



# College Composition and Literature

## English Writing 301

Course: 12791

Term: Fall 2014 | Second 8 weeks | Oct 16, 2014 - Dec 12, 2014

Meetings: MW | 6:00 pm- 9:10 pm | Room Davies Hall 213

## Course Description

This course offers study of literary texts, with emphasis on analytical reading and writing. It covers principles of argument and analysis, such as reasoning inductively and deductively. Assigned texts include novels, short stories, poems, plays or films, and literary criticism. Essays written for the course (6,000 words minimum) generalize from the texts to present carefully reasoned arguments. At least one essay includes citations from secondary sources, documented according to current MLA format.

## Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, you will be able to:

- Analyze the cultural and historical contexts of literary works
- Reason inductively from examples, patterns, and structures to form generalizations
- Reason deductively by drawing conclusions about literary works
- Compose a thesis-driven argument of interpretation or evaluation and support it with textual evidence, using a sufficient variety and number of appropriate examples
- Compare opposing interpretations by literary scholars.

## Prerequisite

ENGWR 300 (College Composition) or 480 (Honors College Composition) with a grade of "C" or better.

## Instructor

Helping you to achieve your Student Learning Outcomes: **Shannon Mendez**

- Email: mendezs@arc.losrios.edu (preferred method of contact)
- Voicemail: 916-286-3691 x 12557
- Online Office Hours: Mon & Wed 10:30-11:00 a.m. <http://shannonmendez.com/office-hours/>



## Coursework

The course is organized into weekly modules. Each module contains resources and activities about one or more topics.

### Resources

Resources for learning may include textbook chapters, online sources, non-fiction books, and lectures. They provide the comprehensive information and details that you need to learn about the topic.

You should study the resources before we meet in class.

### Activities

Activities include practice and assessments.

You will complete practice activities to help you work toward achieving the Student Learning Outcomes. Practice may include discussions, collaborative projects, and other exercises.

Assessments allow you to demonstrate that you have met the Student Learning Outcomes. Assessments may include quizzes, brief writing responses, and essays.

Some activities are completed in class while some are completed as "homework."



## Course Ground Rules

Following the ground rules will ensure that the course runs smoothly and is fair for all students.

### Participation

Regular attendance and class participation is vital to achieving the Student Learning Outcomes and earning college credit.

Participation in on-ground courses involves regularly attending class sessions, being on time, contributing to collaborative activities, and maintaining professional conduct.

Your Participation is graded.

### Drop Policy

If you miss more than three class sessions, you may be dropped from the course. If you choose to drop yourself, be sure to officially drop through the Admissions Department and be mindful of the drop deadlines.

### Late Work

You must submit all assignments by the due date to receive full credit\*. Assignment submissions receive a 10-point penalty each day they are late. Note that some assignments are only 10 points, so you will not be able to make those up. Also, you may not be able to make up some activities because they required your collaboration with a group.

Keep the confirmation email from our LMS when you submit a paper; you may need to provide proof of submission.

\* In a business setting, you might be able to miss a deadline if you work out an arrangement with your manager or client ahead of time. Therefore, let me know in advance if you will be missing classes due to medical procedures, jury duty, military service, or college activities.

## Distributive Behavior and Communication

If your communication or behavior is intended for ill will or distracts anyone from learning or teaching, you may lose Participation points and be referred to the college Student Discipline Officer for disciplinary action. Examples of obvious and not-so-obvious disruptive behavior: aggression, defiance, interrupting, excessive lateness, sleeping, offensiveness, snarky comments, nonverbal disrespect, whininess.

## Plagiarism

Plagiarism is representing another's work as your own. Any time you cut and paste, you must cite the source. Any time you communicate an idea that was not yours, you must cite the source. Nobody should write a paper for you, and nobody should "fix" your paper. You can receive suggestions and instruction, but you must always have control of your paper--you make the edits yourself.

