

ENGL 3330: Advanced Composition Syllabus—Writing Instructive Course

Fall 2023

Texas A&M University-Central Texas

Monday/Wednesday, 11:00am-12:15pm, Online Instruction

This is a 100% online course and uses the A&M-Central Texas Canvas Learning Management System [https://tamuct.instructure.com/].

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COURSE DATES, MODALITY, AND LOCATION

This course meets synchronously online from 11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays. Supplemental materials may be available online through the A&M-Central Texas Canvas Learning Management System [https://tamuct.instructure.com/].

Office Hours:

By appointment only. You may contact me through my university email (listed above), call, or text me. Do not email me through canvas email.

Student-instructor interaction

I expect you to work and work hard. Expectations are high, the class is fast paced, and I will give you the opportunity to learn how the world of composition in the academic world functions. I want you to be successful and will work with you to ensure that you are. I will respond to all emails, texts, and phone calls within 24 hours Monday-Friday. I will not respond to emails, texts, and phone calls on the weekends; anything sent over the weekend will remain unanswered until the following Monday.

Emergency Warning System for Texas A&M University-Central Texas SAFEZONE.

SafeZone provides a public safety application that gives you the ability to call for help with the push of a button. It also provides Texas A&M University-Central Texas the ability to communicate emergency information quickly via push notifications, email, and text messages. All students automatically receive email and text messages via their myCT accounts.

Downloading SafeZone allows access to push notifications and enables you to connect directly for help through the app.

You can download SafeZone from the app store and use your myCT credentials to log in. If you would like more information, you can visit the [SafeZone](http://www.safezoneapp.com) website [www.safezoneapp.com].

To register SafeZone on your phone, please follow these 3 easy steps:

1. Download the SafeZone App from your phone store using the link below:
 - o [iPhone/iPad](https://apps.apple.com/app/safezone/id533054756): [https://apps.apple.com/app/safezone/id533054756]
 - o [Android Phone / Tablet](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.criticalarc.safezoneapp)
[https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.criticalarc.safezoneapp]
2. Launch the app and enter your myCT email address (e.g. {name}@tamuct.edu)

3. Complete your profile and accept the terms of service

For updates on COVID information, please monitor the University [website](https://www.tamuct.edu/covid19/)
[<https://www.tamuct.edu/covid19/>]

Course Overview

ENGL 3330 is an advanced composition course designed to enhance proficiency in critical reading and thinking and in expository writing on issues relevant to the Humanities and Fine Arts. The course will use analyses of texts and critical approaches to provide both practice and models for essay writing strategies, structure, and research methods.

Course Objectives

By the end of the semester, successful students will demonstrate the following abilities:

- Demonstrate close reading skills and analysis of a variety of texts
- Evaluate research as it makes and supports academic arguments
- Introduce coherent arguments in writing through strong thesis statements
- Develop clear and consistent academic paragraph structure and essay organization
- Present a thorough review of the scholarship and literature about an academic subject
- Prepare and produce a documented academic essay (conference paper) on a defined topic using primary and secondary sources
- Create an abstract and present the final essay to the class in a mock academic conference panel

Student Learning Outcomes

- Produce an essay deconstructing an author's style, tone, point of view, and language structure
- Present and support an academic analysis in response to an author's body of work
- Read and discuss the major themes in a novel written by a classic author
- Produce a summary and a paraphrase of the introduction of a novel
- Produce an analysis comparing the author's stories with his novel
- Plan an academic paper to be presented to the class in a conference structure
- Complete an academic paper to include an annotated bibliography and informational abstract

Required Reading and Textbook(s)

This is a Writing Instructive (WI) course, so writing will be an integral part of my instruction and our interactions. Writing will also be a fundamental way that I measure student mastery of course content. WI means that you will have many opportunities to work on improving your writing skills. For this course, you will first study and analyze in writing the work of the major author in this class. This will lead to an intensive sequence of writing tasks that will lead to a final research project and conference presentation to your peers.

Required Textbooks and Supplies

- Graff, Gerald, and Birkenstein, Cathy. *They Say, I Say*. 5th edn. W. W. Norton & Company, 2021
ISBN: 9780393427516
- Twain, Mark. *Joan of Arc*. Ignatius Press, 2009.
- Colored markers or pens

Course Requirements

Non-Gradable Requirements

Regular Reading Assignments

The reading in this course serves as a catalyst for everything we do. There is a lot of reading in several short stories and a text, so keep up with the assignments to receive the full benefit from this class. Please be sure that you have carefully read the required assignments before class and be ready to engage in conversation and debate on the topics, themes, and issues addressed in the texts.

