



**Engl 4360-110: Advanced Studies in Secondary English**  
**Syllabus**  
**Spring 2023 TR 9:30-10:45 a.m.**  
**[pwheeler1@tamuct.edu](mailto:pwheeler1@tamuct.edu)**

## **COURSE DATES, MODALITY, AND LOCATION**

This course is face-to-face with online components and meets from 9:30-10:45 a.m. in room 207 of Founders Hall. Supplemental materials may be available online through the A&M-Central Texas Canvas Learning Management System [<https://tamuct.instructure.com/>].

## **INSTRUCTOR AND CONTACT INFORMATION**

Instructor: Phyllis Wheeler  
Email: [pwheeler1@tamuct.edu](mailto:pwheeler1@tamuct.edu)  
Phone: 254-535-3855

**Office Hours:** By online appointment only. You may contact me through email on Canvas or the university email (listed above), call, or text me.

### **Student-instructor Interaction:**

I try to return graded assignments within two class periods. I check e-mail several times a day, even on weekends. If you have questions, please e-mail me either on Canvas or the regular Texas A&M-Central Texas e-mail (listed above).

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 the communications that the world of work expects. I want you to be successful and will work with you to ensure that you are. An introduction to the grammatical structure of modern English at the level of word, clause, and discourse is presented through the application of the principles of descriptive grammars accompanied by a review of current prescriptive grammars.

### **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](http://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 INFORMATION

## Course Overview and Description

In Advanced Studies in Secondary English, you'll take a close look at the unique challenges that you'll face as an English teacher in the public schools. Topics will include curriculum planning, student evaluation, lesson planning, and elements related to TEKS (Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills) requirements. In addition, you'll read and write about a wide variety of literature from the perspective of an analytical reader, as well as from the perspective of a future teacher.

## Course Objectives

### Course Objectives:

The student will

- Produce a written composition using the stages of writing as a process
- Demonstrate proper language and grammar usage in written assignments
- Peer review written compositions of others
- Deliver oral presentations on each unit of study
- Explore various genres of typical high school English curriculum
- Research the theory and literature necessary to create a unit of study
- Create metacognitive journal entries on classroom readings
- Document sources appropriately using the MLA format

### Unit Objectives:

Unit 1: Written composition

The student will

- Complete a personal narrative taking the paper through the stages of the writing process.
- Demonstrate mastery of language and grammar usage in the written composition
- Complete dialectical journal entries for the readings assigned
- Peer review written compositions of others through a clocking exercise

Unit 2: Short Story

The student will

- Complete dialectical journal entries for the readings assigned
- Create short story unit appropriate for the grade level chosen
- Prepare and deliver an oral presentation to share with the class
- Document sources appropriately using the MLA format
- Demonstrate mastery of language and grammar usage in publishing the unit

Unit 3: Shakespeare

The student will

- Complete dialectical journal entries for the readings assigned
- Create a Shakespeare unit appropriate for the grade level chosen
- Prepare and deliver an oral presentation to share with others
- Document sources appropriately using the MLA format
- Demonstrate mastery of language and grammar usage in publishing the unit

Unit 4: Poetry

The student will

- Complete dialectical journal entries for the readings assigned
- Create a Poetry unit appropriate for the grade level chosen
- Prepare and deliver an oral presentation to share with others
- Document sources appropriately using the MLA format
- Demonstrate mastery of language and grammar usage in publishing the unit

Unit 5: Three-week Lesson Plan

The student will

- Complete dialectical journal entries for the readings assigned
- Create a three-week lesson plan appropriate for the grade level chosen
- Prepare and deliver an oral presentation to share with others
- Document sources appropriately using the MLA format
- Demonstrate mastery of language and grammar usage in publishing the unit

### **Required Textbooks and Supplies**

Atwell, Nancie. *In the Middle: A Lifetime of Learning About Writing, Reading, and Adolescents*.

