

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON
Fall 2009
English 0300-01
Developmental Reading and Writing

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

English 0300 is a reading and writing course designed to prepare students for English 1301. In addition, English 0300 fulfills THEA requirements for development in reading and writing and provides instruction to assist students in passing the THEA test. Students will develop critical reading skills and master the basics of academic essay writing. In short, 0300 is a course designed to help students develop the fundamental reading and writing skills necessary for first year college work.

TEXTBOOK

Strategies for Successful Writing. 8th Ed. James A. Reinking and Robert von der Osten, 2007.

My Skills Lab. These are two online programs that are packaged with *Strategies*. New Jersey: Pearson Prentice Hall, 2008. These two programs provide skills practice (lab work) for the course.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Reading outcomes: To successfully complete this course, students should be able to:

1. Determine the meaning of words and phrases in context.
2. Understand the main idea and supporting details in reading passages.
3. Identify the writer's purpose, point of view, and intended meaning.
4. Analyze the relationship among ideas in written material.
5. Use critical reasoning skills to evaluate reading passages.
6. Apply study skills to reading assignments.

Writing Outcomes: To successfully complete this course, students should be able to:

1. Write an adequately formed essay that communicates a message to a specific audience.
2. Have a clear focus and purpose in writing.
3. Develop supporting details for main points in writing.
4. Write an essay that adequately organizes and sequences material within the essay and within paragraphs.
5. Write acceptable English sentences although they may contain minor errors in sentence structure, usage, and word choice.
6. Observe standard mechanical conventions such as spelling and punctuation.

EVALUATION

Evaluation in the course will be based on reading activities, quizzes, essays, in-class writing, and an exit essay/exam.

In this course, students may earn a P, Z, or F. Students will earn a P in this course if they have completed assignments with an average of 70 or above AND if BOTH the exit essay and exit reading exam demonstrate an ability to produce work at the level of 70 or above. A P grade will allow students to go on to first year composition (English 1301/1302). If students pass this course, they do not have to retake the THEA. Passing Developmental satisfies THEA requirements.

Students will earn a Z in this course if they have completed assignments with an average of 69 or below OR if their exit exam scores are 69 or below. Students earning a Z in English 0300 will be required to retake the course. However, in contrast to an F, a Z grade will not affect their GPA.

Students will earn an F in this course if they do not attend class regularly, do not participate, AND/OR do not complete assigned work. Students earning an F in English 0300 will be required to retake the course, and the F grade will be averaged into their GPA.

Students who do not pass 0300 with a grade of Z or F may retake the THEA test, and if they pass, they have completed their THEA requirement. In this case, they do not have to retake 0300. If they do not pass the retake of the THEA test or if they choose not to retake the test, they will need to retake the course.

GRADE BREAKDOWN

Reading Quizzes	40%
Summaries	20%
Essays	40%
Total	100%

IMPORTANT NOTE

Any student who passes the THEA test while enrolled in English 0300 will automatically receive a P grade for that portion of the test passed. Students must present THEA scores to the instructor. Any student who passes THEA after receiving a Z or F but before enrolling in a subsequent semester will not be required to re-enroll in 0300 if THEA scores are presented.

NO DROPPING UNLESS

Students who are in the course in order to satisfy THEA cannot drop the course unless THEA requirements have been satisfied (for those enrolled for other purposes, the final drop date is October 30th). Students may withdraw from all their courses and from the university, but they cannot drop Developmental without meeting THEA standards and still stay at UTA. If students wish to test out of the course, they can do so by retaking the THEA or other approved tests and receiving a passing grade on them. Contact Assessment Services for testing instruments, regulations, times, and costs (817-272-3670; www.uta.edu/assessment). Also, if students believe they are exempt from this class, they can go to <http://www.uta.edu/admissions/successinitiative.php> for information about exemptions.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance in 0300 is required. If you miss more than six (6) times, you will lose five points off of your final grade for each absence over six. If you pass the THEA test during the course of the semester, DO NOT stop coming to class without first presenting THEA scores to your instructor.

CLASS RULES

1. Late papers will not be accepted unless arrangements have been made with me during a previous class meeting. In case of a sudden emergency, leave a message for me at 272-2692, and I will return your call if available, or email me at rgaines@uta.edu.
2. We have a lot to do in a limited amount of time, so please arrive on time. Arriving late or leaving early may be counted as an absence.
3. Above all, help your instructor to maintain an atmosphere of mutual respect among all members of class. This includes turning OFF cell phones and other electronic devices during class (not simply putting them on vibrate).

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

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.

