

Updated 07/18/2023



WACO, TEXAS

**COURSE SYLLABUS
AND
INSTRUCTOR PLAN**

COMPOSITION I

ENGL_1301_D041

SARAH LIEBER

NOTE: This is a 16-week course.

COMPOSITION 1

ENGL 1301 D041

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 Corequisites:

TSI complete in Reading and Writing or the equivalent

Course Notes and Instructor Recommendations:

The course is offered as Dual Credit through Vanguard College Preparatory School.

Instructor Information:

Instructor Name: Sarah Lieber

MCC E-mail: slieber@mclennan.edu

Office Phone Number: (254) 772-8111

Office Location: Brown 111 (Vanguard College Preparatory School) Office/Teacher Conference

Hours: M-T 8:00-8:25, by appointment

Required Text & Materials:

All required texts and materials for this course will be accessed online (adjunct instructors will use Professor Webb's [*Writing Is Easier Than You Think*](#)).

Title: *Fahrenheit 451* Author: Ray Bradbury ISBN: 978-1-4516-7331-9

Title: *Hamlet* Author: William Shakespeare ISBN: 978-0743477123

Title: *Things Fall Apart* Author: Chinua Achebe ISBN: 978-0385474542

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

Methods of Teaching and Learning:

ENGL 1301 is a writing-intensive, discussion-based class. Students will complete reading assignments for daily discussion and short response papers in addition to longer, critical essays. Students will complete one timed in-class essay (without preparation) and one formal, take-home essay (five pages each) for each literary text studied. In addition, students will complete a research paper of at least five pages that properly uses, incorporates, and cites 5 sources.

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Course Objectives and/or Competencies for Communication:

Courses in this category focus on developing ideas and expressing them clearly, considering the effect of the message, fostering understanding, and building the skills needed to communicate persuasively. Courses involve the command of oral, aural, written, and visual literacy skills that enable people to exchange messages appropriate to the subject, occasion, and audience.

- **Critical Thinking (CT)** -- to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
- **Communications Skill (COM)** -- to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication
- **Teamwork (TW)** -- to include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal
- **Personal Responsibility (PR)** -- to include the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making

Course Attendance/Participation Guidelines:

If a student is not in attendance in accordance with the policies/guidelines of the class as outlined in the course syllabus as of the course census date, faculty are required to drop students from their class roster prior to certifying the respective class roster. A student's financial aid will be re-evaluated accordingly and the student will only receive funding for those courses attended as of the course census date.

Before the 60% point of the semester, a student who is absent for 25% or more of a face-to-face or blended course or who misses 25% or more of assigned work for an online course will be withdrawn from the course with a grade of W. A student may also request to be withdrawn with a grade of W before the 60% point of the semester. After the 60% point of the semester, the student may request to be withdrawn if the student is passing, or be assigned the final grade earned at the end of the semester after grades have been updated to reflect missing work.

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Course Outline or Schedule:

The following course outline is tentative and can be changed at the need of the instructor. Any changes will be communicated to students via class, email, and on BrightSpace.

Week 1: Class introduction and syllabus review August 18: Summer Reading Essay Due

Week 2: “The Lottery” and Censorship; *Fahrenheit 451* Part One

Student response/ Literary Analysis

Week 3: *Fahrenheit 451* Part Two Character analysis response

Week 4: *Fahrenheit 451* Part Three

Week 5: *Fahrenheit 451* Essay – focus on outline, evidence, rough draft, and personal revision

Week 6: *Fahrenheit 451* Essay; Begin class reading of *Hamlet*

Peer revision and final copy of *Fahrenheit 451* Essay due

Week 7: *Hamlet* Act I

Passage Analysis/response due

Week 8: *Hamlet* Act II

In-class essay/passage analysis

Group project: film analysis using film critique terms and external reviews

Week 9: *Hamlet* Act III

Week 10: *Hamlet* Act IV

In-class passage analysis

Week 11: *Hamlet* Act V

Hamlet formal essay – focus on analysis of evidence and creation/support of original argument; continual work with peer review and editing process

Week 12: *Hamlet* Essay work in and out of class

Week 13: Background research project – Igbo customs and *Things Fall Apart* Begin research in class

