

McLennan C O M M U N I T Y C O L L E G E

WACO, TEXAS

COURSE SYLLABUS AND INSTRUCTOR PLAN

Composition 1

Engl 1301-032

Professor Reid Makowsky, PhD

NOTE: This is a 16-week course.

COVID 19 Notice:

McLennan Community College is committed to providing you with every resource you need to reach your academic goals including your safety. We will continue to monitor the evolving situation with COVID 19 and adjust our safety guidelines to make sure we offer a safe environment for you and our faculty. Please make sure to consult your faculty and the MCC website at <https://www.mclennan.edu/crisis-management/coronavirus-updates/index.html> on any changes to these guidelines.

Course Description:

Intensive study of and practice in writing processes, from invention and researching to drafting, revising, and editing, both individually and collaboratively. Emphasis on effective rhetorical choices, including audience, purpose, arrangement, and style. Focus on writing the academic essay as a vehicle for learning, communication, and critical analysis.

Prerequisites and/or Co-requisites:

Passing score on writing portion of MCC placement test or credit for ENGL 0301 or INRW 0402

Instructor Information:

Instructor Name: Dr. Reid Makowsky

MCC E-mail: rmakowsky@mclennan.edu

Office Phone Number: 299-8908 (email is better)

Office Location: FO 218

Office Hours: MW 9-9:30, 12:40-1:10 TTH 12:40-1:40 (please make an appointment)

Required Text & Materials:

Title: St. Martin's Guide to Writing

Author: Axelrod

Edition: 12th

Publisher: St. Martin's

ISBN: ISBN-13: 978-1319087715

MCC Bookstore Website: <http://www.mclennan.edu/bookstore/>

Methods of Teaching and Learning:

Though I will occasionally lecture, most of our time together will be discussion-based: as a class we will discuss important concepts, essays from our book, and common problems in writing.

Students will also work in small groups to help each other improve. Students will write essays in a wide variety of genres.

ENGL 1301 Major Essay Guidelines:

The great majority of your grade depends on four major essays. Here are some things to remember.

1. All major essays involve prewriting.
2. I evaluate these essays by considering the questions on the Peer Review sheet.
3. **All essays must be submitted to Brightspace. If you need help, contact the Help Desk at 299-8077.**
4. I provide feedback on Brightspace, using both the comments box and the yellow sticky note feature.

Note: Chapter readings should be completed by the student **before** class.

Course Schedule:

Unit 1: Personal Essay

Objectives: -use narrative and reflection to write a personal essay
-craft an overall theme that unites a personal essay
-consider how one's intended audience shapes one's rhetoric
-make effective word choices

Week of 8/22: Class 1: Introductions

Class 2: Discuss Ch. 1 of St. Martin's Guide. In-class writing.

Week of 8/29: Class 1: Discuss Ch. 2 (pp. 12-36).

Class 2: Discuss Major Essay 1. In-class activity: word choices.

Week of 9/5: Class 1: Discuss Ch. 14. In-class writing.

Class 2: **Bring outline of Major Essay 1 for Outline-to-Draft Day (library).**

Week of 9/12: Class 1: **Bring Polished Draft of Major Essay 1 for Peer Review (classroom).**

Class 2: Introduction to Unit 2. In-class activity and discussion.

Major Essay 1 Due Thursday night.

Unit 2: Explanation Essay

Objectives: -write an accurate and concise summary
-write an effective rhetorical analysis
-use "what", "how", and "why" to write a compelling explanatory essay
-employ a variety of sentence structures while avoiding run-ons and fragments

Week of 9/19: Class 1: Discuss Ch. 4 (119-48)

Class 2: In-class documentary.

Week of 9/26: Class 1: Discuss Ch. 15. In-class writing. And in-class activity: sentences.

Class 2: Work on Response Essay 1. **Response Essay 1 due Thursday night.**

Week of 10/3: Class 1: Discuss Major Essay 2. In-class activity: fugues.

Class 2: **Bring Outline of Major Essay 2 for Outline-to-Draft Day (library).**

Week of 10/10: Class 1: **Bring Polished draft of Major Essay 2 for Peer Review (classroom).**

Class 2: Introduction to Unit 3. In-class activity: music videos.

Major Essay 2 Due Thursday Night.

