

Becky Green

Office: BW 233 (closed Summer 2020)

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Office hours: online MTW 10:00 AM-12:00 PM; emails
will be answered as soon as possible

ENGL 1143-X31: Academic Research and Writing Syllabus

Text:

- Wood, Nancy V. *Essentials of Argument*, Pearson, 2011. ISBN:9780205827022

Required Materials:

- textbook

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 at [MSU Department of English, Humanities, and Philosophy](#).

Course Requirements and Percentages of Final Grade:

- 4 Chapter Quizzes based on *Essentials of Argument* (EOA) 10%
- 2 Timed Writing Essays 10%
- Proposal Paper 20%
- Exploratory Paper 20%
- Researched Paper 30%
- Timed Writing Final Exam Essay 10%

Final Exam:

- 2 July 2020; 2 hour time limit, between 6:00 AM and 11:30 PM

Grading Policy:

This class will not use the plus/minus grading system. In this class, the following numerical equivalents for final grades are used:

A = 100-90%;
 B = 89-80%;
 C = 79-70%;
 D = 69-60%;
 F = 59-0

According to MSU's Undergraduate Catalogue, "letter grades have the following significance: A indicates excellent work, B indicates good work, C indicates satisfactory work, D indicates passing work, F indicates failing work" (73). Consequently, an essay that meets the basic requirements earns a C, not an A or B. If you wish to earn As and Bs, you will have to work hard to produce better than satisfactory, or average, writing.

IMPORTANT: A grade of **C** or higher in ENGL 1143 is required for graduation from Midwestern State University.

Submission Format and Policy:

The Proposal Paper, Exploratory Paper, and Research Paper must follow MLA style. A sample paper for each of these is included in the content of the course. The style preferences include the following:

- Header: writer's last name and page number
- Identification: writer's full name, instructor's name, course title, date
- Title: centered
- Spacing: Double-spaced throughout (extra space eliminated)
- Margins: One inch margins on top, bottom, and sides of text
- Font: Times New Roman 12

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 Assignment Policy: Late quizzes and papers are accepted at a penalty of 10 points per day. Late timed writing essays require permission from the instructor.

Academic Dishonesty: Plagiarism is the use of someone else's thoughts, words, ideas, or lines of argument in your own work without appropriate documentation (a parenthetical citation at the end and a listing in "Works Cited")—whether you use that material in a quote, paraphrase, or summary. At the least, plagiarism will result in an F on an assignment. At the worst it will result in an F in the course. I will follow the reporting procedures of the English Department and the Dean of Students.

Students with Disabilities: 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: The professor considers this classroom to be a place where you will be treated with respect as a human being – regardless of gender, 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 the professor's expectation that ALL students consider the classroom a safe environment.

Contacting Your Instructor: I am available to you at becky.green@msutexas.edu Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday from 10:00 AM-12:00 PM this semester. We will meet in Zoom on June 4, 11, and 18 at 10:00 AM, 3:00 PM, or 7:00 PM by assignment. I am also available by Skype. Send me a request by email, and I will respond.

When writing a message, follow conventions of standard written English. Do not text when "u" write a professor or instructor. Include a greeting (Ms. Green) and a signature (your name) even when using a phone.

What you cannot expect of me is to be available 24/7. I don't answer late night emails, and I'm offline on Saturday.

Attendance Policy: Your attendance in this class is measured by your completion of assignments, participation in Zoom meetings, and response to email messages. If you stop progressing, I'll contact you.

The last day to drop this course is 18 June 2020 by 4:00 PM. Dropping the course is your responsibility.

Writing Center: Time for writing is short during summer school, and so is response time from writing tutors. Follow these guidelines from the [Writing Center](#) to get the help you need online.

Writing Proficiency Requirement: All students seeking a Bachelor's degree from Midwestern State University must satisfy a writing proficiency requirement once they have 1) completed 6 hours of Communication Core and 2) earned 60 hours. Students may meet this requirement by passing either the Writing Proficiency Exam or English 2113. If you have any questions about the exam, visit [Writing Proficiency](#) or call 397-4131.

Campus Carry Statement: Senate Bill 11 passed by the 84th Texas Legislature allows licensed handgun holders to carry concealed handguns on campus, effective August 1, 2016. Areas excluded from concealed carry are appropriately marked, in accordance with state law. For more information regarding campus carry, please refer to the University's webpage at MSU Texas's [Campus Carry page](#).

Daily Schedule of Readings and Assignments: See Weeks 1 through 5 in the content of this course.