Week 14: Begin reading *Things Fall Apart*

Research project sources (5 minimum) finalized and outline turned in

Week 15: Continue *Things Fall Apart*

Students continue to work on research project draft

Week 16: *Things Fall Apart* Analytical in-class essay

Week 17: Revise and finish research project

Week 18: Exam

Exam will be comprised of 2 passage analyses and one thematic essay that covers all texts from the semester

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Course Grading Information:

Essays and Exams/Presentations: 60%

Daily Work (homework, class work, etc.): 30%

Attendance and Participation (graded discussions, group work, et.): 10%

All assignments will be graded using a letter (and equivalent numerical grade) system. The average of each category of grades will be weighted using the above percentages for the semester. The semester grade is calculated by combining the student's average from the regular semester (80%), and the semester exam (20%).

Academic dishonesty of any kind will not be tolerated. Plagiarism, cheating, etc. will result in a zero for that assignment and consequences as specified by MCC. Plagiarism and cheating are defined as using outside materials or ideas without proper citation and passing them off as the student's own work. This policy includes (but is not limited to) all assignments, evaluations, and essays.

ENGL 1301 Essay Guidelines:

By the end of the semester, students will have written at least 5 essays totaling approximately 4000 words and/or 20 pages. The following guidelines serve as the ratio for determining final grades:

- 40-50% of the grade will come from 3 essays, at least one of which will be written in class with little or no preparation
- 20-30% of the grade will come from a research-based essay of between 5 and 10 pages long, utilizing at least 5 sources
- 10-20% of the grade will come from the final exam, of which at least one-half will be an essay written in class
- 10-20% of the grade will come from daily work, such as homework, quizzes, tests, journals, and participation

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Late Work and Make Up Work Policies:

Late work **WILL NOT** be accepted.

- To be considered on time, work must be turned in at the beginning of the class period.
- For essays/papers/projects, students must turn in a **hard copy** (no emails, Google docs, etc. accepted) at the beginning of class as well as a copy to turnitin.com by 11:59 PM on the due date.
- If a student will miss a class due to a Vanguard event (athletics, debate, etc.), but is present on campus that day, he/she must turn in work before leaving.

Student Behavioral Expectations or Conduct Policy:

- Our classroom operates on a basis of trust and respect for ourselves and for each other. Students must respect the rights, property, and ideas of each other and every member of the community in order to promote a positive classroom environment as well as constructive channels of academic and social communication.
- Students must be in class with all materials, texts, and assignments on time every day. Students who are absent should contact another student in order to receive notes and the day's assignment or should contact me directly.
- Students are expected to follow the General Conduct Policy as established in the Highlander Guide.

[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. Your instructor may have additional guidelines specific to this course.

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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 2542998122 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 acting Title IX Coordinator at titleix@mclennan.edu or by calling, Dr. Claudette Jackson, (Accommodations/Title IX) at (254) 299-8465. MCC employees are mandatory reporters and must report incidents immediately to the Title IX Coordinator. Individuals may also contact the MCC Police Department at (254) 299-8911 or the MCC Student Counseling Center 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/>

Academic Support and Tutoring is here to help students with all their course-related needs. Specializing in one-on-one tutoring, developing study skills, and effectively writing essays. Academic Support and Tutoring can be found in the Library and main floor of the Learning Commons. This service is available to students in person or through Zoom. You can contact the Academic Support and Tutoring team via Zoom or email (ast@mclennan.edu) by going to our website (<https://www.mclennan.edu/academic-support-and-tutoring/>).

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 either MCC CREW – Campus Resources Education Web by calling (254) 299-8561 or by emailing crew@mclennan.edu or a Success Coach by calling (254) 299-8226 or emailing SuccessCoach@mclennan.edu. Both are located in the Completion Center located on the second floor of the Student Services Center (SSC) which is open Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Paulanne's Pantry (MCC's food pantry) provides free food by appointment to students, faculty and staff. To schedule an appointment, go to https://mclennan.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_07byXd7eB8iTqJg. Both the Completion Center and Paulanne's 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. The unauthorized use of artificial intelligence (AI) for classwork can be a violation of the College's General Conduct Policy. Whether AI is authorized in a course and the parameters in which AI can be used in a course will be outlined by each instructor.

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

Go to <https://www.mclennan.edu/center-for-teachingandlearning/FacultyandStaffCommons/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/studentemail.

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](#)
- [Email Setup for Androids](#)

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.