

RWS 1301

11:30 AM, MWF | UGLC 230
FALL 2018 | CRN 14370

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office hours. MWF 1:40-3:10 PM
& by appointment

Course Description

The goal of Rhetoric and Writing Studies 1301 is to develop students' critical thinking skills in order to facilitate effective communication in educational, professional, and social contexts. Effective communication is based on an awareness of and appreciation for discourse communities as well as knowledge specific to subject matter, genre, rhetorical strategy, and writing process. This course is designed to prepare you for the writing you will do throughout your university experience as well as in professional and civic environments. It offers you a curriculum that empowers you to determine the most effective rhetorical strategies, arrangements, and media to use in different rhetorical contexts.

Course Outcomes

Throughout this course, students will

- Understand a theory of discourse communities.
- Engage as a community of writers who dialogue across texts, argue, and build on each other's work.
- Draw on existing knowledge bases to create "new" or "transformed" knowledge.
- Develop a knowledge of genres as they are defined and stabilized within discourse communities.
- Address the specific, immediate rhetorical situations of individual communicative acts.
- Develop procedural knowledge of the writing task in its various phases.
- Engage in reflection about their own learning.

This course is also designed to promote your overall success, inside and outside the classroom. The coursework will help you to improve in key areas such as Communication, Confidence, Critical Thinking, Leadership, Problem Solving, Social Responsibility, and Teamwork. To find out more about the university's plan to improve student engagement and learning, visit the [UTEP Edge](#).

Learning Community: As part of a learning community with Professor DeAnna Varela's UNIV 1301 course, this class will encourage you to develop a stronger sense of community with your classmates, and to experience a greater sense of continuity between your classes.



Academic Integrity: Students are expected to uphold the highest standards of academic integrity. Academic dishonesty is NEVER tolerated by UTEP or the First-Year Composition Program. All cases are reported to the Office of Student Conflict and Conduct Resolution for adjudication. All work submitted must be original; students may not submit graded work from another course. Forms of academic dishonesty include plagiarism, collusion, and cheating. Read more at <https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/osccr/student-conduct/academic-integrity.html>

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Military Student Success Center: If you are a military student (veteran, dependent, active), consider visiting the Military Student Success Center at Library Room 205 or online at <https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/mssc/>. Please inform me if you need special accommodations. If you make me aware of a complication, I will work to assist you or put you in contact with university staff who are trained to assist you.

ADA: The Americans with Disabilities Act requires that reasonable accommodations be provided for students with physical, sensory, cognitive, systemic, learning, and psychiatric disabilities. If you suspect that you have a disability and need an accommodation, please contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 915.747.5148 or cass@utep.edu. CASS is located in Room 106, Union Building East. You are responsible for presenting me any CASS accommodation letters and instructions.

Calendar

This calendar is subject to change. Attend class and check Blackboard to confirm due dates.

Reading Key: WaW=Writing about Writing; HB=The First-Year Composition Handbook

Week 1: August 27th—31st

August 27th Welcome to class!

August 29th

August 31st **1)** "Only Daughter" (WaW pp. 101-105); **2)** "Literacies: How Is Writing Impacted by Our Prior Experiences?" (WaW pp. 64-67); **3)** Discourse Community Ethnography Guidelines (HB pp. 105-116)

Week 2: September 3rd—7th

September 3rd **UNIVERSITY CLOSED:** Labor Day

September 5th **1)** "Introduction to the Conversation," "Threshold Concepts of Writing," & "Using This Book" (WaW pp. 1-15, 56-57); **2)** "An Introduction to FYC Studies" (HB pp. 1-15)

Literacy Narrative Activity due Wednesday, September 5th at 11:59 PM.

