

Northeast Texas Community College – Dual Credit
English III / English Composition 1301 & 1302
Course Syllabus
2021 - 2022

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Intensive study of and practice in writing processes, from invention and researching to drafting, revising, and editing, both individually and collaboratively. Emphasis on effective rhetorical choices, including audience, purpose, arrangement, and style. Focus on writing the academic essay as a vehicle for learning, communicating, and critical analysis.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

All textbooks and works will be provided both online and as a handout in the form of pdf's. If you would like to purchase actual copies of the works, please see the list below. However, please note, this list is tentative, so it is subject to change.

- *Inventing Arguments: Fourth Edition*, John Mauk & Metz, **ISBN 978-1-305-11331-2**
- *The Crucible*, Penny Kittle (Heinemann), **ISBN 978-0325078175**
- *Puddin'head Wilson*, Mark Twain **ISBN 978-1420956436**
- "Much Ado About Nothing", William Shakespeare
- *Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*, Douglas Adams, **ISBN 978-0345391803**
- *Slaughter House 5*, Kurt Vonnegut, **ISBN 978-0812988529**
- Additional articles, poems, short stories, and or fiction pieces will be posted to the course Blackboard site and to Schoology

REQUIRED RESOURCES:

- Flash Drive/USB Drive to save files and work
- Outside Computer or tablet with the ability to access the internet is RECOMMENDED but not required

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, students will

1. Demonstrate knowledge of individual and collaborative writing processes.
2. Learn how to access, utilize, and find scholarly articles within the NTCC database system.
3. Develop ideas with appropriate support and attribution.
4. Write in a style appropriate to audience and purpose.
5. Read, reflect, and respond critically to a variety of texts.
6. Use Edited American English in academic essays.
7. Develop knowledge and understanding of the MLA guidebook and citation process.

COURSE DELIVERY METHOD

Mt.Pleasant High School Campus/Lecture

SOME NOTES ABOUT THIS COURSE

You are about to embark on a writing course facilitated through the university's Learning Management System (LMS) called *Blackboard Ultra*. It's important that you understand how to operate the features of *Blackboard Ultra* and that you have the technical aptitude and equipment necessary to maximize your potential for succeeding in this course. **To navigate this class properly, you should know how to:**

- Email me (as needed) from your NTCC or MPISD email account or contact me through Schoology
- Access ALL features of *Blackboard* (**CAUTION:** mobile devices and tablets **do not** provide you with 100% access to all features of a class, such as the ability to upload assignments);
- Download and view PDF documents/handouts/assignment sheets (Adobe Acrobat reader may be required);
- Download and view PowerPoint presentations and videos;
- Save your writing assignments in .doc, .docx, and/or .rtf file formats (these file types are compatible with *Blackboard* and with Microsoft Word, allowing me to provide feedback and respond appropriately to your assignments);
- Upload assignments (composed in Word or another word processing program or Powerpoint) as attachments into the appropriate assignment area in *Blackboard* (**NOTE: you will NEVER email me an assignment unless directly told to do so**);
- Check feedback on your assignments and monitor your grades through HAC
- Create threads, post responses, and reply to the posts of other students/the instructor via the course discussion board as needed and/or required to do so
- Navigate common features of Microsoft Word, including the ability to change font styles, colors, sizes, insert headers/page numbers, modify paragraph spacing and page margins, and utilize your Spell Checker and Word Count features.
- Navigate common features of Powerpoint, including the ability to add audio to the presentation.

My role is to guide you through the outcomes of this course so you may be a more knowledgeable and skillful academic writer, not to hold your hand when it comes to the technical stuff. That being said, if you experience any technical issues along the way, you need to notify me immediately. Do not miss deadlines and then tell me you were having technical issues; ***these are not acceptable excuses for delayed or missed assignments or deadlines.*** For technical support or assistance with Blackboard, contact the NTCC Computer Services:

<https://www.ntcc.edu/computerservices>

903-434-8140

Room # @ NTCC Campus: IA103

RECOMMENDED TECHNOLOGY/BLACKBOARD SUPPORT

The following is a list of resources available to you to help educate yourself about navigating most of the fundamental aspects of Blackboard. **If this is your first experience with Blackboard, I urge you to check out these tutorials/instructional resources.**

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBCOhRJUIFPMFLYFdv6UPHw>

Blackboard Mobile for iOS and Android Devices

Android and iOS devices are currently supported using the Blackboard Mobile App, available for free from your App Store.

The Blackboard Mobile App provides **limited access** to courses, including the ability to read and contribute to discussions, check grades and announcements, access content, read and comment on blogs, reflect in journals, link to your personal Dropbox, and receive push notifications when courses are updated. Limited course features may also be available via your mobile device's browser; however, **your mobile device does not replace your personal computer and should not be used as a substitute for one.** High stakes assignments, tests, etc. should be completed on a computer, and not on your mobile device. You will be given access to computers in class, before, and after school. However, if you have your own laptop you are more than welcome to bring it and use it.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students in this class will be expected to complete the following requirements:

- a. Regular participation in ungraded activities and discussions; and
- b. Completion of all assignments, homework, papers, presentations, projects, and in-class activities according to the due dates given as the year progresses.

WRITING ASSIGNMENTS:

Conscientious and timely completion of reading and writing assignments is essential for success in this English course. All papers must be typed in MLA format, saved as a word document or as rich text format (rtf.) and submitted in class on the due dates. **Your final drafts must be submitted through a Turnitin assignment in Blackboard.** Once again, do NOT email them to me.

