

English 1302. Argument: Reading, Writing, and Critical Thinking

Instructor: Name

Course Information: Section; Time; Room

Office/Hours:

Email:

Phone (Messages Only): 817-272-2692

Course Description. This course teaches reading, writing and critical thinking with a special emphasis on argument. Attention is given to identifying and taking positions on issues, developing ideas, both through reasoning and library research, and writing well-developed papers that exhibit an awareness of particular audiences. Students are taught argumentative strategies, analytical models, argumentative proofs, modes of appeal, and methods of reasoning. Special applications are made but not limited to scholarly argument.

Student Learning Outcomes. After successfully completing ENGL 1302, students will be able to:

- Use recursive processes for critical reading and writing that facilitate their participation in academic discourse.
- Use knowledge of audience, purpose, and form to produce situation-appropriate texts that follow conventions of academic discourse.
- Employ ancient and contemporary models of argumentation to analyze and develop texts.
- Locate research sources and use them to develop a persuasive essay.

Required Texts.

Reader: Wood, *Perspectives on Argument*, 5th Edition

Handbook: Troyka, *Simon & Schuster Handbook for Writers with i-Book*, 8th Edition

Description of Major Assignments. [INSERT DESCRIPTION OF MAJOR COURSE REQUIREMENTS, EXAMINATIONS, PROJECTS, AND DUE DATES.]

Grades. Grades in FYC are A, B, C, F, and Z. The Z grade is reserved for students who attend class regularly, participate actively, and complete all the assigned work on time, but simply fail to write well enough to earn a passing grade. **This judgment is made by the instructor and not necessarily based upon a number average.** The Z grade is intended to reward students for good effort. While students who receive a Z will not get credit for the course, the Z grade will not affect their grade point average. They may repeat the course for credit until they do earn a passing grade. The F grade, which does negatively affect GPA, goes to failing students who do not attend class regularly, do not participate actively, or do not complete assigned work.

All major essay projects must be completed to pass the course. If you fail to complete an essay project, you will fail the course, regardless of your average. All essay projects must be turned in with a two-pocket folder containing all drafts, peer review sheets, and writing slips for that project. **Keep all papers** until you receive your final grade from the university. You cannot challenge a grade without evidence.

Grade Weighting. Your final grade for this course will be calculated in the following manner:

Essay Project One	%
Essay Project Two	%
Essay Project Three	%
Researched Position Paper	%
Presentation	%
Quizzes	%
Class Participation and Attendance	%

Late Assignments. [OPTIONAL—DESIGNATE SOME POLICY.] Papers are due at the beginning of class on the due date specified. Late papers will be penalized unless the instructor has agreed to late submission *in advance of the due date*.

Re-write Policy. [OPTIONAL—MUST ALLOW AT LEAST TWO REWRITES.] Re-writing is an important means for improving both the writing process and the final product. Students have the option of revising two major essays after grading. The last major paper, after it has been submitted for grading, cannot be re-written for a higher grade.

Attendance Policy. [OPTIONAL—DESIGNATE SOME POLICY.] Improvement in writing is a complex process that requires a great deal of practice and feedback from readers. Regular attendance is thus necessary for success in this course. Two weeks of unexcused absences (six absences in a MWF course or four absences in a MW or TR course) constitute grounds for lowering a student's course grade.. Excused absences include official university activities and illness with a physician's note. Unexcused absences include sleeping in and long weekends.

Drop Policy. If you choose to withdraw from this course, it is your responsibility to do so within the university's deadlines.

Syllabus and Schedule Changes. I have tried to make this document as complete as possible; however, during the course of the semester I may be required to alter, add, or abandon certain policies/assignments. I reserve the right to make such changes as they become necessary. You will be informed of any changes in writing.

The Writing Center. The Writing Center on the fourth floor of the Central Library offers its services free of charge to all UTA students on either a drop-in basis or by appointment. Its tutors are carefully chosen and trained, and are thoroughly familiar with the FYC Program. They can discuss any aspect of writing with you, from preliminary analysis of a text to organizing your ideas to meet the expectations of an audience. The Writing Center is not an editing service; tutors will not correct your grammar or rewrite your essay for you, but they are qualified to teach you how to do it yourself. Tutors will not predict what grade you will earn on your assignment. I highly recommend using the Center's services to assist you in this class (or any of your other courses), no matter what your writing level. Please be aware that tutoring sessions do take time, so be sure to allow sufficient time to complete a tutoring session and incorporate appropriate suggestions to your essay before it is due.

Academic Dishonesty and Plagiarism. It is the philosophy of The University of Texas at Arlington that academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form. All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures. Discipline may include suspension or expulsion from the University. "Scholastic 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, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts." (Regents' Rules and Regulations, Series 50101, Section 2.2) You can get in trouble for plagiarism—even if you do not intend to cheat—by failing to correctly indicate places where you are making use of the work of another. It is your responsibility to familiarize yourself with the conventions of citation by which you indicate which ideas are not your own and how your reader can find those sources. Read your handbook for more information on quoting and citing properly to avoid plagiarism. If you still do not understand, ask your instructor.

Student Success Programs. The University of Texas at Arlington supports a variety of student success programs to help you connect with the University and achieve academic success. They include learning assistance, developmental education, advising and mentoring, admissions and transition, and federally funded programs. Students requiring assistance academically, personally, or socially should contact the Office of Student Success Programs at 817-272-6107 for more information and appropriate referrals.

Americans with Disabilities Act. The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of federal equal opportunity legislation; reference Public Law 92-112 - The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended. With the passage of federal legislation entitled *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*, pursuant to section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, there is renewed focus on providing this population with the same opportunities enjoyed by all citizens. As a faculty member, I am required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Student responsibility primarily rests with informing faculty of their need for accommodation and in providing authorized documentation through designated administrative channels. Information regarding specific diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability. Also, you may visit the Office for Students with Disabilities in room 102 of University Hall or call them at (817) 272-3364.

E-Culture Policy. The University of Texas at Arlington has adopted the University email address as an official means of communication with students. Through the use of email, UT-Arlington is able to provide students with relevant and timely information, designed to facilitate student success. In particular, important information concerning registration, financial aid, payment of bills, and graduation may be sent to students through email. All students are assigned an email account and information about activating and using it is available at www.uta.edu/email. New students (first semester at UTA) are able to activate their email account 24 hours after registering for courses. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, and it remains active as long as a student is enrolled at UT-Arlington. Students are responsible for checking their email regularly.

Course Schedule. Assignments are due on the day they are listed.

Week 1

1 Jan

Introduction to Course