

**Professor:** Dr. Jennifer Dawes

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**Office hours:**

Monday & Wednesday, 11:00 a.m. – noon

Tuesday & Thursday, 9:30-10:30 a.m.; 1:30-2:30 p.m.

## **ENGL 1143: Academic Research and Writing Syllabus**

**Texts:**

- Bullock, Richard et al. *The Little Seagull Handbook with Readings*. Norton, 2017.
- Miller-Cochran, Susan, Roy Stamper, & Stacey Cochran. *An Insider's Guide to Academic Writing: A Rhetoric and Reader* 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Bedford/St. Martin's, 2019.

**Required Materials:**

- Folder with pockets
- Note-taking materials
- 3 blue books

**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>.

### **Course Requirements:**

- 10%        3 Peer Review Workshops
- 10%        2 In-Class Essays (350-word min. each)
- 30%        2 Formal, Revised Essays (750-word min. each)
- 10%        1 Group Presentation
- 20%        Researched Academic Argument (1500-word min.)
- 10%        Grammar Exercises
- 10%        Final Exam Essay

### **Final Exam:**

- Tuesday, December 10 at 10:30am

**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

**Submission Format and Policy:** All formal assignments are to be typed and formatted – and outside sources documented - according to MLA style. Additionally, all formal papers must be printed and submitted in your 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 Assignment Policy:** Late assignments, defined as work not submitted by the start of class on the designated due date, will be accepted, but they will lose 10% of the final grade. Additionally, no late work will be accepted more than 48 hours after the original deadline. If you will miss class on the day a paper is due, email me the paper during the class time for it not to be counted late.

**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 on the Works Cited page)—whether you use that material in a quote, paraphrase, or summary. All formal papers will run through the Turnitin for an originality report. At the very least, plagiarism will result in an F on the assignment; at worst, the consequence will be an F in the course. Offenders will be reported to the Chair of the Department of English, Humanities, and Philosophy and/or the Director of Student Conduct.

**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:** Email is the best way to contact me. Please use your MSUTexas email or email me through D2L if you want to discuss grades or other confidential information.

**Attendance Policy:** It is important that you attend class and be on time. If you have more than six (6) absences excused or not, you will likely fail the class. **I reserve the right to drop you from the class upon your seventh (7th) absence.** When you miss class meetings, you miss out on the instruction for which you pay tuition. Please don't feel you have to explain or justify absences to me; I respect your privacy, but you must accept the consequences. If you

miss class, you miss any writing assignment or group work done during that period, and you miss any announcements regarding future assignments. Notify me in advance if you will not be able to make class; you may leave an email message. As stated above, if you miss class on a due date for an assignment, email me the paper or it will lose points. Consider it your responsibility to be here, prepared for class, or you will not do as well as you wish, nor gain as much as you could.

**Writing Center:** Begin drafting papers as early as possible and take advantage of the MSU Writing Center, located off the 2nd floor atrium of Prothro-Yeager. Tutoring is available Monday through Thursday from 9am to 4pm; you can also find a tutor at the satellite location in Moffett Library Honors Lounge, Sunday and Thursday from 6pm to 9pm. Writing tutors will not edit your papers for you, but they will provide support and feedback at every stage of the writing process, from brainstorming to drafting, revising to proofreading.

**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 the Writing Proficiency Office website at <https://msutexas.edu/academics/wpr/>, 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

*This schedule is tentative and subject to change. Any changes to Weeks 1-5 will be announced in class. I've sketched out Weeks 6-15 here so you can see some rough due dates. I will give you an updated schedule for Weeks 6-15 before Week 6.*

### Week One

M 8/26 -- **In Class:** Introductions; Syllabus; Diagnostic Writing Sample

W 8/28 -- **Before Class (BC):** Read AW Ch 1--Inside Colleges & Universities  
**In Class (IC):** Discuss academic disciplines

F 8/30 -- **Before Class (BC):** Read AW Ch 2--Writing Process  
**In Class (IC):** Discuss writing process; Introduce In-Class Essay (ICE) #1  
Literacy Narrative