I use TurnItIn.com for plagiarism detection. I also compare essays to student emails and classwork (every piece of writing exhibits a certain skill level and tone). If an essay contains plagiarism issues, the essay grade may be lowered or receive a zero depending on the severity. If you demonstrate a pattern of plagiarism (submitting more than one essay with plagiarism issues), then you will be referred to the college Student Discipline Officer for disciplinary action.

For more information about college policies, visit [the Guide to Student Rights and Responsibilities](#).

## Accommodations

If you wish to discuss academic accommodations, please contact me as soon as possible. Also contact the Disabled Students' Programs and Services at (916) 484-8545 to discuss your needs and obtain documentation. I am committed to helping all students achieve their educational goals.

## Technology in the Classroom

You can use technology to help you in class. Using your technology device for activities unrelated to our class is disruptive and may negatively impact your Participation grade.

## Communication Policy

Email is the best way to contact me. I typically respond to email within 24 hours, possibly longer on weekends. If you don't hear back from me within 24 hours during the weekdays, assume I did not receive your email and resend it.

When you send an email, identify yourself with your name and the course you are in. Also be sure to use complete sentences and proper grammar. Remember that your audience is an English instructor who appreciates these things.

# Assignments and Grading

You will earn points for the following categories of assignments.

Category	Description	Points
Participation	Contribution and professional conduct: being present, completing your equal share of collaborative activities, and no disruptive behavior.	100
Exercises	Prewriting, outlines, drafts, and editing activities. Credit/No Credit.	300
Essays	Five essays, 5 pages in length. Grading rubrics will be provided.	600
	Total:	1000

Your final course grade is based on the following points:

Points	Final Grade
900-1000	A
800-899	B
700-799	C
600-699	D
0-599	F

I grade all activities within a week after you submit them. If you do not receive a grade after one week, contact me to make sure I received your submission.

I do not offer extra credit or give Incompletes as grades.

## Schedule

So that you can plan ahead, the following table provides the due dates for the readings and assignments.

Complete the readings and assignments before we meet in class on Mondays and Wednesdays. Complete the final drafts of essays on the Friday due dates by midnight.

Session	Topics	Readings Due	Assignments Due
Week 1: Mon 10/20	Getting Started Essay Development Refresher The Writing Process		
Week 1: Wed 10/22	Reading Fiction Writing about Fiction	Chapters 1, 29, 30	

	Cultural Contexts		
Week 2: Mon 10/27		Literature works of choice and associated research	Essay 1: Outline
Week 2: Wed 10/29			Essay 1: Draft
Week 2: Fri 10/31			Essay 1: Final
Week 3: Mon 11/3	Plot Character Opposing Interpretations	Chapters 2, 3	
Week 3: Wed 11/5		Literature works of choice and associated research	Essay 2: Outline
Week 3: Fri 11/7			
Week 4: Mon 11/10			Essay 2: Draft
Week 4: Wed 11/12	Setting Point of View Argument & Textual Evidence	Chapter 4, 5	
Week 4: Fri 11/14			Essay 2: Final
Week 5: Mon 11/17		Literature works of choice and associated research	Essay 3: Outline
Week 5: Wed 11/19			Essay 3: Draft
Week 5: Fri 11/21			Essay 3: Final
Week 6: Mon 11/24	Symbolism Theme Inductive Reasoning	Chapter 6, 7	
Week 6: Wed 11/26		Literature works of choice and associated research	Essay 4: Outline
Week 6: Fri 11/28			

Week 7: Mon 12/1			Essay 4: Draft
Week 7: Wed 12/3	Style, Tone & Irony Deductive Reasoning	Chapter 8	
Week 7: Fri 12/5			Essay 4: Final
Week 8: Mon 12/8		Literature works of choice and associated research	Essay 5: Outline
Week 8: Wed 12/10			Essay 5: Draft
Week 8: Fri 12/12			Essay 5: Final