Unit 3: Review with Two Sources

Objectives: -craft a statement of judgement that encapsulates an evaluation

- understand and use criteria to support a judgement
- collect and include evidence to support the criteria
- use topic sentences and logically arranged evidence to write strong paragraphs

Week of 10/17: Class 1: Discuss Chapter 8 (334-64). In-class activity: honing a judgement.
Class 2: In class movie and discussion.

Week of 10/24: Class 1: Discuss Chs.16 and 17. In-class activity: searching for sources.
Class 2: **Bring outline for Outline-to-Draft day.**

Week of 10/31: Class 1: **Bring Polished draft for Peer Review.**
Class 2: Introduction to Unit 4. **Major Essay 3 due Thursday night.**

Unit 4: The Researched, Argumentative Proposal

Objectives: -explicate a problem using reasons and evidence
-propose a solution, use reasons and evidence, deal with alternative and objections
-conduct research that uncovers relevant and useful sources
-incorporate and cite sources using MLA

Week of 11/7: Class 1: Discuss Ch. 7 (283-315). Look at Essay 4 planning worksheet.
Class 2: Discuss "Solving for Pattern" (Posted in Unit 4 folder)
Response Essay 4 due Thursday night.

Week of 11/14: Class 1: Discuss Ch. 18. In-class activity: evaluating sources.
Class 2: Discuss Chs. 19 and 20. In-class activity: using and citing sources.
Issue Proposal Due Thursday Night.

Week of 11/21: Class 1: **Bring outline for Outline-to-Draft day.**
Class 2: Thanksgiving

Week of 11/28: Class 1: **Bring Polished Draft for Peer Review.**
Class 2: **Major Essay 4 Due.**

Course Grading Information:

The grades will be distributed as follows:

Essay 1: 10%

Essay 2: 15%

Essay 3: 20%

Essay 4: 25%

Response Essays: 15% (7.5% Each)

Daily Grades and Class Participation: 15%

Intentional plagiarism on any of these essays will result in an irrevocable grade of 0 for that assignment. Two instances of plagiarism will result in failure for the course.

Late Work, Attendance, and Make Up Work Policies:

If you want to do well in this course, you should plan to do all the readings and attend all class meetings. Failure to attend at least three quarters of all meetings will result in a grade of “W” or “F”, depending on whether you were passing. If you arrive after class has begun you will be counted tardy. Three tardies equal one absence. If you arrive more than 10 minutes late, you will be counted absent. Students use their phones in class may be counted absent. Students who do not bring the necessary books to class may also be counted absent.

Student Behavioral Expectations or Conduct Policy:

Students are expected to maintain classroom decorum that shows respect for other students and the instructor. **Bring your book. Be prepared. Be on time. Be attentive. Be off your phone.**

[Click Here for the MCC Attendance/Absences Policy](https://www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies.html)

(<https://www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies.html>)

Click on the link above for the college policies on attendance and absences.



ACADEMIC RESOURCES/POLICIES

Accommodations/ADA Statement:

Any student who is a qualified individual with a disability may request reasonable accommodations to assist with providing equal access to educational opportunities. Students should contact the Accommodations Coordinator as soon as possible to provide documentation and make necessary arrangements. Once that process is completed, appropriate verification will be provided to the student and instructor. Please note that instructors are not required to provide classroom accommodations to students until appropriate verification has been provided by the Accommodations Coordinator. For additional information, please visit www.mclennan.edu/disability.

Students with questions or who require assistance with disabilities involving physical, classroom, or testing accommodations should contact:

disabilities@mclennan.edu

254-299-8122

Room 319, Student Services Center

Title IX:

We care about your safety, and value an environment where students and instructors can successfully teach and learn together. If you or someone you know experiences unwelcomed behavior, we are here to help. Individuals who would like to report an incident of sexual misconduct are encouraged to immediately contact the Title IX Coordinator at titleix@mclennan.edu or by calling Dr. Drew Canham (Chief of Staff for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion/Title IX) at (254) 299-8645. Individuals also may contact the MCC Police Department at 299-8911 or the MCC Student Counseling Center at MCC at (254) 299-8210. The MCC Student Counseling Center is a confidential resource for students. Any student or employee may report sexual harassment anonymously by visiting <http://www.lighthouse-services.com/mclennan/>.

Go to McLennan's Title IX webpage at www.mclennan.edu/titleix/. It contains more information about definitions, reporting, confidentiality, resources, and what to do if you or someone you know is a victim of sexual misconduct, gender-based violence or the crimes of rape, acquaintance rape, sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, dating violence, or domestic violence.