In a course such as this one that involves a major writing component, students may be tempted to plagiarize. Plagiarism is the act of "tak[ing] ideas or writing from another and offer[ing] them as one's own (*Webster's New World Dictionary* 456). Plagiarism is unacceptable at UTA, and any who plagiarizes will receive an F on the paper in question and may receive an F in the course and be referred for additional administrative action.

In addition, other sorts of dishonest behavior are not acceptable at UTA. "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)

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION

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.

At UTA we are dedicated to assisting all students with disabilities. If you have a disability which requires specific accommodation, you must inform your instructor **IN WRITING AT THE BEGINNING OF THE SEMESTER** and register in the Office for Students with Disabilities. If you have a disability, please let your instructor know as soon as possible.

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES AVAILABLE

The University of Texas at Arlington supports a variety of student success programs to help students connect with the University and achieve academic success. These programs include learning assistance, developmental education, advising and mentoring, admission 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.

THE WRITING CENTER

The Writing Center, Room 411 in the Central Library, will assist you with any writing assignment while you are a student at UT-Arlington. During Fall 2009, the Writing Center's hours are 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Thursday; 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Friday; and 2 p.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday and Sunday. You may schedule appointments online by following directions available at www.uta.edu/owl/appointments, by calling 817-272-2601, or by visiting the Writing Center. If you go to the Writing Center without an appointment, you will be helped on a first-come, first-served basis as tutors become available. Writing Center tutors are carefully chosen and trained, and they can assist you with any aspect of your writing, from understanding an assignment to revising an early draft to polishing a final draft. However, the Writing Center is not an editing service; tutors will not correct your grammar or rewrite your assignment for you, but they will help you learn to solve your organizational and grammatical problems. I encourage each of you to use the Writing Center.

When you go to the Writing Center, be sure to take the following items with you

- a. assignment sheet and syllabus
- b. hard copy of your paper
- c. relevant supporting materials (e.g. any handouts related to the assignment)

Weekly Schedule
(Subject to change)

Week One

- 24 Introduction to class; reading and writing diagnostic
- 26 Reading and writing diagnostic
- 28 Reading and writing diagnostic

Week Two

- 31 SSW Chapters 2 and 3
- 2 SSW Chapters 2 and 3
- 4 SSW Chapter 5: Narration; **Summary 1**

Week Three

- 7 **Labor Day: No Class**
- 9 SSW Chapters 5 and 6
- 11 SSW Chapter 6
Rough Draft Due, Essay 1; Peer Response

Week Four

- 14 Chapter 4: Revision; **Reading Quiz 1**
- 16 Chapter 4: Revision
- 18 **Essay 1 Due**

Week Five

- 21 Chapter 7: Process; **Summary 2**
- 23 Chapter 7: Process
- 25 Chapter 7: Process
Rough draft due, Essay 2; peer response

Week Six

- 28 SSW Chapter 16: Effective Sentences; **Reading Quiz 2**
- 30 SSW Chapter 17: Diction, Tone, Style
- 2 **Essay 2 Due**

Week Seven

- 5 SSW Chapter 9: Classification; **Summary 3**
- 7 SSW Chapter 9: Classification
- 9 **Rough draft due, Essay 3**; peer response

Week Eight

- 12 Reading and Analyzing Selected Essays; **Reading Quiz 3**
- 14 Reading and Analyzing Selected Essays
- 16 **Essay 3 due**

Week Nine

- 19 SSW Chapter 11: Cause and Effect; **Summary 4**
- 21 SSW Chapter 11: Cause and Effect
- 23 **Rough draft due, Essay 4**; peer response

Week Ten

- 26 SSW Chapter 11: Cause and Effect; **Reading Quiz 4**
- 28 Reading and Analyzing Selected Essays
- 30 Reading and Analyzing Selected Essays; **Essay 4 due**

Week Eleven

- 2 SSW Chapter 12: Definition; **Summary 5**
- 4 SSW Chapter 12: Definition
- 6 **Rough draft due, Essay 5**; peer response

Week Twelve

- 9 SSW Chapter 8: Illustration; **Reading Quiz 5**
- 11 SSW Chapter 8: Illustration
- 13 **Essay 5 due**

Week Thirteen

- 16 SSW Chapter 13: Argument; **Summary 6**
- 18 SSW Chapter 13: Argument
- 20 **Rough draft due, Essay 6**; peer response

Week Fourteen

- 23 Continue Argumentation; **Reading Quiz 6**
- 25 Continue Argumentation
- 27 Holiday

Week Fifteen

- 30 Exit Essay Preparation
- 2 **Essay 6 due**; Exit Essay Preparation
- 4 Exit Exam Preparation

Week Sixteen

Final Exams: Wednesday, December 9th from 8-10:30