RWS 1301: Rhetoric & Composition I

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Semester:	UTEP Prep—Summer 2018
Course Section & CRN:	RWS 1301, 35294
Time/Days:	MWF/12:10-2:20
Place:	UGLC 230
Instructor:	Paul LaPrade
Email:	Blackboard Email
	(If Bb is down, you can reach me at pdlaprade@utep.edu)
Office:	Hudspeth 310
Office Hours:	MWF 2:30-3:00, or by appointment
Peer Leader:	Maria Angeles
Email:	miangeles@miners.utep.edu
Office:	UGLC 214
Office Hours:	see Blackboard

Course Description

This summer, the objective is not to teach you ***to*** write--this is not a how-to class. Instead, this class will teach you ***about*** writing--how students experience writing, how writing occurs in different contexts, and how writing can be adapted to individual situations. The overall goal of RWS 1301, Rhetoric & Composition II, is two-fold: facilitate 1. a critical awareness of your own writing process, and by doing so locate points of strength and weakness, and 2. a critical awareness of writing as it occurs within specific communities/situations. By developing critical awareness in these two areas, you will begin to cultivate the knowledge and skills to become effective writers in a variety of educational, professional, and social contexts. In order to achieve these goals, we will focus on a handful of core concepts: writing process, discourse community, information literacy, and critical self-reflection.

Learning Outcomes

Throughout this course, you will
- Engage as a community of writers who dialogue across texts, argue, and build on the work of others.
- Develop knowledge of genres as they are defined and stabilized within discourse communities.
- Explore the specific, immediate rhetorical situations of individual communicative acts.
- Cultivate procedural knowledge of writing in its various phases.
- Access information and demonstrate an understanding of how to use library resources.
- Evaluate sources and information critically.
- Use information ethically with appropriate citations.

Required Texts and Materials
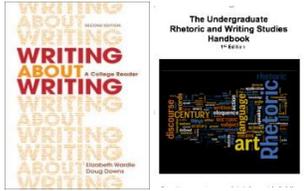
- Wardle, E., & Downs, D. (Eds.). (2014). *Writing about writing: A college reader* (2nd ed.). Boston, MA: Bedford St. Martin's.
- *The Undergraduate Rhetoric and Writing Studies Handbook* (2016).
    - This e-book is available at https://shelf.brytewave.com/#/user/signin.
    - Click on "Create an Account," enter your UTEP email address and select "Next," then enter the required information and select "Create."
    - After creating your account, enter your code to gain access to the e-book with the cover picture above (on the right).
    - Once you own the book, you can access it by signing in through the link above. To navigate the book, use the "Table of Contents" icon in the lower left corner of the screen.
- Cloud service or flash drive to save your files. (Keep these until final grades are posted for the summer session.)
- Regular access to a computer, Blackboard, and your UTEP email account.

Assignments and Grade Distribution

Assignment instructions are available on Blackboard.

Reflective E-Portfolio: *You will create* an online writing portfolio in which you will reflect on your experiences throughout the semester. **150 points**

Literacy Narrative: *You will examine* your own writing process and compare it to the processes of experienced writers in order to develop a greater awareness of your habits and their effectiveness. **150 pts.**

Discourse Community Ethnography and Researched Argument: In Part 1, *you will analyze* the communication practices of a physical or online community and consider how well it meets the criteria for discourse communities set forward by John Swales in "The Concept of Discourse Community." In Part 2, *you will explore* a concept or issue relevant to your academic or professional interests. You will conduct research and write an argument relevant to the community in question. **250 pts.**

Researched Argument Presentation: Building on your DCERA project, *you will deliver* an in-class presentation of an argument designed for a specific audience. **150 pts.**

In-Class Reading Journal: *You will reflect* on readings and key concepts by completing in-class reading journals on days for which there are reading assignments (see course calendar for a complete list). These responses will serve as a springboard for our reading discussions. **120 pts.**

Peer Review: *You will engage* with your classmates' writing in peer-review conferences for the Literacy Narrative and the Discourse Community Ethnography and Researched Argument. Submitting peer-review forms and participating in each session will constitute an important part of your grade. **60 pts.**

Attendance and Participation: *You will participate* by consistently attending class and completing a variety of in-class activities. These activities will comprise an important part of your course grade. **120 pts.**

Grade Distribution (You can earn a total of 1000 points for the course):
1000-900 = A
899-800 = B
799 -700 = C
699- 600 = D
599 and below = F

Policies

Feedback/Late Work: If you do not submit a draft of a major assignment before the stated due date, your ceiling for that assignment will be 90% of the available points if you submit a late first draft by the due date for optional second drafts (see the course calendar for details)**.** *Late major assignments will no longer be accepted past this second due date. In-class activities and reading journals will not be accepted late.*

Weekly Modules: The course's online content is delivered on Blackboard through weekly modules, which you can access on the sidebar. These modules include weekly checklists, reading-journal prompts, and spaces to submit in-class activities and major assignments.