Student Support/Resources:

MCC provides a variety of services to support student success in the classroom and in your academic pursuits to include counseling, tutors, technology help desk, advising, financial aid, etc. A listing of these and the many other services available to our students is available at <http://www.mclennan.edu/campus-resource-guide/>

College personnel recognize that food, housing, and transportation are essential for student success. If you are having trouble securing these resources or want to explore strategies for balancing life and school, we encourage you to contact a Success Coach by calling (254) 299-8226 or emailing SuccessCoach@mclennan.edu. Students may visit the Completion Center Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. to schedule a meeting with a Success Coach and receive additional resources and support to help reach academic and personal goals. Paulanne's Pantry (MCC's food pantry) provides free food by appointment to students, faculty and staff based on household size. Text (254) 870-7573 to schedule a pantry appointment. The Completion Center and pantry are located on the Second Floor of the Student Services Center (SSC).

MCC Foundation Emergency Grant Fund:

Unanticipated expenses, such as car repairs, medical bills, housing, or job loss can affect us all. Should an unexpected expense arise, the MCC Foundation has an emergency grant fund that may be able to assist you. Please go to <https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/scholarships-and-resources/emergencygrant.html> to find out more about the emergency grant. The application can be found at https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/docs/Emergency_Grant_Application.pdf.

MCC Academic Integrity Statement:

Go to www.mclennan.edu/academic-integrity for information about academic integrity, dishonesty, and cheating.

Minimum System Requirements to Utilize MCC's D2L|Brightspace:

Go to <https://www.mclennan.edu/center-for-teaching-and-learning/Faculty-and-Staff-Commons/requirements.html> for information on the minimum system requirements needed to reliably access your courses in MCC's D2L|Brightspace learning management system.

Minimum Technical Skills:

Students should have basic computer skills, knowledge of word processing software, and a basic understanding of how to use search engines and common web browsers.

Backup Plan for Technology:

In the event MCC's technology systems are down, you will be notified via your MCC student email address. Please note that all assignments and activities will be due on the date specified in the Instructor Plan, unless otherwise noted by the instructor.

Email Policy:

McLennan Community College would like to remind you of the policy (<http://www.mclennan.edu/employees/policy-manual/docs/E-XXXI-B.pdf>) regarding college email. All students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to use their McLennan email addresses when conducting college business.

A student's McLennan email address is the preferred email address that college employees should use for official college information or business. Students are expected to read and, if needed, respond in a timely manner to college emails. For more information about your student email account, go to www.mclennan.edu/student-email.

Instructional Uses of Email:

Faculty members can determine classroom use of email or electronic communications. Faculty should expect and encourage students to check the college email on a regular basis. Faculty should inform students in the course syllabus if another communication method is to be used and of any special or unusual expectations for electronic communications.

If a faculty member prefers not to communicate by email with their students, it should be reflected in the course syllabus and information should be provided for the preferred form of communication.

Email on Mobile Devices:

The College recommends that you set up your mobile device to receive McLennan emails. If you need assistance with set-up, you may email Helpdesk@mclennan.edu for help.

You can find help on the McLennan website about connecting your McLennan email account to your mobile device:

- [Email Setup for iPhones and iPads](https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/office/set-up-an-outlook-account-in-the-ios-mail-app-b2de2161-cc1d-49ef-9ef9-81acd1c8e234?ui=en-us&rs=en-us&ad=us) (<https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/office/set-up-an-outlook-account-in-the-ios-mail-app-b2de2161-cc1d-49ef-9ef9-81acd1c8e234?ui=en-us&rs=en-us&ad=us>)
- [Email Setup for Androids](https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/office/set-up-email-in-android-email-app-71147974-7aca-491b-978a-ab15e360434c?ui=en-us&rs=en-us&ad=us) (<https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/office/set-up-email-in-android-email-app-71147974-7aca-491b-978a-ab15e360434c?ui=en-us&rs=en-us&ad=us>)

Forwarding Emails:

You may forward emails that come to your McLennan address to alternate email addresses; however, the College will not be held responsible for emails forwarded to an alternate address that may be lost or placed in junk or spam filters.

For more helpful information about technology at MCC, go to [MCC's Tech Support Cheat Sheet](#) or email helpdesk@mclennan.edu.

Disclaimer:

The resources and policies listed above are merely for informational purposes and are subject to change without notice or obligation. The College reserves the right to change policies and other requirements in compliance with State and Federal laws. The provisions of this document do not constitute a contract.