



ENGL 1143: Academic Research and Writing

Section: X15

Online version, Fall 2021

Location: course website via MSU D2L

Instructor: Professor Allyn Bernkopf

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Office: Online

Office Hours: Via email, Zoom, or D2L by appointment

Course Description/ Objectives:

Welcome to English 1143! This course will provide training in rhetoric, including skills involved in the writing process through composition and reading with the addition of particular skills needed for thoughtful research, from selection and analysis to integration and documentation of both print and electronic sources. Students will be required to prepare a research paper of moderate length demonstrating these skills. A grade of C or better is required in this course.

Course Goals:

- Apply knowledge of rhetoric to make decisions about written communication
 - Engage in a writing process that includes invention, drafting, and revision
 - Write thesis-based academic arguments that provide strong support and specific details
 - Find, evaluate, and synthesize credible sources in support of a research paper
 - Use sources ethically and in contextually appropriate ways and follow a designated style guide
 - Demonstrate proficient use of Standard Written English
 - Additional information about course objectives can be found on the department webpage, <https://msutexas.edu/academics/libarts/english/index.php>.
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Required Texts and Materials:

1. A computer (w/internet)
 2. *The Writer's Loop: A Guide to College Writing for Midwestern State University* (ISBN: 9781319447137)
 3. Access to *Achieve* via D2L
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Recommended Texts and Materials:

1. *MLA Handbook, 9th Edition* or [OWL Purdue](#)
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Course Policies

Email

As this is an online course, all notifications will occur via email, so you must check your email multiple times daily. I will be using the D2L email list to send notifications, which should go to your university email address. If it does not go to your university email address, you may forward emails from your D2L email to the university email via Account Settings -> Email -> Forwarding Options. All you need to do is type your email address in the appropriate box, make sure "Forward and mark read in the Inbox folder" is checked, and hit "Save and Close" at the bottom (big blue button).

Online Computer Requirements

Taking an online class requires you to have access to a computer (with Internet access) to complete and upload your assignments. It is your responsibility to have (or have access to) a working

computer in this class. ***Assignments and tests are due by the due date, and personal computer technical difficulties will not be considered reason for the instructor to allow students extra time to submit assignments, tests, or discussion postings.*** Computers are available on campus in various areas of the buildings as well as the Academic Success Center. **Your computer being down is not an excuse for missing a deadline!!** There are many places to access your class! Our online classes can be accessed from any computer in the world which is connected to the internet. Contact your instructor immediately upon having computer trouble. If you have technical difficulties in the course, there is also a student helpdesk available to you. The college cannot work directly on student computers due to both liability and resource limitations however they are able to help you get connected to our online services. For help, log into [D2L](#).

Desire-to-Learn (D2L)

Extensive use of the MSU D2L program is a part of this course. Each student is expected to be familiar with this program as it provides a primary source of communication regarding assignments, examination materials, and general course information. You can log into [D2L](#) through the MSU Homepage. If you experience difficulties, please contact the technicians listed for the program or contact your instructor.

Attendance

Because this is an online course, attendance will not be measured using a standard metric. **Online meetings are mandatory**, but unless we have a scheduled online meeting, you will not be required to “attend” a specific location at a specific time. Instead, attendance is measured by completing the exercises and assignments by their deadlines, proving your involvement with course content. On most class days, these exercises will be part of “modules” that will not require any more coursework than you’d perform during an in-person class. There are no excused absences since you can complete work at your own pace prior to its deadline (timed writing assignments are the exception for this rule). **An “absence” is counted by not completing an online exercise by its deadline.** Each absence will count against your attendance/participation grade, but you are allowed up to 4 “absences” without a reduction to your *overall* grade. After 4 “absences,” each missed deadline will count as 5% against your *overall* grade. **After 8 absences, you automatically fail the course.**

Definitions

An **exercise** is an assignment that addresses a single set of tasks, such as would be completed on an average course day; these can include free writes, reading responses, quizzes, or other written tasks.

A **module** is a series of exercises and readings that comprise a themed unit of coursework, building to a major assignment. Each module is focused upon an essay or project that counts toward your grade (see grading scheme).

A **major assignment** is the culminating paper for each module, designed to demonstrate your understanding of the concepts and objectives of that module.

A **timed writing** is a major assignment that you must complete to pass the class, even though it may be given independent of modules.