Class Lectures and Discussions

Class lectures and discussions will be the primary method of instruction and learning in this course. In addition to discussing and debating the issues and themes of our reading assignments, we will be constantly engaging with the texts through close reading and a variety of critical approaches to interpretation. In this way, I hope to allow the class to discover the multiple meanings and significance of text and the role of academic scholarship and writing across the disciplines. Participation in class discussions, writing exercises, workshops, peer review sessions, and attendance are required.

Graded Requirements

Journal Entries

Initially, you have two writing assignments that will be turned into in Canvas as journal entries. They are based on the textbook, *They Say I Say* and will contain responses listed in your daily calendar. They are to each be at least one page long. I will read these for content; you will need them for class discussion.

Major Assignments

The major composition assignments and point values are listed below under Grading Criteria. The assignments will be available and discussed as the semester progresses. The student outcomes are included with each unit in the Complete Course Calendar. For this course, you will use MLA documentation style. The 9th Edition MLA Handbook as well as the Purdue Owl website will be useful for your documentation.

Grading Criteria:

Writing Assignment 1: Journal Entries from <i>They Say I Say</i>	5 points
Writing Assignment 2: Analysis of Author's Writing Style	5 points
Writing Assignment 3: Academic Paragraph 1	4 points
Writing Assignment 4: Academic Paragraph 2	4 points
Writing Assignment 5: Summarizing, Paraphrasing, and Quoting	5 points
Writing Assignment 6: Comparison/Contrast paper	8 points
Writing Assignment 7: Academic Paragraph 3	4 points
Writing Assignment 8: Academic Paragraph 4	4 points
Writing Assignment 9: Character Analysis 1	8 points
Writing Assignment 10: Character Analysis 2	8 points
Writing Assignment 11: Argumentative Essay	10 points
Writing Assignment 12: Annotated Bibliography	10 points

TOTAL 100 points

Grading Conversion

A= 90-100, B= 80-89, C=70-79, D=60-69, F=0-59

Posting of Grades

All feedback and grades will be posted to canvas.

Feedback and grades for all major assignments will be posted to canvas within two weeks of submission.

Late Work

I do not accept late work. If your assignment is turned in after the deadline, it receives an immediate zero. If there is an emergency that prevents you from turning in your assignment on time that you have not made me aware of, please do so as soon as possible and I will re-evaluate your work. Otherwise, if you submit a late assignment, you can email me, visit me in my office hours, or see me after class to discuss why you think you should be given a grade. Conversely, if you feel like you need an extension to complete an assignment due to an extenuating circumstance, email me and I will grant you an extension as long as you are asking for an extension at least three days before the assignment is due. I will not grant any last-minute extension requests.

Attendance policy

In order to make the most out of this class, it is imperative that you do not miss any class periods. This class is contingent upon student interaction and collaborative work, so your absence not only you but the whole class! However, I understand that emergencies happen and that things come up that you don't anticipate. That's why I give 2 excused absences from my class with advanced notice, meaning that you let me know you won't be in class ahead of time (or in the event of an emergency preventing you from letting me know ahead of time, you email me as soon as possible). Each unexcused absence will knock 2 points of your total grade. An unexcused absence occurs when you do not contact me and let me know that you will be missing class.

Disruptive Language and Behavior Policy

Disruptive language includes, but is not limited to, violent and/or belligerent and/or insulting remarks, including sexist, racist, homophobic or anti-ethnic slurs, bigotry, and disparaging commentary, either spoken or written (offensive slang is included in this category). While each of you has a right to your own opinions, inflammatory language founded in ignorance or hate is unacceptable and will be dealt with immediately.

I do not tolerate behavior that belittles, bullies, or humiliates a fellow classmate. The classroom

is a place to play with ideas you may not agree with in a civil manner and to learn how to respond to arguments and ideas while still treating the opposing side with respect. There is a difference between having heated, productive, debates and angry, inflamed ranting and I reserve the right to reject any student who violates this policy from my classroom and report him or her if needed.

Plagiarism Policy

Plagiarism occurs when a student uses the work of others while passing that work off as their own. There is a lot of uncertainty around plagiarism and I don't want you to be so afraid of accidentally plagiarizing that it affects your writing. I will not mark you off for plagiarism if you simply forgot to cite a source. I know that this happens sometimes, and I will simply ask you to revise if I see this happening in your work. However, deliberate plagiarism will result in an immediate zero. Plagiarizing hurts yourself more than it hurts me. It is dishonest, unethical, and unfair to your fellow classmates. If there is any uncertainty over whether or not you should cite something in your work—cite it!

COURSE OUTLINE AND CALENDAR

Course Calendar is attached in a separate document.

Important University Dates The university calendar can be accessed at <https://www.tamuct.edu/registrar/academic-calendar.html>

Technology Requirements

This course will use the A&M-Central Texas Instructure Canvas learning management system. **We strongly recommend the latest versions of Chrome or Firefox browsers. Canvas no longer supports any version of Internet Explorer.**

Logon to A&M-Central Texas Canvas [<https://tamuct.instructure.com/>] or access Canvas through the TAMUCT Online link in myCT [<https://tamuct.onecampus.com/>]. You will log in through our Microsoft portal.