Please follow these instructions when writing your papers:

- Writing assignments must be typed in MLA format.
- Use Times New Roman 12 pt. font.
- Double-space.
- Essay writing assignments are usually two-to-three pages in length (500-750 words) with the exception of the research paper, which is between four and five pages including a work cited page.
- Pay close attention to spelling, grammar and punctuation.
- Due dates for all reading and writing assignment will be assigned during class but will be given at least one to two weeks in advance
- Submit your papers through the Blackboard Turnitin assignments.
- Your assignments will be graded holistically based on the writing rubric given when the essay is assigned in class.

NTCC ACADEMIC HONESTY STATEMENT:

"Students are expected to complete course work in an honest manner, using their intellects and resources designated as allowable by the course instructor. Students are responsible for addressing questions about allowable resources with the course instructor. NTCC upholds the highest standards of academic integrity. This course will follow the NTCC Academic Honesty policy stated in the Student Handbook."

ACADEMIC ETHICS:

The college expects all students to engage in their academic pursuits in a manner that is beyond reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic course work. Academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, and collusion is unacceptable and may result in disciplinary action. Refer to the student handbook for more information on this subject.

SAFE ASSIGN:

To maintain the integrity of the work submitted for this course, you will be asked to submit assignments via the course Blackboard site which is enabled with the Safe Assign tool. Safe Assign checks submissions for unoriginal material from the internet, print sources, other student papers, and other sources. You will have the ability to view your Safe Assign originality reports. Any possible instances of plagiarism or other academic integrity violations (such as unauthorized collusion) will be assessed prior to communicating findings to the student.

LATE WORK:

Work turned in late will be accepted for up to three days past the due date. Each day it is late it will lose ten points. After the three days have passed, the work will no longer be accepted. Exceptions to this will be done when needed on a case-to-case basis.

BATHROOM PASSES:

You will be given ONE Bathroom Pass a six weeks. This pass can be used to go to the bathroom or other areas on campus. While it is called a "Bathroom Pass", it must be used any time you leave the classroom during the scheduled class time. This includes but is not limited to going to the counselor's office, the AP's office, another building on campus (such as the CATE, Gym, Library, or Cafeteria), or going to another teacher's classroom. If you do not use your bathroom pass, you will receive extra credit: Your lowest daily grade will be dropped. You will not be docked for using your bathroom pass, however, once you use it, you will not be allowed to leave class again until the next six weeks.

SEATING ARRANGEMENTS:

All students will be given assigned seating. Failure to sit in your assigned seat may result in a call to your parent, and (if the behavior continues) a write-up for failure to follow classroom procedures. This seating arrangement is not there to punish you. It is put in place to help keep the classroom environment productive and orderly. If there are reasons for you needing to sit in a particular area in the classroom, please let me know. As long as the reasoning is valid, I will try to accommodate your needs as reasonably as possible.

CELL PHONES:

All cell phones and smart watches will be kept up and out of sight. It is also expected that these devices will be placed on silent or do not disturb. Failure to keep your device put up will result in the confiscation of the device and it will be sent to the AP's office.

DAILY WORK:

In the past many students have turned in work with missing information. If all of the following information is not included on your paper, you could lose **5 points off the grade** for **each** aspect that is missing. As such, if the entire heading is missing the student may lose as much as 20 points making an 80 the highest possible grade the student can achieve on the assignment.

Papers need to be headed as follows:

- a. FULL Name
- b. Date
- c. Class
- d. Title of Assignment

TARDIES:

A student will be considered tardy if they are not in the classroom when the bell rings. If a student is standing outside the door they will be counted tardy, even if they have already come in and placed their belongings in the classroom. Furthermore, if there is an assignment/bell ringer displayed on the overhead a student will be considered tardy if they are not at their desk – either working on their bell ringer or getting out the necessary materials to work. Classes are only forty-five minutes long and often times that is simply not enough time to properly cover the material for the day. Class time must be properly utilized in order for your child to receive the best education possible. Deviating from this, or simply wasting time, will not be tolerated. After three tardies, the student will be written up in Total Discipline, and, from that point, the matter of discipline will be decided upon by the assistant principal/s.

**Some exceptions to tardies will be made this year due to the construction. However, this exception will be done on a case-to-case basis and will largely reside around the distance a student is having to travel on campus.

Please **SIGN AND RETURN THE LAST PAGE ONLY**

Syllabus Acknowledgement Statement

A syllabus is a binding contract between the student, instructor and the institution. As such, all students enrolled in this course are asked to closely read the syllabus and sign this syllabus acknowledgment.

By signing the acknowledgment, you are agreeing to the following:

1. I have read the syllabus and understand the course description and course goals, the student learning outcomes, the expectations of the instructor, how major essay assignments are expected to be submitted, the section on academic ethics and honesty, and the responsibilities I have as a student in this course. If I do not believe that I can complete the requirements outlined in the syllabus, it is my responsibility to withdraw from the course.

(Please circle one)

A. Agree

B. Disagree

2. I have read the information provided in the syllabus on academic ethics and honesty. I understand that if I am discovered to be cheating or colluding on work assigned in this class, I could receive a zero for the assignment. I also understand that if I am found to have submitted a paper for credit that contains any amount of plagiarized material, I could receive a grade of “F” for the assignment or for the entire course.

(Please circle one)

A. Agree

B. Disagree

Printed Name _____

Date _____

Signature _____