Grading Scheme:

- 10% 3 Peer Review Workshops
- 5% Timed Writing #1 Literacy Narrative (350-word min)
- 5% Timed Writing #2 Position Essay (350-word min)
- 15% Formal Essay #1 Argumentative Response
- 15% Formal Essay #2 Academic Researched Argument
- 15% Formal Essay #3 Critical Literacy Narrative

- 10% Digital Portfolio
- 15% Presentations of Digital Portfolio
- 5% Final Exam Essay
- 5% Attendance and Participation

Submission Format and Policy:

All formal assignments are to be typed and outside sources documented according to [MLA style](#) (do **not** utilize citation machines. Citation machines only work if you know the citation well enough to enter all of the material correctly). Additionally, all formal papers must be uploaded into the appropriate D2L Dropbox folder. By enrolling in this class, the student expressly grants MSU a “limited right” in all intellectual property created by the student for the purpose of this course. The “limited right” shall include but shall not be limited to the right to reproduce the student’s work product in order to verify originality and authenticity, and for educational purposes.

Note: You may not submit a paper for a grade in this class that already has been (or will be) submitted for a grade in another course, unless you obtain the explicit written permission of me and the other instructor involved in advance.

Late work

Grades of assignments defined as "late" (coming in after the established deadline) will be reduced by 5% of the total points possible for the work each day it is late. After five days late, assignments receive an automatic zero. If you miss a deadline for a day’s exercise or exercises, it receives an automatic zero (as well as counting as an absence). ***Email the professor as soon as you know work will be late.***

Missing work

You must complete all required drafts and final copies of the major assignments in order to receive a passing grade for the course. This applies even if the assignment is so late it receives a zero; you must still turn it in to pass the class!

Academic Honesty

Per the MSU Student Handbook:

“The term ‘cheating’ includes, but is not limited to: (1) use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations; (2) dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; or (3) the acquisition without permissions, of tests or other academic material belonging to a member of the university, faculty, or staff. The term ‘**plagiarism**’ includes, but is not limited to, the use by paraphrase or direct quotation, of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgement. It also includes the unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials. The term ‘**collusion**’ means collaboration with another person in preparing work offered for credit if that collaboration is not authorized by the faculty member in charge.” Plagiarism can result in failure of the course or suspension from the University. For more information, see the policies listed at <https://msutexas.edu/student-life/conduct/>

Students with Disabilities

In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Midwestern State University endeavors to make reasonable accommodations to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in

all educational, social, and recreational programs and activities. After notification of acceptance, students requiring accommodations should make application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Clark Student Center, Room 168, (940) 397-4140. Current documentation of a disability will be required in order to provide appropriate services, and each request will be individually reviewed. For more details, please go to [Disability Support Services](#).

Add/Drop Information

Classes begin 23 Aug.

The drop/add deadline is 7 Sept.

The deadline to file for graduation is 27 Sept.

The W drop/withdraw deadline is 25 Oct. Class work ends 3 Dec.

For more information, visit these links: <https://msutexas.edu/registrar/calendars.php> and <https://msutexas.edu/busoffice/wd-schedule.php>.

Change of Schedule

A student dropping a course (but not withdrawing from the University) within the first 12 class days of a regular semester or the first four class days of a summer semester is eligible for a 100% refund of applicable tuition and fees. Dates are published in the Schedule of Classes each semester.

Refund and Repayment Policy

A student who withdraws or is administratively withdrawn from Midwestern State University (MSU) may be eligible to receive a refund for all or a portion of the tuition, fees and room/board charges that were paid to MSU for the semester. HOWEVER, if the student received financial aid (federal/state/institutional grants, loans and/or scholarships), all or a portion of the refund may be returned to the financial aid programs. As described below, two formulas (federal and state) exist in determining the amount of the refund. (Examples of each refund calculation will be made available upon request).

College Policies

Campus Carry Rules/Policies

Refer to: [Campus Carry Rules and Policies](#)

Smoking/Tobacco Policy

College policy strictly prohibits the use of tobacco products in any building owned or operated by WATC. Adult students may smoke only in the outside designated-smoking areas at each location.

