UNIV 1301

Course Description

Students will examine the use of rhetoric in American popular culture by analyzing movies, music, the UTEP community, and their future career paths. Students will learn to develop their critical thinking skills and will gain a deeper understanding of the use of rhetoric in America. Assignments will be based on an awareness of audience, subject matter knowledge, and rhetorical strategies. Students will learn to strengthen their academic performance as productive college students and active community members by developing research, critical thinking, and writing and public speaking skills.

At the end of this semester, students will have achieved the following goals:

- Strengthen academic performance and facilitate the transition to college
- Enhance academic skills
- Increase student interaction with both faculty and peers
- Encourage student self-assessment and goal-clarification
- Increase student involvement at UTEP

Participation

This is a discussion/workshop class, not a lecture class. Therefore, you must attend each class period in order to participate in the discussions, group projects, and in-class activities. Keep in mind that each absence is harmful to your grade since you will not be participating in order to gain the skills to succeed as a successful college student.
You are currently enrolled in a learning community with RWS 1301. Professor Nielsen and I will work together throughout the semester to ensure your academic success.

Contact Information

Instructor Info:
Karina Calderon
kacalderon@utep.edu
Office Location: Academic Advising Center
Office hours: MF 12:00p-1:00p; T 10:30a-12:00p; & by appointment

Peer Leader Info:
Name: Alexis Reyes
E-mail: anreyes2@miners.utep.edu
Office Location: UGLC
Office hours: M 3:00p-4:00p; F 11:30a-12:30p

Librarian Information:
Angela Lucero
ajmartinez5@utep.edu
Office location: LIB 214

Class Policies

**Late Work:** Absolutely no late work is accepted in this class. **Major assignments** are due on Blackboard or in person, as instructed. **Homework assignments** are due at the beginning of class. **In-class assignments** are due at the time of collection. Quizzes will be administered in class and CANNOT be made up. **NOTE:** If you are going to miss class, you MUST submit your work ahead of time in order to receive credit. This applies to university-sanctioned absences and personal absences. No exceptions.

**Attendance:** You are allowed three absences without penalty. Your grade will be penalized by one letter grade for each additional absence – NO EXCEPTIONS.

**Tardies:** Tardies are not tolerated. Once class has started and the door has shut, consider yourself absent. You may still come to class, but you will be marked absent. Excessive tardies (3+) will result in one absence.

**Cell Phones/Texting:** You are here to learn. Cell phone usage (texting, web browsing, apps, etc) is unacceptable. You and your cell phone will be asked to leave. Please make sure your cell phones are powered off or on a quiet vibrating mode and put away.

Course Assignments

**UTEP Video (15%)**
You will work in groups of 3-4 to research a UTEP department on campus and create a video that introduces this department to new students. More information provided in class.

**Research Paper (25%)**
Using the social issue you selected in RWS 1301, you will write a short research paper. More information provided in class.

**Pop Culture Analysis Project (30%)**
You will look for common themes surrounding your social issue and identify them in various elements of popular culture. This assignment will have a heavy research component to it, and you will utilize credible sources to help support your argument. More information provided in class.

**Daily Work (10%)**
Homework, Borders assignments, academic advising assignments, quizzes, extracurricular activities, etc. Daily work is assigned in class and will usually be due the following class period. Daily homework assignments will not be listed on Blackboard. Arrive to class on time and with your completed homework assignments. Late work is not accepted. If you are three minutes late to class, so is your homework and you will not receive credit for it.

**E-Mail Responses (10%)**
You will check your UTEP e-mail address and write a weekly response to one (1) email received that week. You must complete 10 out of the 12 listed on Blackboard.

**Extra-Curricular Activities (10%)**
You will attend university-sponsored events this semester and write a responses to each activity. You must complete 2 out of the 3 listed on Blackboard.

“Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn.” – Benjamin Franklin
Extra Credit

End of Semester Survey: You will receive an email from the Entering Student Program in November with an individualized link. Once a week, I will receive a list of students who have completed the survey. I will not see your results in that email. Extra credit will be awarded in the form of five additional points added to your Pop Culture Analysis project.

Entering Student Program Research & Creative Projects Showcase: The Entering Student Program (UNIV 1301) puts on a showcase of student work the Saturday after Dead Day every semester, from 1:00-4:00pm in the TRCC (Union East).

Our class will participate in this for an extra credit opportunity. A handful of UTEP videos will be submitted to the Showcase committee for possible inclusion. If your video is selected and your group chooses to participate in the Showcase, then you will receive extra credit. If your group is not selected, you can receive less extra credit for attending the Showcase and showing support to your classmates. Extra credit will be applied towards your UTEP video (worth 15% of your grade).

