UNIV 1301

Course Description

Students will learn how to critically analyze the representation of social issues in American popular culture. They will gain a deeper understanding of the use of rhetoric, audience awareness, and subject matter knowledge. Students will learn to strengthen their academic performance by exploring their future career paths and by developing research, critical thinking, writing techniques, and public speaking skills.

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

✔ Develop and apply elements of leadership through effective individual participation and meaningful team collaboration

✔ Examine the roles and responsibilities crucial for their success in college and beyond

✔ Identify, assess, and build on their strengths and experiences to develop academic and transitional strategies necessary for success in their academic, career, and life goals

✔ Engage in research and critical thinking activities that demonstrate their ability to effectively integrate their learning within, across, and beyond academic settings.

✔ Engage in campus and community activities to increase their sense of academic and social belonging

Participation Clause: This is a discussion/workshop class, not a lecture class. Therefore, you must attend each class period 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 to gain the skills to succeed as a successful college student.
## Course Assignments

**Daily Work (40%)**: Homework, Borders assignments, academic advising assignments, quizzes, extra-curricular activity, etc. Daily work is assigned in class and will usually be due as noted in class and/or on the syllabus. Daily homework assignments will not be listed on Blackboard. Arrive to class on time and with your completed homework assignments. If you are late to class, so is your homework and it will be subject to the Late Work Policy.

**E-Mail Responses (10%)**: You will check your UTEP e-mail address and write a response paper to one (1) email received that week. You must complete 10 out of the 11 listed on Blackboard.

**Participation (10%)**: You are expected to engage in discussions, activities, workshops, assignments, and instructor/peer leader meetings. Your attendance and completion of the Entering Student Program End of Semester survey also factor into this grade. More information provided in class.

**Research Paper (15%)**: You will select a social issue affecting the community and write a short research paper. More information provided in class.

**Pop Culture Analysis Project (15%)**: You will look for common themes surrounding your social issue and identify them in various elements of popular culture. This assignment will have elements of leadership and a heavy research component to it. You will utilize credible sources to help support your argument. More information provided in class.

**Final Exam (10%)**: You will complete a final exam due during Final Exam Week. More information provided in class during week fifteen.

**Grade Dispute**: Grade disputes will be discussed during posted office hours, not before/during/after class.

Note that the grade listed on Blackboard is NOT your current grade in UNIV 1301. The grade listed on Blackboard is only a partial Daily Work grade, worth 40% of your final grade. To request a current grade, send me an email. I am happy to provide it.
Extra Credit

Academic Success Skills Workshops

The Entering Student Program (UNIV 1301) hosts a series of success skills workshops that include time management, active reading, note taking, avoiding plagiarism, exam preparation, and tackling tough final projects. You can attend up to seven different sessions for 10 points extra credit each to be added to your daily work average (70 points max). The ASSWs can be counted as an extra-curricular activity, but will not double-count as extra credit.

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 from 1:00-4:00pm in the TRCC (Union East). Extra credit will be applied to your final exam.

UTEP Policies

ADA: 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 Conduct and Discipline]. 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 the Handbook of Operating Procedures: Final Examinations]. It is University policy that students shall not have to take more than two final examinations in a single day. In the unlikely event that the examination schedule results in a student’s having three final examinations on one day, the second of the three examinations shall be rescheduled by the faculty member upon the request of the student.

Helpful Campus Numbers

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<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>UTEP Help Desk</td>
<td>747-5257</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UTEP Main Line</td>
<td>747-5000</td>
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</tbody>
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Helpful General & Campus Resources

Academic Advising Center [http://academics.utep.edu/advisingcenter](http://academics.utep.edu/advisingcenter)

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/)
Fall 2017 Important Dates

- Labor Day (UTEP closed): Sept 4
- Census Day: Sept 13
- Mid-Term Grades Available: Oct 30
- Course Drop Deadline: Nov 3
- Thanksgiving (UTEP closed): Nov 23-24
- Dead Day (no classes): Dec 8
- ESP Research Showcase: Dec 9
- Final Exams: Dec 11-15
- Final Grades Available: Dec 21

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 in class.

Paper Format Guidelines

- Name
- Date the assignment is due
- Assignment Title
- Indent the first sentence of each paragraph. This is standard in academic essays at the university level. Notice how the heading is single-spaced but the body of your essay is double-spaced. Be sure to use Times New Roman, 12pt font. Your margins should be one inch only. Microsoft Word is defaulted to 1.25 inches. Under “page layout,” change it to 1” all the way around.

APA Style | Times New Roman | 12pt font | One-Inch Margins