advisor in our Student Services area for additional information and assistance. This policy does not affect transitional or ESOL students.

Software Piracy

Law strictly prohibits unauthorized copying of software purchased by Lone Star College-CyFair for use in laboratories. Lone Star College-CyFair administration will take appropriate disciplinary action against anyone violating copyright laws.

Withdrawal Policy

Withdrawal from the course after the official day of record and prior to “W” Day, (see current catalog for this date) will result in a final grade of “W” on your transcript. Instructor approval is necessary if you want to withdraw after official day. No credit will be awarded for a course earning a “W.” If you stop attending class, you must withdraw at the registration office prior to “W” day. If you stop attending class and do not officially withdraw, you will receive an “F” for the course.

ENGLISH 1301 COURSE AGREEMENT

Name: _____
(print)

_____ I have read, understood, and agree to comply with all the policies and procedures explained in the syllabus for ENGL 1301: <http://drmarkwomack.com/pdfs/1301-syllabus-s14.pdf>

_____ I understand that my continued enrollment in the class constitutes my acceptance of the policies and procedures in the syllabus.

_____ I accept responsibility for knowing the policies in the syllabus and understand that pleading ignorance will not remove my responsibility. If I do not understand a policy or procedure, I will ask my instructor to clarify it.

_____ I accept responsibility for knowing the assignment requirements, due dates, and class expectations. If I am unsure about any of them, I will ask my instructor for clarification.

_____ I understand that my instructor reserves the right to change the Course Policies or the Schedule of Readings & Assignments, with prior verbal and written notice, at any time.

Signature: _____

Sign, date, and return this agreement to your instructor, Mark Womack, on or before **January 24, 2014**.

Initial the blanks before each statement.

Optional:

_____ I give my permission for the instructor to use my work for instructional purposes in this class, future classes, or for other educational purposes. I understand that the instructor will remove all identifying characteristics from my work.

Date: _____