

## Advanced Composition English 3312 Spring 2020

**Dr. Audrey Taylor** Audrey.taylor@sulross.edu

**Office:** Sul Ross RGC Eagle Pass Site; Room B106

**Phone:** 830-758-5018

**Office Hours:** M/T 3-6, W 2-6 and by appointment

Class is Monday 6:-8:45 p.m.

### Course Description

Learning to write is a complex, individualized process which takes place over time with continued practice and daily reading. Understanding the complex, recursive nature of enhancing writing and speaking, we will read and write every day. We will focus on developing our own vocabularies and on choosing the most precise, powerful words for papers. This class will be a writing intensive workshop course in which you will develop your reading and writing. You will write a sequence of assignments that culminates in a researched argument for our writing community and your own portfolio of revised papers.

### Course Outcomes

Learning to write is a complex, individualized process which takes place over time with continued practice. Student Learning Objectives and assessment of how much students learn those objectives are as follows:

- Enhanced vocabulary
- rhetorical knowledge (purpose, audience, differences in communicative situations, genre).  
Assessment: argument essays;
- critical thinking, reading, and writing (locating, evaluating, analyzing, synthesizing primary and secondary sources; reflection). Assessment: in-class writing, argument essays, resource evaluations, peer critiques;
- understanding of and use of writing processes, (multiple drafts, revising, editing, proof-reading texts, peer critiquing and collaborative thinking and writing). Assessment: minute papers, all essays, group work and peer critiques;
- knowledge of conventions (grammar, punctuation, spelling, paragraphing, and appropriate documentation). Assessment: in-class writing, all essays and final exam;
- Understanding of plagiarism, understanding and articulating the ethics of using other people's ideas, understanding the various approaches to documenting sources in the different disciplines, mastery of student's chosen documentation style guide.

### Student Learning Outcomes

1. Student Learning Outcome #1 --Students will be able to construct documents that demonstrate coherence, development, organization, and appropriate/effective grammar, usage, and mechanics.
2. Student Learning Outcome #2-- Students will be able to analyze and interpret literary works by applying principles of critical thinking, literary criticism, or theoretical engagement.

3. Student Learning Outcome #3– Students will be able to produce researched documents that demonstrate the ability to locate a variety of credible sources, employ them effectively through quotations and paraphrases, integrate them smoothly into the writer’s own prose, and document them correctly using the style appropriate to the document.

### **Course Texts**

*The Craft of Research* (Wayne C. Booth), any edition is fine

*Grammar for Writing: Understanding the Mechanics of Grammar and How Language works* (Douglas Grudzina)

### **Assignments**

Assignments will consist of reading, short quizzes on the reading, writing drafts towards a final paper, and peer-review and one on one work.

### **Course Policies**

#### **Scholarly Honesty**

All work submitted must be your own and must be written exclusively for this class; the use of sources must be appropriately, correctly, and consistently documented. Quotations, paraphrases, or summaries that are not documented and the use of papers written by others constitute plagiarism.

Three different acts are considered plagiarism:

- (1) failing to cite quotations and borrowed ideas,
- (2) failing to enclose borrowed language in quotation marks, and
- (3) failing to put summaries and paraphrases in your own words.

**A grade of “F” for the course can be earned if the work exhibits any of these kinds of scholastic dishonesty.**

#### **Attendance, etc. policy**

I use a token system. You begin the course with three tokens. You may exchange a token for:

- early departure or late arrival from and to class (15+ minutes)
- an absence
- an extra 48 hours to complete a major assignment (except the final exam)
- a missed quiz

It is up to you how you use your tokens. If you use all your tokens you will be penalized for any further early departures/late arrivals/absences/late assignments/missed quizzes. If you have all three tokens at the end of the course you will receive an extra five points on the final paper.

#### **Late Papers/Assignments**

To pass the class you must successfully complete and turn in to me each assignment by the due date. If you fail to turn in even one assignment, you may earn an F for the course.

This is a cumulative course (one project builds from another) as a result, students who fall behind tend to stay behind and do badly in the course. Because of this I DO NOT accept assignments that are later than two days. Please prepare for electrical failures, computer meltdowns, personal crisis, etc.

**Grade Changes**

Please discuss your grades with me during the semester. There is no extra credit available once the class has finished, but to make up points you may re-do assignments within two weeks of their return. This does not apply to the final paper. Once the semester is over and I have entered grades into the system, however, I will not consider grade changes except where I have made a number miscalculation.

**ADA Statement**

SRSU Rio Grande College is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The Disability Services Coordinator assists students with disabilities in gaining opportunities for full participation in programs, services and activities. The Disability Services Coordinator is the Director of Student Services 830-758-5006 in Eagle Pass, Texas.

**Blackboard**

This course requires numerous written assignments, all of which *must* be submitted to Blackboard by the published deadline. Please be prepared for electronic failures, last minute issues etc. These are *not* acceptable excuses for missing a deadline.

**Teleconference Courses**

I am teaching this course by teleconference in Uvalde, Del Rio, and Eagle Pass. I will not always be in the classroom that you are in which makes it difficult for you to speak with me before and after class. Please email me (see email address above) to make an appointment for us to meet or to have a phone conversation. My goal is your success! I welcome all requests for office, phone, or video conference appointments, and e-mailed questions.

**Course Texts**

In order to succeed in this course, you must read the course texts; not having texts does not constitute an excuse for not completing assignments.

## Weekly Syllabus

*This is subject to change at instructor's discretion!\**

### **Week 1: 1/13 Introduction to course**

Diagnostic essay "Why I Am In College"  
Chapter One in Grammar Writing (GW)  
Choose Craft of Research (CR) chapter

No Class Due to MLK Jr. Day

### **Week 2: 1/27**

Read GW Ch. 2  
Individual Reading

### **Week 3: 2/3**

**Critical Analysis Due**

### **Week 4: 2/10**

Read GW Ch. 3  
Individual Reading

### **Week 5: 2/17**

**Annotated Bibliography Due**

### **Week 6: 2/24**

Read GW Ch. 4  
Individual Reading

### **Week 7: 3/2**

**Outline Due**

Spring Break

Workshop Week

### **Week 9: 3/23**

**Peer Review Due**  
Read GW Ch. 5-6  
Individual Reading

**Week 10: 3/30****First Draft Due**

Peer Reviewing  
 Read GW Ch. 7  
 Individual Reading

**Week 11: 4/6****Major Draft Due****Week 12: 4/13**

Read GW Ch. 8  
 Individual Reading

**Week 13: 4/20**

Peer Reviewing  
 Read GW Ch. 9

**Week 14: 4/27****Final Essay Due**

Read GW Ch. 10  
 Individual Reading

**Week 15: 5/4****Final Portfolio Reflection Due**

\* **Note:** Each writing class is composed of different students with different writing needs, thus, only the major assignments are listed with due dates, and even these might change. Keep up to date on reading and I will notify you in class if there is anything different for the following week's class.

**Grading Distribution:**

Critical Analysis	100 points
Annotated Bibliography	150 points
Outline	50 points
Major Draft	150 points
Essay	300 points
Final/ Reflection	150 points
Peer Reviews, Workshops, Quizzes	100 points

**Grading**

A: 900 – 1000

B: 800 – 890

C: 700– 790

D: 600 – 690

F: 0 – 590