

Intermediate Composition & Grammar

ENGL 2113 Fall 2023 Syllabus

Hybrid Course

DR. JENNIFER DAWES

Office: Bea Wood 214

Phone: 940-397-4126

Email: D2L messaging system or jennifer.dawes@msutexas.edu. Email is the best way to reach me.

OFFICE HOURS

Monday: 10-11 a.m.

Tuesday: 10-11 a.m.

Wednesday: 10-11 a.m. and 2-3 p.m.

Thursday: 10-11 a.m.

And by appointment

HYBRID COURSE

This course will be delivered part on campus and part online. We will meet in the classroom most Mondays and Wednesdays of the semester. **These class meetings are mandatory.** In addition to class meeting times, you will have some work for the class that is completed online.

TEXTBOOK

Please note, there is no mandatory textbook for the class. You may purchase the LB Brief reference book from the bookstore if you wish to have further resources for your work. Any readings for the class will either be passed out in class or uploaded to D2L.

SUPPLIES

The only things you really need for class are paper and pen, but you will need these every day. We will be writing in the classroom. First drafts will be handwritten in class (to practice for our final exam).

PREREQUISITES: Completion of the Communication Core

COURSE OBJECTIVE

The primary objective of the course is to develop students' skills in clear and effective communication. In English 2113, students write a variety of essays. They learn to convincingly support, and polish persuasive, thesis-driven essays.

English 2113 is one way to satisfy the MSU Writing Proficiency Requirement.

Other ways to satisfy this requirement include:

- Taking two **Writing Intensive (WI) courses** in your major. For majors that have Writing Intensive courses, these courses are embedded in your major and require no additional coursework. See this link for a list of WI courses: <https://msutexas.edu/academics/wpr/writing-intensive-course.php>
- Take and pass the Writing Proficiency Exam.

COURSE GOALS

In this course, students will

- write thesis-based essays that provide strong support and specific details
- engage in a writing process that includes invention, drafting, and revision
- demonstrate critical and creative thinking about a timely issue or debatable topic
- demonstrate proficient use of Standard Written English

PROCTORED EXAM

There is a mandatory proctored two-part final exam at the end of the semester: a grammar exam and an essay. You will have three hours to complete both parts of the exam. The grammar exam will be taken using the Lockdown Browser on D2L. You must have a camera for this portion of the exam. The essay will be written in class during our final exam time.

GRADING FOR THE COURSE

Writing assignments (50%): Four writing assignments. Writing assignments will be marked with instructor's commentary, and the grade assigned will reflect overall demonstration of the skills we are working on in class.

Final exam (40%): The final exam will consist of two parts: (1) a grammar exam (20%), and (2) a thesis-driven essay (20%).

Quizzes (10%): Ten quizzes will help develop your understanding of specific writing issues and provide you with practice for the final exam. Because the quizzes are meant to help you practice skills rather than to test you on what you already know, for each

quiz that you attempt, you will receive a completion grade of 1 point regardless of your actual quiz score. I will manually change the point score after the deadline for each quiz.

All assignments will be due on dates assigned. **No late work will be accepted** unless specific arrangements have been made prior to the due date. Students falling two assignments behind are subject to administrative withdrawal from the course by the instructor.

Numerical scores translate to letter grades as follows:

100 - 90% = A; 89.9 - 80% = B; 79.9 - 70% = C; 69.9 - 60% = D; < 60% = F

POLICIES

Attendance Policy:

I expect each student to be in class each day, on time, and prepared for each class meeting. Preparation includes doing any assigned reading or completing assignments before coming to class on that day. Students who do not maintain regular attendance in the course may be dropped from the course. No more than four absences in this Monday-Wednesday class are allowable. If you have extenuating circumstances, please speak with me about them.

Academic Honesty:

All students are expected to adhere to the Midwestern State University Student Honor Creed when completing any work for this course. A student's name on any assignment scheduled to be turned in is his/her pledge that all work contained therein is his/hers alone. When using the ideas of other unpublished and published sources, students must use accepted documentation conventions (for this course, MLA). See the MSU Student Handbook to read the Student Honor Creed and the university's policy on academic dishonesty. A student may fail the course for committing acts of academic dishonesty, which include (but are not limited to) plagiarism and cheating.

→ A Special Note about the Use of Artificial Intelligence in this class:

You should not use any AI to create or compose any of your work for the class at any stage of the assignments—not in the drafting stage or in the revising stage. I expect your work to be completely your own. Turnitin has an AI program that detects the underlying code of a document that comes from an AI producing program. I will use this program. Essays that are found to contain AI may receive a zero grade.