Heinemann, 2015. ISBN: 978-0-325-02813-2

3-ring binder with five dividers

Markers

Scissors

Glue or double-sided tape

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

### **Non-Gradable Requirements**

#### Regular Attendance

Regular attendance is essential for students to be able to complete assignments with the rigor or insight expected. Students should, therefore, attend (in every sense of the word) every class. An absence does not excuse one from any aspect of the course.

#### Regular Reading

The assigned reading directly impacts one's ability to master the material of this course or complete the assignments. Students should read (in every sense of the word) every page of every chapter assigned. Failure to read an assigned portion of the text does not excuse one from knowing the concepts introduced in that section.

#### Regular Participation

Faithful participation in class discussions and work directly affects one's ability to master the material or complete assignments satisfactorily. Students should enter discussions and in-class work sessions fully committed to the critical thinking and careful scrutiny this class demands.

### **Gradable Requirements**

#### Units of Study

There are five (5) units of study for this course. For each unit, you will complete a project that, hopefully, you will be able to use in your classroom. These units require research, reading, and planning and should be completed with the appropriate principles and purpose clearly in mind. Each unit will have informational handouts and classroom activities to guide you through them.

#### Interactive Notebook

You will keep a notebook of your handouts and foldables we complete in class. For this class, a 3-ring binder works best because there are handouts with each unit that become too cumbersome to glue in a composition book.

#### Journal Entries for Your Interactive Notebook

The textbook for this course requires extensive reading. To keep up with that reading, you will complete an online dialectical journal entry to be posted online and a hard copy to be placed in your interactive notebook for each reading assignment in the textbook. A dialectical journal is a page divided in two, lengthwise. On the left side, record the quotes (at least five for each chapter) that you have strong feelings about. Use quotation marks for the quotes, and record the page number(s) for each one. On the right side, record your reaction(s) to the quote on the left. Do you agree, disagree, have comments on, how will it affect your teaching/classroom? etc. The form with an example is on Canvas. These entries are due by midnight the day before the deadline. I will check these entries on the day of class they are due.

## Grading Criteria Rubrics and Conversion

| <u>Assignment</u>         | <u>Point Value</u> | The distribution of final grades is as follows: |
|---------------------------|--------------------|---|
| Written composition       | 12 points          | 90-100 = A                                      |
| Shakespeare Unit          | 16 points          | 80-89 = B                                       |
| Short Story Unit          | 16 points          | 70-79 = C                                       |
| Poetry Unit               | 16 points          | 60-69 = D                                       |
| Three-week lesson plan    | 20 points          | Below 60=F                                      |
| Interactive Notebook      | 10 points          |   |
| Journal Entries           | 5 points           |   |
| Final Exam and Reflection | 5 points           |   |
| <hr/> <b>TOTAL</b>        |                    |   |
| <b>100 points</b>         |                    |   |

You will receive a rubric for each unit. Each one will be posted/handed out at the beginning of each unit so you fully understand what is expected with each assignment. The rubric will give you specific details of the expectations of each project you will complete. Each project includes teaching lessons delivered to the class as well as a written reflection of that project.

### Posting of Grades

I try to return graded assignments within two class periods. I check e-mail several times a day, even on weekends. If you have questions, please e-mail me either on Canvas or the regular Texas A&M-Central Texas e-mail.

## COMPLETE OUTLINE AND CALENDAR

Complete Course Calendar is attached in a separate document.

### Important University Dates

You may access the university Academic Calendar at <https://www.tamuct.edu/registrar/academic-calendar.html>

## TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPORT

Most of the handouts for this class will be hard copies that you receive in class. In the event of your absence, I will post the assignments on Canvas in Modules for you to retrieve. Your assignments will be turned in as hard copies. The drafts of your assignments need to be hard copies for editing in class.

### 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**

A&M-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 also requires the Chrome web browser with their custom plug in.