Username: Your MyCT email address. Password: Your MyCT password

Canvas Support

Use the Canvas Help link, located at the bottom of the left-hand menu, for issues with Canvas. You can select "Chat with Canvas Support," submit a support request through "Report a Problem," or call the Canvas support line: 1-844-757-0953.

For issues related to course content and requirements, contact your instructor.

Online Proctored Testing

Texas A&M University-Central Texas uses Proctorio for online identity verification and proctored testing. This service is provided at no direct cost to students. If the course requires identity verification or proctored testing, the technology requirements are: Any computer

meeting the minimum computing requirements, plus web camera, speaker, and microphone (or headset). Proctorio requires use of the Chrome web browser with their custom plug in installed.

Other Technology Support

For log-in problems, students should contact Help Desk Central
24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Email: helpdesk@tamu.edu

Phone: (254) 519-5466

[Web Chat](http://hdc.tamu.edu): [<http://hdc.tamu.edu>]

Please let the support technician know you are an A&M-Central Texas student.

WARRIOR SHIELD

Emergency Warning System for Texas A&M University-Central Texas

Warrior Shield is an emergency notification service that gives Texas A&M University-Central Texas the ability to communicate health and safety emergency information quickly via email, text message, and social media. All students are automatically enrolled in Warrior Shield through their myCT email account.

Connect to Warrior Shield by [911Cellular](https://portal.publicsafetycloud.net/Account/Login) [<https://portal.publicsafetycloud.net/Account/Login>] to change where you receive your alerts or to opt out. By staying enrolled in Warrior Shield, university officials can quickly pass on safety-related information, regardless of your location.

Academic Integrity

Texas A&M University -Central Texas values the integrity of the academic enterprise and strives for the highest standards of academic conduct. A&M-Central Texas expects its students, faculty, and staff to support the adherence to high standards of personal and scholarly conduct to preserve the honor and integrity of the creative community. Academic integrity is defined as a commitment to honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Any deviation by students from this expectation may result in a failing grade for the assignment and potentially a failing grade for the course. Academic misconduct is any act that improperly affects a true and honest evaluation of a student's academic performance and includes, but is not limited to, working with others in an unauthorized manner, cheating on an examination or other academic work, plagiarism and improper citation of sources, using another student's work, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials. All academic misconduct concerns will be referred to the university's Office of Student Conduct. Ignorance of the university's standards and expectations is never an excuse to act with a lack of integrity. When in doubt on collaboration, citation, or any issue, please contact your instructor before taking a course of action.

Drop Policy

If you discover that you need to drop this class, you must complete a [Drop Request Form](https://www.tamuct.edu/registrar/docs/Drop_Request_Form.pdf) [https://www.tamuct.edu/registrar/docs/Drop_Request_Form.pdf].

Professors cannot drop students; this is always the responsibility of the student. The Registrar's Office will provide a deadline on the Academic Calendar for which the form must be completed, signed and returned. Once you return the signed form to the Registrar's Office, you must go into Warrior Web and confirm that you are no longer enrolled. If you still show as enrolled, FOLLOW-UP with the Registrar's Office immediately. You are to attend class until the procedure is complete to avoid penalty for absence. Should you miss the drop deadline or fail to follow the procedure, you will receive an F in the course, which may affect your financial aid and/or VA educational benefits.

For more [information regarding the Student Conduct process](https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct.html),

[<https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct.html>].

If you know of potential honor violations by other students, you may [submit a report](https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=0),

[https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=0].

Academic Accommodations

At Texas A&M University-Central Texas, we value an inclusive learning environment where every student has an equal chance to succeed and has the right to a barrier-free education. The Office of Access and Inclusion is responsible for ensuring that students with a disability receive equal access to the university's programs, services and activities. If you believe you have a disability requiring reasonable accommodations please contact the Office of Access and Inclusion, WH-212; or call (254) 501-5836. Any information you provide is private and confidential and will be treated as such.

For more information please visit our [Access & Inclusion](https://tamuct.instructure.com/courses/717) Canvas page (log-in required)

[<https://tamuct.instructure.com/courses/717>]

Important information for Pregnant and/or Parenting Students

Texas A&M University-Central Texas supports students who are pregnant and/or parenting. In accordance with requirements of Title IX and related guidance from US Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights, the Dean of Student Affairs' Office can assist students who are pregnant and/or parenting in seeking accommodations related to pregnancy and/or parenting. Students should seek out assistance as early in the pregnancy as possible. For more information, please visit [Student Affairs](https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/index.html) [<https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/index.html>]. Students may also contact the institution's Title IX Coordinator. If you would like to read more about these [requirements and guidelines](http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf) online, please visit the website [<http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf>].

Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex and gender—including pregnancy, parenting, and all related conditions. A&M-Central Texas is able to provide flexible and individualized reasonable accommodation to pregnant and parenting students. All pregnant and parenting students should contact the Associate Dean in the Division of Student Affairs at (254) 501-5909 to seek out assistance. Students may also contact the University's Title IX Coordinator.

Tutoring

Tutoring is available to all A&M-Central Texas students, both on-campus and online. Subjects tutored on campus include Accounting, Advanced Math, Biology, Finance, Statistics, Mathematics, and Study Skills. Tutors are available at the Tutoring Center in Warrior Hall, Suite 111. Tutor.com tutoring **will not offer writing support** beginning August 1, 2019, but will continue to offer other tutoring support.

If you have a question regarding tutor schedules, need to schedule a tutoring session, are interested in becoming a tutor, or have any other question, contact Academic Support Programs at (254) 501-5836, visit the Office of Student Success at 212F Warrior Hall, or by emailing studentsuccess@tamuct.edu .

Chat live with a tutor 24/7 for almost any subject from on your computer! Tutor.com is an online tutoring platform that enables A&M-Central Texas students to log in and receive online tutoring support at no additional cost. This tool provides tutoring in over 40 subject areas. Access Tutor.com through Canvas.

University Writing Center

Located in Warrior Hall 416, the University Writing Center (UWC) at Texas A&M University–Central Texas (TAMUCT) is a free workspace open to all TAMUCT students from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday thru Thursday with satellite hours in the University Library Monday thru Thursday from 6:00-9:00 p.m. This semester, the UWC is also offering online only hours from 12:00-3:00 p.m. on Saturdays.

Tutors are prepared to help writers of all levels and abilities at any stage of the writing process. While tutors will not write, edit, or grade papers, they will assist students in developing more effective composing practices. By providing a practice audience for students' ideas and writing, our tutors highlight the ways in which they read and interpret students' texts, offering guidance and support throughout the various stages of the writing process. In addition, students may work independently in the UWC by checking out a laptop that runs the Microsoft Office suite and connects to WIFI, or by consulting our resources on writing, including all of the relevant style guides. Whether you need help brainstorming ideas, organizing an essay, proofreading, understanding proper citation practices, or just want a quiet place to work, the UWC is here to help!

Students may arrange a one-to-one session with a trained and experienced writing tutor by visiting the UWC during normal operating hours (both half-hour and hour sessions are available) or by making an appointment via [WOnline](https://tamuct.mywconline.com/) [https://tamuct.mywconline.com/]. In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu if you have any questions about the UWC and/or need any assistance with scheduling.

University Library

The University Library provides many services in support of research across campus and at a distance. We offer over 200 electronic databases containing approximately 250,000 eBooks and 82,000 journals, in addition to the 85,000 items in our print collection, which can be mailed to students who live more than 50 miles from campus. Research guides for each subject taught at A&M-Central Texas are available through our website to help students navigate these resources. On campus, the library offers technology including cameras, laptops, microphones, webcams, and digital sound recorders.

Research assistance from a librarian is also available 24 hours a day through our online chat service, and at the reference desk when the library is open. Research sessions can be scheduled for more comprehensive assistance, and may take place on Skype or in-person at the library. Assistance may cover many topics, including how to find articles in peer-reviewed journals, how to cite resources, and how to piece together research for written assignments.

Our 27,000-square-foot facility on the A&M-Central Texas main campus includes student lounges, private study rooms, group work spaces, computer labs, family areas suitable for all ages, and many other features. Services such as interlibrary loan, TexShare, binding, and laminating are available. The library frequently offers workshops, tours, readings, and other events. For more information, please visit our [Library website](http://tamuct.libguides.com/index) [http://tamuct.libguides.com/index].

A Note about Sexual Violence at A&M-Central Texas

Sexual violence is a serious safety, social justice, and public health issue. The university offers support for anyone struggling with these issues. University faculty are mandated reporters, so if someone discloses that they were sexually assaulted (or a victim of Domestic/Dating Violence or Stalking) while a student at TAMUCT, faculty members are required to inform the Title IX Office. If you want to discuss any of these issues confidentially, you can do so through Student Counseling (254-501-5955) located on the second floor of Warrior Hall (207L).

Sexual violence can occur on our campus because predators often feel emboldened, and victims often feel silenced or shamed. It is incumbent on ALL of us to find ways to actively create environments that tell predators we don't agree with their behaviors and tell survivors we will support them. Your actions matter. Don't be a bystander; be an agent of change. For additional information on campus policy and resources visit the [Title IX webpage](https://www.tamuct.edu/departments/compliance/titleix.php) [https://www.tamuct.edu/departments/compliance/titleix.php].