Student Access:

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Disability Support Services in Room 168 of the Clark Student Center, 940-397-4140.

Safe Zone Statement:

I consider this classroom to be a place where you will be treated with respect as a human being – regardless of gender identity, race, ethnicity, national origin, religious affiliation, sexual orientation, political beliefs, age, or ability. Additionally, diversity of thought is appreciated and encouraged, provided you can agree to disagree. It is my expectation that ALL students consider the classroom a safe environment.

Contacting Your Instructor:

Feel free to contact me either via phone or email. Email is generally a faster way to reach me. Please understand that I will respond on the next business day if you contact me on weekends or after hours.

Syllabus updated 8/2023

CLASS SCHEDULE

Please Note:

- *Out-of-class work is labeled “Homework” on the schedule. I reserve the right to update the class schedule in class if necessary.*
- *TBD: to be determined*
- *All Quizzes are due at 11:59 p.m. on the Sunday of the week they are assigned.*

UNIT ONE: PROFESSIONAL ENGAGEMENT: Description

Week One

M, 8/28—Introductions; what we value in writing; why we write

W, 8/30—Begin work on professional statement (W1)

- Homework: Look for an interview with or an article about someone who does the kind of work you would like to do in your career.

Week Two

M, 9/4—Labor Day Holiday

W, 9/6—Discuss career article; Workshop professional statement (W1) with classmates

- Homework: Choose 3 pictures to go with your professional statement to share with class.

Week Three

M, 9/11—Present professional statements to class

W, 9/13—Continue presentations and/or discuss writing in your field; work on professional statement; how to cite sources

- Homework: Take Pre-test on D2L.

Week Four

M, 9/18—**W1 due in class**; Discuss perceived writing strengths and weaknesses

W, 9/20—Brainstorm Community Engagement Topics

- Homework: Read/Watch Quiz Review 1; Take Q1: Subject-Verb Identification

UNIT TWO: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: Argumentation

Week Five

M, 9/25–Thesis statements; introductions; discuss W2

W, 9/27–Work on thesis statements; introductions

- Homework: Read/Watch Quiz Review 2; Take Q2: Phrases, Clauses, and Fragments

Week Six

M, 10/2–**W2 due in class**; Topic sentences

W, 10/4–Discuss W3; work on topic sentences and developing paragraphs

- Homework: Read/Watch Quiz Review 3; Take Q3: Comma Splices and Fused Sentences

Week Seven

M, 10/9–Conclusions

W, 10/11–No class today; I will be at a professional conference

- Homework: Read/Watch Quiz Review 4; Take Q4: Subject-Verb Agreement

Week Eight

M, 10/16–**W3 due in class**

W, 10/18–Instructor Conferences

- Homework: Read/Watch Quiz Review 5; Take Q5: Pronoun-Antecedent Agreement; Pronoun Reference

UNIT THREE: FINDING SOLUTIONS TO A PROBLEM: Description & Argumentation

Week Nine

M, 10/23–How to be a problem solver

W, 10/25–Discuss W4; Research and incorporating sources

- Homework: Read/Watch Quiz Review 6; Take Q6: Pronoun Case

Week Ten

M, 10/30–Library Day

W, 11/1–TBD

→ Homework: Read/Watch Quiz Review 7; Take Q7: Commas

Week Eleven

M, 11/6–TBD

W, 11/8–TBD

→ Homework: Read/Watch Quiz Review 8; Take Q8: Colons and Semicolons

Week Twelve

M, 11/13–TBD

W, 11/15–TBD

→ Homework: Read/Watch Quiz Review 9; Take Q9: Parallel Structure

Week Thirteen

M, 11/20–Instructor Conferences

W, 11/22–No class; Thanksgiving holiday

Week Fourteen

M, 11/27–Work on P-S paper in class (W4)

W, 11/29–Presenting your work

→ Homework: Read/Watch Quiz Review 10; Take Q10: Apostrophes

Week Fifteen

M, 12/4–Problem-Solution Presentations (**W4 due in class**)

W, 12/6–Problem-Solution Presentations

→ Homework: Review all quizzes in preparation for the Grammar Final.

Finals Week

Essay Final, On-Campus:

Section X15 (11 a.m. section): Monday, December 11, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Section X16 (1 p.m. section): Monday, December 11, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Grammar Final, Online:

Will be available online from 6 a.m. Monday, December 11, until 11:59 p.m.

Tuesday, December 12. *You may take the Grammar Final any time during this block.*