



RWS 1302

ONLINE | FALL 2020 | CRN 15566

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online office hours. TWR 2:00 – 3:00 PM, and by appointment, through Blackboard Collaborate.

Program Overview

At UTEP, the First-Year Composition (FYC) program in the English department offers two first-year courses that are typically taken as a sequence, RWS 1301—Rhetoric and Composition I and RWS 1302—Rhetoric and Composition II. These courses are intended to help students develop their rhetorical and writing knowledge and skills within these five knowledge domains: writing process knowledge, subject matter knowledge, rhetorical knowledge, genre knowledge, and discourse community knowledge. Therefore, we teach writing as a complex activity through which students are given guidance and often collaborate. Drawing on the rich scholarship of Rhetoric and Writing Studies, we have designed our courses to help students address the challenges of 21st century composing. In these courses, students are empowered to determine the most effective strategies, arrangements, and media to use in different rhetorical contexts.

In fall 2020, all sections of RWS 1301 and 1302 will be taught online. Regardless of the delivery system, the FYC program reminds students that the primary purpose of these classes are the learning and practice of writing. The Conference on College Composition and Communication together with the Council of Writing Program Administrators state:

Writing classes teach writing: Principally, writing classes foreground writing itself as a complex, distributed activity premised upon sociality and community formation, processes and materials, flexibility, and ethical communication. Writing classes may involve participants in purposeful interpersonal interactions (discussions and conversations), writing-related activities (peer review, studying features in model texts), and interpreting texts (making meaning individually or together with others); however, the activity of writing itself continues to be central to what a writing class sponsors.

CCCC and CWPA Joint Statement in Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic

Course Outcomes

At the end of these FYC courses, students will be able to:

Critical thinking and reading

- Think, read, and write analytically and reflectively

After 2 total weeks of absence (not necessarily consecutive classes) the student’s grade is lowered by a full letter (A becomes B, etc.).

After 3 total weeks of absence (not necessarily consecutive), the student is automatically dropped from class.

Missing a scheduled conference with the instructor constitutes an absence.

For Hybrid Courses: The attendance policy for hybrid courses aligns with the structure for face-to-face courses with each missed weekly class meeting constituting absence from a week of class.

The program recommends that the student contact the instructor to discuss the attendance policy and how it applies in cases in which it is not possible to attend a weekly class meeting, while continuing to maintain robust participation in class activities. [see also online courses]

For Online Courses: In an online class, attendance is measured by participation in class activities. The attendance policy for online courses aligns with the structure for face-to-face courses, with each missed week of class activities constituting absence from a week of class.

The instructor can measure participation through various pathways, such as completion of scaffolded activities and discussion posts, and responding to other students’ posts and feedback. We also recommend measuring course activity by using the Course Reports feature on Blackboard, particularly the Course Activity Overview.

When it becomes evident that it is not possible to participate in class, the program recommends that the student contact the instructor to discuss the attendance policy and how it applies, before resuming robust participation in class activities.

Drop Policy: If you cannot complete this course for whatever reason, please contact your instructor. Your instructor can help you with the drop process and you can contact the Registrar’s Office. If you do not drop, you are at risk of being dropped by the instructor and possibly receiving an “F” for the course.

Academic Integrity: The University of Texas at El Paso prides itself on its standards of academic excellence. In the classroom and in all other academic activities, students are expected to uphold the highest standards of academic integrity. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, and any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts. Instructors are required to report the suspected academic dishonesty to the Office of Student Affairs. Visit the [Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution](#) page for more information on Academic integrity.

Accommodations: UTEP is committed to providing reasonable accommodations and auxiliary services to students, staff, faculty, job applicants, applicants for admissions, and other beneficiaries of University programs, services and activities with documented disabilities in order to provide them with equal opportunities to participate in programs, services, and activities in compliance with sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA) of 2008. Reasonable accommodations will be made unless it is determined that doing so would cause undue hardship on the University. Students requesting an accommodation based on a disability must register with the [UTEP](#)

Nov 26-27th Thanksgiving Holiday - University Closed
 Dec 3rd Fall - last day of classes
 Dec 4th Dead Day
 Dec 7-11th Fall Final Exams

Calendar

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

Reading Key: Bb=Blackboard; WiT=Writing in Transit; HB=The First-Year Composition Handbook

| Week 1—August 24 th -30 th | | |
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| Reading(s) due by the end of the week | “Dare We Say I?” (Bb) Syllabus (Bb) | Friday, 11:59 PM. |
| Quiz #1 | Syllabus Quiz | Friday, 11:59 PM. |
| Discussion activity #1 | Introductions | Discussion post due Friday at 11:59 PM. Brief responses to two classmates due Sunday at 11:59 PM. |
| Week 2—August 31 st -September 6 th | | |
| Reading(s) due by the beginning of the week | Read “Genre Analysis Assignment Guidelines” (HB, pp. 227-240). | Monday at 11:59 PM. |
| Reading(s) due by the end of the week | Read "Writing as Transfer" (WiT, pp. 1-12). Consider getting an early start on next week's reading: "Analysis" (WiT, pp. 273-309). I recommend reading pp. 273-287 this week. Watch “How to Use Rhetoric to Get What You Want” (Bb) (4:30 minutes). | Sunday at 11:59 PM. |
| Quiz #2 | Quiz on “Writing as Transfer” | Sunday at 11:59 PM. |
| Activity #1 | Semester topic proposal | Sunday at 11:59 PM. |
| Week 3—September 7 th -13 th | | |
| Video to watch by the end of the week | Watch “ What reading slowly taught me about writing ” (Bb) (11 minutes). | Friday at 11:59 PM. |
| Reading(s) due by the end of the week | Read "Analysis" (WiT, pp. 273-309). | Friday at 11:59 PM. |
| Discussion activity #2 | Analysis of "What reading slowly taught me about writing" | Discussion post due Friday at 11:59 PM. |