Attendance: Satisfactory attendance is important for your academic success and a course requirement. You are expected to attend class on time and to be prepared. Unsatisfactory attendance consists of absences, tardiness, leaving the classroom early, or coming to class unprepared to participate. Attendance is taken daily. Excessive absences and tardiness will affect your overall grade. As a UTEP Prep participant, your attendance is critical to your program success; after two absences you will be reported to the UTEP Prep program and your continued participation may be in jeopardy.

Please also be aware of the six-course drop limit. According to the Texas Education Code, "all first-year students enrolled for the first time at any Texas public college or university are limited to six drops during their academic career. This includes student and faculty initiated drops and courses dropped at other Texas public institutions. This policy does not apply to courses dropped prior to census day or to complete withdrawals." With that in mind, be sure to start your college experience on the right track by attending class regularly.

Project Format: All projects will be turned in on Blackboard through the weekly learning modules. Assignments should be double-spaced, in 12-point Times New Roman or a font of similar size. Please submit assignments in .doc or .docx format (and not .pages format). I recommend that you include your UTEP username and the assignment in the save name, as follows:

username literacy narrative

username literacy narrative second draft

Extra Credit: You can earn extra credit by visiting the Writing Center. Each visit counts for 2.5 points towards the final score of a major assignment, for up to 5 points per assignment and up to 20 total points. To receive credit, bring me your UWC visit sheets.

UTEP's University Writing Center (UWC), located in Library Room 227, offers free in-person and online writing tutoring assistance for all UTEP students. The tutors are undergraduate and graduate students who can help with all parts of a writing assignment, including prewriting, organizing, revising, and editing. They can also help you understand any writing assignment and help you work on comprehending difficult readings. Visit the UWC website (uwc.utep.edu) for further information.

Summer Hours: Monday-Friday: 10:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.
Summer Online Consulting Hours: Monday-Friday: 10:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

Technology and RWS 1301: This course makes frequent use of technology. If you do not have internet access at home, you can get it through the university**.**

Student computer labs such as the Library's Collaborative Learning Center (CLC, Main Floor) and the ATLAS Lab (UGLC 202) are often available until late at night, but schedules vary (a full list of computer labs is available here: http://admin.utep.edu/Default.aspx?tabid=68378). Major assignments will be submitted online, and not having access to a computer will not be an excuse for incomplete or late assignments.

Instructions for Accessing Your Course Online: You must have a UTEP email ID and password to access Blackboard. UTEP automatically generates an e-mail ID for students when they are entered into the system. Any questions or problems can be directed to the **Help Desk at 747.4357 (HELP).**

Course content will be delivered via Blackboard. You can access Blackboard by following the steps outlined below:

- Go to http://my.utep.edu
- Login is e-mail ID. Password is e-mail password.
- Click on the link to Blackboard.
- Once logged into Blackboard, all the courses you are registered for are listed under the appropriate semester.
- Click on the course title to access the course.

Academic Dishonesty: Academic Dishonesty is **NEVER** tolerated by UTEP or the First-Year Composition Program. All cases are reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution for academic sanctions, which may include expulsion. All work submitted must be original, and you may not submit graded work from another course.

Forms of academic dishonesty include the following: *collusion*—lending your work to another person to submit as his or her own; *fabrication*—deliberately creating false information on a works cited page; and *plagiarism*—the presentation of another person's work as your own, whether you mean to or not (i.e., copying parts of or whole papers off the internet).

Copyright and Fair Use: The University requires all members of its community to follow copyright and fair use requirements. You are individually and solely responsible for violations of copyright and fair use laws. The University will neither protect nor defend you nor assume any responsibility for student violations of fair use laws. Violations of copyright laws could subject you to federal and state civil penalties and criminal liability, as well as disciplinary action under University policies.

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 East Bldg. 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.

	Readings	Important dates	Due dates for major assignments and optional second drafts
Week 1 M 6.25			
W 6.27	"Introduction to the Conversation" (1-11), Lamott (527-531)		
F 6.29	"Literacies" (40-42), Villanueva (107-118)		
Week 2 M 7.2	"Processes" (488-491), Rose (532-546)		**Tuesday, July 3ʳᵈ: Literacy Narrative Due**
W 7.4		No class: Independence Day Holiday	
F 7.6	"Individual in Community" (212-214); excerpt from Swales (215-229): "Framing the Reading," "Getting Ready to Read," and "2.3 A Conceptualization of Discourse Community"		
Week 3 M 7.9			
W 7.11			

F 7.13	Porter (395-409)		
Week 4 M 7.16			**Monday, July 16th: Optional Literacy Narrative Second Drafts Due**
W 7.18		Library Workshop 1 (Meet in classroom.)	
F 7.20	Greene (27-39)		
Week 5 M 7.23	"Rhetoric" (318-324), Aristotle (http://classics.mit.edu/Aristotle/rhetoric.1.i.html; Part 2)		
W 7.25	Penrose and Geisler (Blackboard)		
F 7.27		Library Workshop 2 (Meet in the Library.)	**Friday, July 27th: DCERA Due**
Week 6 M 7.30			
W 8.1			**Wednesday, August 1st: Researched Argument Presentation Due in Class**
F 8.3		Special meeting time: 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.	**Friday, August 3rd: E-Portfolio Due; Optional DCERA Second Drafts Due**