Alcohol and Drug Policy

To comply with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 and subsequent amendments, students and employees of Midwestern State are informed that strictly enforced policies are in place which prohibits the unlawful possession, use or distribution of any illicit drugs, including alcohol, on university property or as part of any university-sponsored activity. Students and employees are also subject to all applicable legal sanctions under local, state and federal law for any offenses involving illicit drugs on University property or at University-sponsored activities.

Grade Appeal Process

Update as needed. Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the Midwestern State University [Undergraduate Catalog](#)

Schedule of Readings and Assignments:

WL = *The Writer's Loop*

TW = Timed Writings

FE = Formal Essay

Week: Dates	Readings	Activities/Assignments (Due by Sunday of each week)
1: 8/23-27	<p>Read Syllabus; Explore Achieve</p> <p>WL Ch 3 “Understanding Writing as a Recursive Process” (Notice Nia’s example LNs)</p> <p>Watch “What is Media Literacy” & “How False News Can Spread”</p>	<p>Introductions, Discuss Syllabus, Policies, etc.</p> <p>Introduce: Media Literacy, Timed Writing 1 (TW 1): Critical Literacy Narrative</p>
2: 8/30-9/3	<p>WL Ch 2 “Understanding Rhetoric” &</p> <p>WL Ch 5 “Reading Actively & Critically to Create Meaning”</p>	<p>Discuss: Defining rhetoric, Components of rhetoric, Rhetorical situation</p> <p>Write & Submit: TW 1 Literacy Narrative</p> <p>Discuss: Portfolio Assignment, Revision process</p>
3: 9/7-10 (Labor Day: 9/6)	<p>WL Ch 1 “Being an Academic Writer” &</p> <p>WL Ch 6 “Writing Academic Arguments”</p>	<p>Introduce: FE 1 Argument Response</p> <p>Discuss: Ch. 1 Slides Developing Ethos, Building a Thesis, Argument Structure, Writing Introductions, Paragraph structure, Developing Arguments, Writing Conclusions</p> <p>FE 1 Planning activities & drafting</p>
4: 9/13-17	<p>WL Ch 4 “Improving your Draft Using Feedback and Revision”</p>	<p>Discuss giving and receiving/applying feedback</p> <p>Peer Review in Achieve</p> <p>Revise & Submit: FE 1 Argument Response</p>
5: 9/20-24	<p>WL Ch 8 “Planning your Research & Evaluating Sources”</p>	<p>Introduce: TW 2, FE 2 Academic Researched Argument (ARA) (May be same topic), and Annotated Bibliography</p> <p>Watch: Library Videos on YouTube</p> <p>Discuss: Ch. 8</p>

6: 9/27-10/1	WL Ch 9 “Managing, Annotating, & Summarizing Sources” & WL Appendix “Understanding Academic Citation Styles” (Choose sections)	Discuss: Ch. 9 Complete: Annotated Bibliographies (Discussion Post) Finish ARA Planning portion of TW 2 (Discussion Post)
7: 10/4-8	WL Ch 10 “Crafting a Thesis for a Substantial Writing Project”	Discuss: Ch. 10 Write & Submit: TW 2 Proposal Essay
8: 10/11-15	WL Ch 11 “Integrating Ideas from Sources”	Practice with found sources Discuss: Ch. 11
9: 10/18-22	WL Ch 12 “Tightening Your Argument”	Developing/Workshopping Drafts Instructor Conferences, Peer Reviews, & Writing Center Meetings Revise & Submit: FE 2 (ARA)
10: 10/25-29 (Mid-term grade submissions due) (Last day for W Drop: 10/25)	WL Ch 13 “Pulling It All Together in a Final Portfolio”	Introduce: FE 3 - Critical Literacy Narrative & Digital Portfolio
11: 11/1-5	WL Ch 7 “Writing for Public, Digital Spaces”	Draft & Workshop (Revised) Critical Literacy Narrative
12: 11/8-12	Review Example Portfolios	Draft Digital Portfolio; Workshop Reflections on writing assignments
13: 11/15-19		Instructor Conferences
14: 11/22-23	(Thanksgiving Holiday: 11/24 – 11/29)	Peer Review Workshops Digital Portfolio
15: 11/29-12/3	No Content	Present Digital Portfolios
Finals: 12/4-9	Timed Writing Final	

NOTE: COURSE CALENDAR IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT INSTRUCTOR’S DISCRETION