#### 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](mailto: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*

## **UNIVERSITY RESOURCES, PROCEDURES, AND GUIDELINES**

### **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 Warrior Center for Student Success, Equity 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](#) Canvas page (log-in required)

[<https://tamuct.instructure.com/courses/717>]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. Any deviation by students from this expectation may result in a failing grade for the assignment and potentially a failing grade for the course. All academic misconduct concerns will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. When in doubt on collaboration, citation, or any issue, please contact your instructor before taking a course of action.

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

### **Drop Policy**

If you discover that you need to drop this class, you must complete the [Drop Request](#) Dynamic Form through Warrior Web.

[<https://dynamicforms.ngwebsolutions.com/casAuthentication.ashx?InstID=eaed95b9-f2be-45f3-a37d-46928168bc10&targetUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fdynamicforms.ngwebsolutions.com%2Fsubmit%2FForm%2Fstart%2F53b8369e-0502-4f36-be43-f02a4202f612>].

Faculty 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. Once you submit the completed 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.

### **Important information for Pregnant and/or Parenting Students**

Texas A&M University-Central Texas supports students who are pregnant, experiencing pregnancy-related conditions, 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/pregnant-and-parenting-students.html) [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/pregnant-and-parenting-students.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 virtually and in-person. Student success coaching is available online upon request.

If you have a question, are interested in becoming a tutor, or in need of success coaching contact the Warrior Center for Student Success, Equity and Inclusion at (254) 501-5836, visit the Warrior Center at 212 Warrior Hall, or by emailing [WarriorCenter@tamuct.edu](mailto:WarriorCenter@tamuct.edu).

To schedule tutoring sessions and view tutor availability, please visit [Tutor Matching Services](https://tutormatchingservice.com/TAMUCT) [https://tutormatchingservice.com/TAMUCT] or visit the Tutoring Center in 111 Warrior Hall.

Chat live with a remote 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 except writing support. Access Tutor.com through Canvas.

### **University Library & Archives**

The University Library & Archives provides many services in support of research across campus and at a distance. We offer over 200 electronic databases containing approximately 400,000 eBooks and 82,000 journals, in addition to the 96,000 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 virtually through WebEx, Microsoft Teams or in-person at the library. [Schedule an appointment here](https://tamuct.libcal.com/appointments/?g=6956) [https://tamuct.libcal.com/appointments/?g=6956]. 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]

### **University Writing Center**



University Writing Center: Located in Warrior Hall 416, the University Writing Center (UWC) at Texas A&M University–Central Texas (A&M–Central Texas) is a free service open to all A&M–Central Texas students. The hours of operation are from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday thru Thursday in Warrior Hall 416 (with online tutoring available every hour as well) with satellite hours available online only Monday thru Thursday from 6:00-9:00 p.m. and Saturday 12:00-3:00 p.m.

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 making an appointment via [WCOonline](https://tamuct.mywconline.com/) [https://tamuct.mywconline.com/]. In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at [bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu](mailto:bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu) if you have any questions about the UWC, need any assistance with scheduling, or would like to schedule a recurring appointment with your favorite tutor.

## OPTIONAL POLICY STATEMENTS

### **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/compliance/titleix.html) [https://www.tamuct.edu/compliance/titleix.html].

### **Behavioral Intervention**

Texas A&M University-Central Texas cares about the safety, health, and well-being of its students, faculty, staff, and community. If you are aware of individuals for whom you have a concern, please make a referral to the Behavioral Intervention Team. Referring your concern shows you care. You can complete the [referral](https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=2) online [https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout\_id=2].

Anonymous referrals are accepted. Please see the [Behavioral Intervention Team](https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/bat.html) website for more information [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/bat.html]. If a person's behavior poses an imminent threat to you or another, contact 911 or A&M-Central Texas University Police at 254-501-5800.

## OTHER POLICIES

### Copyright Notice

Students should assume that all course material is copyrighted by the respective author(s). Reproduction of course material is prohibited without consent by the author and/or course instructor. Violation of copyright is against the law and Texas A&M University-Central Texas' Code of Academic Honesty. All alleged violations will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct.

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