



Course Syllabus: Teaching College Writing

College of Humanities and Social Sciences

ENGL 5023 Section X10

Fall 2022

Contact Information

Instructor: Melissa Nivens

Office: BW 220

Office hours: MW 10:00-12:00 and TR 11:00-12:00

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Instructor Response Policy

Email is the best way to contact me. I will not always answer in the evenings or on weekends.

Textbook & Instructional Materials

Bean, John C. *Engaging Ideas 2nd ed.* Jossey-Bass. 2011.

Glenn, Cheryl and Melissa A. Goldthwait. *The St. Martin's Guide to Teaching Writing.* Bedford/St. Martins. 2014.

Course Description

An overview of writing studies and effective practices in teaching college-level composition.

Course Objectives

1. Acquire an understanding of various writing theories, pedagogies, and practices.
2. Develop a syllabus and other course materials for a writing intensive course.

Tutoring Assistance

Tutoring and Academic Support Programs (TASP) provides free drop-in tutoring for MSU students. Located on the first floor of Moffett Library, TASP's Learning center provides tutoring support in a number of core courses and subject areas. Please see our schedule for more information about times and offerings. Remember that you don't need an appointment to utilize these services.

Some departments also provide tutoring. Check the "Tutoring at MSU" tab in the portal for more information about all campus tutoring opportunities.

For Distance Education students, TASP has partnered with Thinkingstorm, an online tutoring company that provides you with high-quality, 24/7 tutoring support. Located at the top of your D2L course page, select the Distance Education Tutoring course to book an appointment with a tutor. If you are a distance education student (i.e. you live more than 50 miles from MSU and are in all online courses), but you do not see this course pop up under your courses, please contact Ashley Hurst.

Student Handbook

Refer to: [Student Handbook-2021-22](#)

Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work not the individual's to whom credit is given). Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the Office of Student Conduct. Students have the right to appeal an alleged case of academic dishonesty. [Office of Student Conduct](#)

Grading/Assessment

Table 1:

Assignments	Points
8 Discussion Posts	20 (2.5 each)
4 Response Papers	20 (5 each)
Syllabus	20
Unit Plan	20
Teaching Philosophy	10
Reflection	10
Total	100

Table 2: This class will not use the plus/minus system for *final* grade. The following numerical units are used for the final grade.

Grade	Points
A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	59-0

Discussion Posts

Students will post a response to a reading on the discussion board forum. Initial posts will be due by midnight on Wednesdays. Replies are due by midnight on Sundays. Each student will post 10 responses and 10 replies total.

Response Papers

Students will select an academic article that is related to the week's reading. Then they will write a two paragraph response paper. Each paper should begin with the source citation. The first paragraph should be a summary of the article. The second paragraph should connect the article to other readings or experiences.

Syllabus

Students should develop a syllabus for a first-year composition class. The syllabus should include classroom policies and procedures along with a schedule.

Unit Plan

Students will create an original unit plan that illustrates how they might teach a particular unit in a first-year composition course. It should include lessons, activities, and assessments.

Teaching Philosophy

Based on their experiences and readings in the course, students will compose a teaching philosophy that could be used for future employment applications.

Reflection

Students will compose a written reflection on their work in the course.

Bonus Points

When there is a Response Paper due, the Discussion Board Post is optional. A form will still be available to post for bonus points (or to make up for a week you missed).

Important Dates

Last day for term schedule changes: August 25, 2022
Deadline to file for graduation: September 26, 2022.

Last Day to drop with a grade of "W:" October 24, 2022 Check additional dates on [Academic Calendar](#).

Refer to: [Drops, Withdrawals & Void](#)

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

Your participation in online discussions counts as your attendance and engagement in the course. We will not have any whole class scheduled Zoom meetings. However, we may have at least one individual Zoom conference.

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 that 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](#).

Instructor Class Policies

Students should use professional courtesy when communicating with the instructor and classmates in this course.

Services for 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](#).

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 MSU TEXAS 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.

Campus Carry

Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes has prohibited. The new Constitutional Carry law does not change this process. Concealed carry still requires a License to Carry permit, and openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit [Campus Carry](#).