### Week Two

M 9/2 -- Labor Day, No Class

W 9/4 -- **BC:** Write plans for ICE#1  
**IC:** ICE#1 Literacy Narrative (**Bring Blue Book**)

F 9/6 -- **BC:** Read AW Ch 3 Reading & Writing Rhetorically  
**IC:** Discuss rhetorical context (audience, genre, topic, purpose)

### Week Three

M 9/9 -- **BC:** Read AW Ch 4 Developing Arguments  
**IC:** Discuss appeals, claims, and support

W 9/11 -- **BC:** Read AW "The myth of the helicopter parent" and "Five reasons why helicopter parents are sabotaging their child's career" (link to be emailed);  
Write 2 discussion questions related to readings  
**IC:** Discuss articles and analyzing arguments

F 9/13 -- **BC:** Read "Orientation Program for Helicopter Parents" (link to be emailed);  
Write 2 discussion questions related to readings  
**IC:** Continue discussion about analyzing arguments; Introduce Formal Essay (FE) #1 Rhetorical Analysis

### Week Four

M 9/16 -- **BC:** Review Little Seagull Handbook (LSH) S 1-3 Sentences (pages 314-322);  
**IC:** FE #1 Brainstorming Workshop (bring laptops); Writing Center tutor

W 9/18 and F 9/20 -- *We will not meet in the classroom on these days. I will be at a professional conference. Use this time to work on Formal Essay #1 and to go to the Writing Center to work with a tutor to brainstorm ideas.*

### **Week Five**

M 9/23 --**BC:** Write Rough Draft of Formal Essay #1  
**IC:** Peer Review Workshop #1--(bring 2 copies of typed draft to class)

W 9/25 --**BC:** Review LSH S-4 & 5 Verbs; Work on revision of Formal Essay #1  
**IC:** Formal Essay #1 Revision Workshop (bring laptops)

F 9/27 -- **BC:** Write final draft of Formal Essay #1  
**IC:** Formal Essay #1 due today (watch video To Be Announced)

### **Week Six**

*In Week Six, we will begin discussing argumentation and reading arguments as you work toward creating your own arguments.*

M 9/30 --Reading arguments from AW Chapter 12: Crime, Punishment and Justice; articles To Be Announced (TBA)

W 10/2 -- articles TBA

F 10/4 -- articles TBA

### **Week Seven**

M 10/7 -- In-Class Essay #2 (**Bring Blue Book**)

W 10/9 -- Read AW Ch 7

F 10/11 -- discuss Ch 7

### **Week Eight**

M 10/14 -- Introduce Formal Essay #2 in class

W 10/16 -- brainstorming ideas for FE#2 and creating your own arguments

F 10/18 -- Peer Review Workshop #2 (bring two copies of your typed draft to class)

### **Week Nine**

M 10/21 -- Revising Formal Essay #2

W 10/23 -- Formal Essay #2 due; introduce research paper assignment

F 10/25 -- Read AW Ch. 5 Academic Research; Library tour; meet in library

### **Week Ten**

M 10/28 -- Discuss Academic Research

W 10/30 -- Brainstorm research topics

F 11/1 -- Preparing for the Instructor Conference

**Week Eleven**

M 11/4, W 11/6, F 11/8 -- Instructor Conferences. We will not meet in the classroom. Each student will meet with me individually. I will have a sign-up sheet in Week 10.

**Week Twelve**

M 11/11 -- Peer Writing Workshop #3 (bring two copies of your draft)

W 11/13 --TBA

F 11/15 -- TBA

**Week Thirteen**

M 11/18 -- Project presentations assigned

W 11/20 -- research paper due

F 11/22 -- work on projects

**Week Fourteen**

M 11/25 -- work on projects

W 11/27 & F 11/29 -- Thanksgiving holiday, no class

**Week Fifteen**

M 12/2 -- Presentations

W 12/4 -- Presentations

F 12/6 -- Presentations; preparing for the final

**Finals Week**

**Final Exam:** Tuesday, 10:30 - 12:30; room TBA