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| Activity #5 | Preliminary research | Sunday at 11:59 PM. |
| Looking Ahead: Week 9 Activity | Mini Annotated Bibliography | Next Sunday at 11:59 PM. |
| Week 9— October 19th-25th | | |
| Reading(s) due by the end of the week | Read "Synthesis" (WiT, pp. 221-251). | Friday at 11:59 PM. |
| Quiz #7 | Quiz on "Summary" (Week 8 reading) and "Synthesis" | Friday at 11:59 PM. |
| Activity #6 | Engaging with sources | |
| Activity #7 | Mini Annotated Bibliography | Sunday at 11:59 PM. |
| Week 10— October 26th-November 1st | | |
| Videos to watch by the end of the week | Watch " Shelter in Place " (Bb) (13:46 minutes) and " 24 Hours in the Life of America's Essential Workers " (Bb) (12:40 minutes) | Friday at 11:59 PM. |
| Reading(s) due by the end of the week | Read "Choosing and Integrating Evidence: Quotes, Paraphrases, Visual Materials, and Data" (WiT, pp. 464-494). | Friday at 11:59 PM. |
| Discussion activity #8 | Analysis of "Shelter in Place" and "24 Hours in the Life of America's Essential Workers" | Discussion post due Friday at 11:59 PM. Brief responses to two classmates due Sunday at 11:59 PM. |
| Quiz #8 | Quiz on "Choosing and Integrating Evidence" | Friday at 11:59 PM. |
| Activity #8 | Primary research plans | Sunday at 11:59 PM. |
| Week 11— November 2nd-8th | | |
| Film to watch by the end of the week (2 choices) | 2 choices: Watch The Garden (1 hr 20 min) (Bb) OR Las Marthas (Bb) (1 hr 19 min) | Friday at 11:59 PM. |
| Reading(s) due by the end of the week | Read "Constructing Arguments" (WiT, pp. 399-424) | Friday at 11:59 PM. |
| Discussion activity #9 | Analysis of <i>The Garden</i> OR <i>Las Marthas</i> | Discussion post due Friday at 11:59 PM. Brief responses to two classmates due Sunday at 11:59 PM. |
| Quiz #9 | Quiz on "Constructing Arguments" | Friday at 11:59 PM. |
| Looking Ahead: Assignment #2 | Literature Review/Research Report | Next Sunday at 11:59 PM. |
| Week 12— November 9th-15th | | |

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| Reading(s) due by the beginning of class | Read "Documentary Assignment Guidelines" (HB, pp. 273-282) and "Open Education Resource Video Assignment Guidelines (HB, pp. 283-286). | Monday at 11:59 PM. |
| Activity #9 | Preliminary Documentary/OER Video plan | Friday at 11:59 PM. |
| Assignment #2 | Literature Review/Research Report | Sunday at 11:59 PM. |
| Week 13— November 16th-22nd | | |
| Video to watch by the beginning of class | Watch a brief documentary of your choosing. | Friday at 11:59 PM. |
| Reading(s) due by the end of the week | Read "Framing Arguments" (WiT, pp. 335-358). | Friday at 11:59 PM. |
| Discussion activity #10 | Analysis of a brief documentary of your choosing | Discussion post due Friday at 11:59 PM. Brief responses to two classmates due Sunday at 11:59 PM. |
| Quiz #10 | Quiz on "Framing Arguments" | Friday at 11:59 PM. |
| Week 14— November 23rd-29th | | |
| Reading(s) due by the beginning of the week | Read "Extended Professional E-Portfolio Assignment Guidelines" (HB, pp. 205-211). | Monday at 11:59 PM. |
| Activity #10 | Video Assignment Check-In, and Looking Ahead to the E-Portfolio - Read the "Updates and Options: E-Portfolio Only" document, which includes reflection prompts for our streamlined E-Portfolio assignment. | Sunday at 11:59 PM. |
| Looking Ahead: Assignment #3 | Documentary/OER Video | Next Friday at 11:59 PM. |
| Week 15—November 30th-December 6th | | |
| Online video gallery | Opportunity to share your Documentary/OER Video with your classmates online | Friday at 11:59 PM. |
| Assignment #3 | Documentary Film/OER Video | Friday at 11:59 PM. |
| Looking Ahead: Assignment #4 | E-Portfolio | Next Friday at 11:59 PM. |
| Finals Week—December 7th-11th | | |
| Assignment #4 | E-Portfolio | Friday at 11:59 PM. |