

Policies

English 4300



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Office: BAB 316
Student Conference Hours: By arrangement

Course Text:

n/a

Portfolio Capstone Seminar

Objectives:

The objectives of the English senior portfolio capstone course are to prepare graduating seniors for their educational/professional pursuits beyond graduation and to synthesize and analyze their educational experience in university. The course will encourage more intense development of language and critical-thinking skills as befitting graduates of a program in English studies. Finally, the course hopes to build further appreciation of multiple perspectives that reflect intellectual and cultural diversity within and beyond college.

Course Description:

Portfolio Capstone is designed to help students develop strategies and skills necessary for success beyond their college careers. Topics include professionalization, further academic goals, career paths, networking, and self-assessments. Students will learn about the vast array of opportunities post-graduation while compiling and assessing their growth as academics during their college career at Sul Ross. Throughout the course, students will use critical thinking skills to make informed choices, to understand their responsibilities for academic and professional success, and to further become independent, motivated learners and professionals. Students will learn to evidence their assessments and growth via documents such as a professional resume or curriculum vitae and a course portfolio.

Program Learning Objectives:

1. Involve students in applying personal and academic success strategies and evidentiary documents that advance intellectual and professional intellectual development.
2. Engage students in critical analysis and creative thinking.

Marketable Skills

1. Students will communicate effectively in writing and speaking.
2. Students will use different research strategies to address problems and develop ideas that engage a variety of perspectives.
3. Students will recognize how social and cultural contexts shape meaning and language.

Student Learning Objectives:

SLO 1 – Students will be able to construct documents that demonstrate unity, organization, coherence, and development, and are grammatically correct.

SLO 2 – Students will be able to analyze and interpret literary works by applying principles of critical thinking, literary criticism, or theoretical engagement.

Portfolio Capstone Seminar

SLO 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.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Implement personal academic assessment.
2. Understand available post-graduate professional and academic opportunities.
3. Discuss the academic experience, personal aspirations, and professional goals in comprehensive expository writings.
4. Exhibit critical analyses via the presentations of professional documents.
5. Exhibit financial literacy in relation to college and beyond.
6. Discuss the importance of an English degree from SRSU in the larger community.

Attendance & Class Participation

Your attention to and participation in this asynchronous course are reflected in your grade. Please be proactive in informing the professor of any expected absences in advance in order to meet class requirements. Please note that the instructor can see when and for how long you log into classes, and work, including discussion boards, are all time-stamped. If work is turned in late, ten points will be deducted from the grade, regardless of how late the work is, unless the late work is excused as defined in the student handbook or extended prior to the due date of assignment. I do not take late work of any kind beyond the final examination period.

Assignments

The course will consist of three major assignment areas, which are described briefly below. More detailed assignments will be made available to you (i.e. the portfolio and the introductory essay).

Journal Elements: The journal elements will be brief essays (500 words) on topics associated with the course progression and are listed in the syllabus. They will work toward your professionalization and self-analysis of academic development and professional aspirations. They will also help develop your expository writing skills. The journal elements will be turned in as **one** Word or PDF document at the assignments link in Blackboard at end of term, with a page break between elements and each element marked clearly by its number.

Introductory Essay: The introductory essay will be turned in twice, once as its own document at the assignments link in Blackboard and then again with the portfolio. The elaborated assignment will appear at the assignments link.

Portfolio Capstone Seminar

Portfolio: The full portfolio will feature examples of work achieved in your academic journey at Sul Ross State University in your English courses. The journal will be turned in to the Blackboard Portfolio link in our course Blackboard at the end of term. The full and elaborated assignment will appear at the assignments link.

Academic Honesty

“The University expects all students to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is beyond reproach and to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of their classroom. The University may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty, including but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work, plagiarism, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials.”
--Excerpt from the Student Handbook

Accommodations

If you are uncomfortable with an online and/or distance academic environment, please make an appointment with me. I am happy to “walk” you through the course.

Disabilities and Counseling Services

Sul Ross State University is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is the student’s responsibility to initiate a request for accessibility services. Students seeking accessibility services must contact Counseling and Accessibility Services, Ferguson Hall, Room 112. The mailing address is P.O. Box C-171, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas 79832. Telephone: 432-837-8203.

SRSU Library Services

The Sul Ross Library offers FREE resources and services to the entire SRSU community. Access and borrow books, articles, and more by visiting the library’s website, library.sulross.edu. Off-campus access requires your Lobo ID and password. Check out materials using your photo ID. Librarians are a tremendous resource for your coursework and can be reached in person, by email (srsulibrary@sulross.edu), or phone (432-837-8123).

Video Classroom Statement

This statement applies to synchronous online courses as well as for online video conferences:

In order to ensure the successful completion of this course, as well as to allow attendance to be monitored when meeting synchronously, students must enable their video cameras during class times if we choose to conduct video meetings, unless otherwise approved by the instructor. In

Portfolio Capstone Seminar

addition, the video classroom or office hours will be treated as a formal academic environment: Students must attend prepared and appropriately attired.

Late Work

Late work is accepted with a ten-point deduction for being late unless arrangements have made prior to the due-date and documentation is provided for excused absences. These include illness for which a doctor prohibits class attendance, a death of an immediate member of your family, and a school-sanctioned event, such as debate, student government conference, athletics, etc.

Grade Breakdown:

Journal Elements	20%
Discussion Boards	20%
Portfolio Introduction Essay	10%
Final Portfolio	50%

Grading Scale:

90-100 =A
80-89 =B
70-79 =C
60-69 =D
Below 60=F