September 7th Excerpt from "The Concept of Discourse Community" (WaW pp. 215-217, 220-224): "Framing the Reading," "Getting Ready to Read," "2.3 A Conceptualization of Discourse Community," & "2.4 An Example of a Discourse Community"

Week 3: September 10th—14th

September 10th E-Portfolio/Blog Guidelines (HB pp. 92-96, 102-104)

September 12th **1)** "Intertextuality and the Discourse Community" (WaW pp. 542-558); **2)** "Individual in Community: How Does Writing Help People Get Things Done?" (WaW pp. 270-273)

September 14th "Shitty First Drafts" (WaW pp. 852-857)

Week 4: September 17th—21st

September 17th **Library Workshop 1;** "Documenting Styles and Avoiding Plagiarism" (HB p. 61-78)

September 19th **1)** "Rigid Rules, Inflexible Plans, and the Stifling of Language: A Cognitivist Analysis of Writer's Block"(WaW pp. 787-802); **2)** Processes: How Are Texts Composed? (WaW pp. 706-710)

September 21st

Week 5: September 24th—28th

September 24th

September 26th "Coaches Can Read, Too: An Ethnographic Study of a Football Coaching Discourse Community" (WaW pp. 383-394)

September 28th Website Analysis and Group Presentation Guidelines (HB pp. 128-132)

Major Assignment: Discourse Community Ethnography due Friday, September 28th at 11:59 PM.

Week 6: October 1st—5th

October 1st **1)** Part 1 of "Rhetoric: Making Sense of Human Interaction and Meaning-Making" (WaW pp. 457-469, up to "Rhetorical Appeals"); **2)** "Rhetoric: How Is Meaning Constructed in Context?" (WaW pp. 447-456)

October 3rd Part 2 of "Rhetoric: Making Sense of Human Interaction and Meaning-Making" (WaW pp. 469-483)

October 5th

Week 7: October 8th—12th	
October 8th	
October 10th	“Threshold Concepts That Assist Academic Reading and Writing,” (WaW pp. 16-29)
October 12th	Annotated Bibliography Guidelines (HB pp. 142-152); Global Issues Report Guidelines (HB pp. 153-160)
Week 8: October 15th—19th	
October 15th	Website Analysis Group Presentations
Major Assignment: Website Analysis and Group Presentation due in class on Monday, October 15th.	
October 17th	"Argument as Conversation" (WaW pp. 31-43)
October 19th	“Stasis Theory” (<i>Mere Rhetoric</i> podcast episode: https://mererhetoric.libsyn.com/stasis-theory-new-and-improved)
Week 9: October 22nd—26th	
October 22nd	Library Workshop 2; “Primary Research” & “Secondary Research” (HB pp. 43-60)
October 24th	“I Stand Here Writing” (WaW pp. 212-222)
October 26th	“Dissoi Logoi” (<i>Mere Rhetoric</i> podcast episode: http://mererhetoric.libsyn.com/dissoi-logoi)
Week 10: October 29th—November 2nd	
October 29th	
October 31st	“Revision Strategies of Student Writers and Experienced Adult Writers” (WaW pp. 858-872)
November 2nd	Public Service Announcement Guidelines (HB pp. 161-162, 167-171); Visual Argument Presentation Guidelines (HB pp. 172-176)
Major Assignment: Annotated Bibliography due Friday, November 2nd at 11:59 PM	
Week 11: November 5th—9th	
November 5th	
November 7th	Part 1 of “Argument as Emergence, Rhetoric as Love” (pp. 600-608)
November 9th	Part 2 of “Argument as Emergence, Rhetoric as Love” (pp. 609-618)
Week 12: November 12th—16th	
November 12th	
November 14th	Library Workshop 3
November 16th	
Major Assignment: Global Issues Report due Friday, November 16th at 11:59 PM	
Week 13: November 19th—23rd	
November 19th	“Selfe: Technology and Literacy in the 21 st Century” (<i>Mere Rhetoric</i> podcast episode: https://mererhetoric.libsyn.com/self-technology-and-literacy-in-the-21st-century)
November 21st	
November 23rd	UNIVERSITY CLOSED: Thanksgiving Holiday
Week 14: November 26th—30th	
November 26th	
November 28th	
November 30th	
Week 15: December 3rd—7th	
December 3rd	

