

**Advanced Composition  
English 3312  
Spring 2015**

**Split web, T-Th 2-3:15**

**Don Walden, Ph.D.**

**Meet in D113 or the computer lab**

**Office Eagle Pass B106; 758-5018**

**on the days noted in the schedule**

**[dwalden@sulross.edu](mailto:dwalden@sulross.edu)**

**Office Hours:**

**Tuesday, noon to 4:30**

**on various campuses on a rotating basis**

**Thursday and Friday mornings by e-mail**

### **Learning Objectives**

The goal of this course is to make you an effective writer. That means you should be able to present your ideas so that people will pay attention, especially when you are making a conscious effort to change their minds. Effective writing starts with a purpose and involves evidence, coherence, grammar, and style. After taking the course you should be able to:

- Decide on a purpose and make it obvious to the reader.
- Write effectively about topics in your chosen field.
- Find evidence in various ways and document it.
- Write in various formats, including convincing and persuading.
- Write grammatically and with an engaging style.

### **Text**

Handouts on Blackboard under course information

To discuss grammar documentation, we will refer to the Purdue Online Writing Lab,

<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/>

### **Grading**

Your grade will be based on how well you demonstrate the objectives of each assignment and of the course. Each assignment sheet will show the value of the assignments in points, which add up to 1,000 points. If you have 900 or more, you will get an A, and so on.

If your grade on the final examination is higher than your grade in the course and if you have turned in all assignments on time, your final grade will be the course grade.

### **Submitting assignment**

You will submit most assignments by e-mail. When you do, use your Sul Ross e-mail account and use the subject line listed on the assignment sheet.

When you submit assignments in class, they are due at the beginning of class.

## **Punctuality**

All assignments must be submitted on time. I will read them eventually, but I do not feel responsible for seeing late assignments so you may not get helpful comments early enough to help on future assignments.

I shall read one paper at a time. In other words, if you fall behind, you must submit one paper at a time, and if you are too far behind, you will not have enough time to finish. Any paper I have not seen, I will treat as a rough draft and return it to you with my comments.

## **Plagiarism**

Plagiarized work will not be accepted. Plagiarism means turning in someone else's work for credit. We will discuss plagiarism as well as ways to avoid it by citing others' work correctly. If I find you have plagiarized work, I will drop you from the course with an F and turn your name over to the Dean.

## **Students with disabilities**

Sul Ross State University Rio Grande College is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. Students who need accessibility services should contact Kathy Biddick at 830-279-3003. The address is 2623 Garner Field Road, Uvalde, Texas 78801.

## **Distance education**

Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, library resources, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website. Students should submit online assignments through Blackboard or SRSU email, which require secure login information to verify students' identities and to protect students' information. The procedures for filing a student complaint are included in the student handbook. Students enrolled in distance education courses at Sul Ross are expected to adhere to all policies pertaining to academic honesty and appropriate student conduct, as described in the student handbook. Students in web-based courses must maintain appropriate equipment and software, according to the needs and requirements of the course, as outlined on the SRSU website.

### Schedule of meetings and assignments

January 20

Introduction to the course

Introduction to the personal reflection

Meet in room D113

January 22

Your personal reflection

Research

Meet in the computer lab.

January 27  
Narrowing

January 29  
Your annotated bibliography

February 3  
Evidence assignment

February 5  
Documentation assignment

February 10  
Due: the outline of your factual report

February 13  
Due: Your factual report

February 17  
Individual consultations on your factual report  
Due: syllogism exercise

February 19  
Due: Your definition exercise

February 24  
Due: outline of your classification argument

February 27  
Due: Your classification argument

March 3  
Due: Outline of your evaluation argument

March 6  
Due: Your evaluation argument

March 10  
Due: Outline of your comparison-contrast argument

March 13  
Due: your comparison/contrast argument

March 17 and 19  
Spring break. No assignments

March 24  
Due: research for your causal argument

March 27  
Due: the first draft of your causal argument

March 31  
Consultations on your causal argument

April 2  
Due: Second draft of your causal paper

April 7

Due: the final draft of your causal argument

EXAMple.

Meet in Room D113

Note: This is not a mandatory meeting, but we will discuss the final examination.

April 14

Due: problem section of your persuasive argument

April 16

Due: solution section of your persuasive argument

April 21

Due: rebuttal section of your persuasive argument

April 23

Due: draft of your persuasive paper

April 28

Due: power point

April 30

Consultations on your persuasive argument

May 5

Oral reports on your persuasive arguments

Due: the final draft of your persuasive argument. Bring it to the class meeting for the oral reports.

Meet in Room D113

This is a mandatory meeting.

May 7 – If necessary

Oral reports on your persuasive arguments

Meet in Room D113

This is a mandatory meeting if necessary.

May 14

Final examination online