Active Shooter

The safety and security of our campus is the responsibility of everyone in our community. Each of us has an obligation to be prepared to appropriately respond to threats to our campus, such as an active aggressor. Please review the information provided by MSU Police Department regarding the options and strategies we can all use to stay safe during difficult situations. For more information, visit [MSUReady – Active Shooter](#). Students are encouraged to watch the video entitled “*Run. Hide. Fight.*” which may be electronically accessed via the University police department’s webpage: [“Run. Hide. Fight.”](#)

Grade Appeal Process

Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the Midwestern State University [MSU Catalog](#)

Notice

Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor.

Course Schedule:

Table 3: Weekly Schedule

Week	Readings	Assignments
1 8/22-8/28	<p>Introductions</p> <p><i>Ideas</i> Ch 1 and 2</p> <p><i>Guide</i> Downs & Wardle, pg 278 Murray, pg 305</p>	Discussion Board
2 8/29-9/4	<p>Thinking and Teaching Rhetorically</p> <p><i>Ideas</i> Ch 3 and 4</p> <p><i>Guide</i> Ch 6 and 7</p>	Discussion Board
3 (9/5-9/11)	<p>Grammar and Style</p> <p><i>Ideas</i> Ch 5</p> <p><i>Guide</i> Ch 8</p>	<p><i>Optional</i> Discussion Board</p> <p>Response Paper #1</p>
4 (9/12-9/18)	<p>Language Differences</p> <p><i>Guide</i> Rose, pg 381 Jones-Royster, pg 401 Leki, pg 436</p> <p>D2L Smith Young</p>	Discussion Board

Week	Readings	Assignments
5 (9/19-9/25)	<p>Course Design</p> <p><i>Guide</i> Ch 1</p> <p>D2L WPA Outcomes Texas Core Curriculum</p>	<p>Discussion Board</p> <p>Introduce Syllabus Assignment</p>
6 (9/26-10/2)	<p>Assignment Design</p> <p><i>Ideas</i> Ch 6 & 7</p> <p><i>Guide</i> Ch 4</p>	<p><i>Optional</i> Discussion Board</p> <p>Response Paper #2</p> <p>Introduce Unit Plan Assignment</p>
7 (10/3-10/9)	<p>Teaching Research</p> <p><i>Ideas</i> Ch 9 and 13</p> <p><i>Guide</i> Ch 7</p>	<p>Discussion Board</p> <p>Schedule Zoom Conference with instructor</p>
8 (10/10-10/16)	<p>Assessing Writing</p> <p><i>Ideas</i> Ch 14 and 15</p> <p><i>Guide</i> Ch 5</p>	<p>Discussion Board</p>
9 (10/17-10/23)	<p>More Assessing Writing</p> <p><i>Ideas</i> Ch 16</p> <p><i>Guide</i> Sommers pg, 333</p>	<p><i>Optional</i> Discussion Board</p> <p>Response Paper #3</p>
10 (10/24-10/30)		Syllabus Due 10/30

Week	Readings	Assignments
11 (10/31-11/6)	Technology <i>Guide</i> Ch 10 Selfe, pg 481	<i>Optional</i> Discussion Board Response Paper #4
12 (11/7-11/13)	Teaching Philosophy Examples	Schedule Zoom Conference with Instructor Introduce Teaching Philosophy
13 (11/14-11/20)		Discussion Board Unit Plan Due
14 (11/21-11/27)	Discourse Communities <i>Guide</i> Ch 9 Devitt et al, pg 365	Discussion Board
15 (11/28-12/4)		Teaching Philosophy Due
16 (12/5-12/10)	FINALS WEEK	Reflection Due

Course Schedule

Week or Module	Activities/Assignments/Exams	Due Date
Week 1 9/18 to 9/24	Detailed instructions on the Activities and Assignments	Clearly posted Due Dates
Week 2 9/25 to 10/6		
Week 3 10/7 to 10/13		

Note: Tables cannot continue to the next page. If the table continues to the next page, you will need to make a new table using the table tools for every page. Remember to add Alt Text.

References/Scientifically-Based Research/Additional Readings:
 Required scientifically-based references/evidence for certification courses and applicable standards and professional associations.

Example. International Reading Association (2018). Standards for Reading Professionals: A Reference for the Preparation of Educators in the United States. Newark, DE.

Appendix A: Standards/Competencies
 Required alignment to all applicable state/national standards (including INTASC/TEXES test framework competencies for certification courses-grad and undergrad.

Course Objectives or Student Learning Outcomes	Standard or Competency

Appendix B:
 Required assignment/standard alignment matrix

Assignment/Module/ Course Activities	Standard or Competency

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