UNIV 1301 & RWS Learning Community

This course is in a learning community with RWS 1301. You must remain registered in both sections through Census Day. Several of the assignments in this class will be integrated with the work you do for RWS 1301. At the end of the semester, students will have achieved the following goals in this LC:

- Form academic and social communities with their peers
- Make interdisciplinary connections
- Strengthen their academic performance
- Interact with instructors frequently

Helpful Campus Numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Campus Police</td>
<td>747-5611</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office of Financial Aid</td>
<td>747-5204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Business Services</td>
<td>747-5116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology Help Desk</td>
<td>747-5257</td>
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<tr>
<td>UTEP Main Line</td>
<td>747-5000</td>
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</tbody>
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Helpful General & Campus Resources

- Center for Accommodations & Support Services [http://sa.utep.edu/cass/](http://sa.utep.edu/cass/)
- Financial Aid 747-5204 [http://financialaid.utep.edu](http://financialaid.utep.edu)
- History Tutoring and Learning Center [http://academics.utep.edu/history](http://academics.utep.edu/history)
- Math Resource Center (MaRCS) [http://math.utep.edu/marcs/](http://math.utep.edu/marcs/)
- Military Student Success Center [http://military.utep.edu](http://military.utep.edu)
- Miner Learning Center [http://class.utep.edu](http://class.utep.edu)
- Purdue Online Writing Lab (OWL) [https://owl.english.purdue.edu/](https://owl.english.purdue.edu/)
- Student Health Center [http://chs.utep.edu/health/](http://chs.utep.edu/health/)
- Translation Resource Center (for ESOL students) [http://academics.utep.edu/langling](http://academics.utep.edu/langling)
- University Career Center [http://sa.utep.edu/careers/](http://sa.utep.edu/careers/)
- University Counseling Center [http://sa.utep.edu/counsel/](http://sa.utep.edu/counsel/)
- University Library [http://libraryweb.utep.edu/](http://libraryweb.utep.edu/)
- University Writing Center [http://uwc.utep.edu/](http://uwc.utep.edu/)

UTEP Policies

- ADA/Center for Accommodations & Support Services: The ADA requires that reasonable accommodations be provided for students with disabilities. Please contact CASS at 747-5148, Union East 106, or cass@utep.edu.
- Academic Integrity: Scholastic dishonesty is never tolerated by UTEP or the Entering Student Program. All suspected cases are reported to the Dean of Students for review. For more info, click here.
- Copyright and Fair Use: The university requires all members of its community to follow copyright and fair use requirements. Students are individually and solely responsible for violations of copyright and fair use laws. The university will neither protect nor defend students nor assume any responsibility for student violations. Violations of copyright laws could subject students to federal and state civil penalties and criminal liability as well as disciplinary action under university policies.
- Student Conduct: [From the Handbook of Operating Procedures: Student Affairs]. Each student is responsible for notice of and compliance with the provisions of the Regents’ Rules and Regulations, which are available here.
- Final Exam Policy: [From Registration & Records]. Each student is responsible for notice of and compliance with the provisions of the Regents’ Rules and Regulations, which are available here.
### Paper Format Guidelines

**Syllabus Change**
Except for changes that substantially affect the grading statement, this syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change with advance notice. Students will be kept abreast of any changes to the syllabus both in class and on Blackboard.

**Times New Roman | 12pt font | One-Inch Margins**

### ACADEMIC CALENDAR FALL 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| One  | T 08/23 | Partner & Course Introductions  
R 08/25 | Course Introduction continued  
Syllabus Review  
TBA  
Due: Borders Ch 1 & Ch 10  
Due: E-mail Response #1 by Saturday 10p |
| Nine | T 10/18 | GPA Calculation  
Due: Extra-Curricular Activity #2 by 10p  
Research Paper Instructions  
Due: GPA Calculation / E-mail Response #8 by Sat 10p |
| Two  | T 08/30 | UTEP Video Instructions + Research  
Due: Borders Ch 2  
Due: E-mail Response #2 by Saturday 10p  
Due: Borders Ch 6/E-Resp. #9 by Sat 10p/Research Paper by Sun 10p  
Due: E-mail Response #9 by Sat 10p/Research Paper by Sun 10p |
| Ten  | T 10/25 | TBA: Library Orientation  
Due: Borders Ch 5  
TBA: Student Conduct  
Due: Borders Ch 6/E-Resp. #9 by Sat 10p/Research Paper by Sun 10p  
Due: Extra-Curricular Activity #1 by 10p |
| Three | T 09/06 | iMovie Training – Meet in UGLC 202  
Due: Borders Ch 2  
Due: E-mail Response #2 by Saturday 10p  
Due: E-mail Response #4 by Saturday 10p |
| Seven | T 11/22 | Pop Culture Project Presentations  
Due: E-mail Response #1 by Saturday 10p  
Due: E-mail Response #2 by Saturday 10p |
| Four | T 09/13 | UTEP Video Presentations  
Due: Borders Ch 4 / E-mail Response #3 by Sat 10p  
Due: E-mail Response #3 by Sat 10p  
Due: E-mail Response #3 by Sat 10p  
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Due: E-mail Response #3 by Sat 10p |
| Eleven | T 11/08 | Pop Culture Analysis Project Instructions  
Due: Extra-Curricular Activity #3 by 10p  
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| Five | T 09/20 | Rhetorical Triangle  
Due: Extra-Curricular Activity #1 by 10p  
Due: Extra-Curricular Activity #1 by 10p  
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| Six  | T 09/27 | Teen Pregnancy  
Due: Taking Responsibility  
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| Seven | T 10/04 | Teen Pregnancy & Pop Culture  
Due: Borders Ch 9 / E-mail Response #5 Sat 10p  
Due: Extra-Curricular Activity #1 by 10p  
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Due: Extra-Curricular Activity #1 by 10p  
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| Eight | T 10/11 | Teen Pregnancy & Pop Culture Analysis  
Due: E-mail Response #7 by Saturday 10p  
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**Finals Week is Dec 5-9, 2016 | Final grades will be posted to Goldmine on Dec 22 | Check with your academic advisor to review academic standing**