



WACO, TEXAS

**COURSE SYLLABUS
AND
INSTRUCTOR PLAN**

COMPOSITION II

ENGL 1302.O280

Dr. Danny Rodriguez

NOTE: This is an 8-week Online course.

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Instructor Information:

Instructor Name: Dr. Danny Rodriguez

MCC Email: drodriguez@mclennan.edu

Office Phone Number: (254) 299-8956

Office Location: FOB 201

Office/Teacher Conference Hours: 12:30 pm – 3:30 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays and by appointment

Zoom: <https://mclennan.zoom.us/j/6901621011>

Office Hours

I will always be available for my office hours. You can visit with me about anything related to our course. If I cancel my office hours, I will notify the class and reschedule my office hours.

Email

I will respond to an email within 48 hours. If you do not receive a response within 48 hours, please contact me.

Course Description

Intensive study of and practice in the strategies and techniques for developing research-based expository and persuasive texts. Emphasis on effective and ethical rhetorical inquiry, including primary and secondary research methods; critical reading of verbal, visual, and multimedia texts; systematic evaluation, synthesis, and documentation of information sources; and critical thinking about evidence and conclusions.

Prerequisites and/or Corequisites

ENGL 1301 or is equivalent with a grade of C or better or consent of Division Chair.

Course Notes and Instructor Recommendations:

Students will need to access MCC's email system, MCC's Brightspace system, Brightspace's Turnitin Feature, and MCC's library's collection of databases.

Technical Requirements

In this course, students will need reliable access to the internet and a computer (e.g., laptop). Students will submit all drafts (first and final) in electronic form via Brightspace.

Recommended Programs

Students will need access to Microsoft Office 2007 or newer. If you use another software, such as Google Docs, please always submit a PDF file. *If you fail to submit a Word or PDF file when submitting an assignment, you may earn a zero.*

Using Brightspace

All course materials are available on Brightspace, and all major assignments will be submitted via Brightspace. Additionally, I will post grades, announcements, etc. through Brightspace. It is the responsibility of a student to regularly access Brightspace.

Turnitin

This course will use the services provided by Turnitin, which allows the instructor to use Turnitin and review all submitted essay assignments.

Required Texts & Materials

All readings will be available on Brightspace.

MCC Bookstore Website

<http://www.mclennan.edu/bookstore/>

Methods of Teaching and Learning

Instruction methods will include an orientation assignment, recorded lectures with visual aids, required readings, (potential) quizzes, writing and revision days, conferences, multiple essay assignments, peer-review workshops, self-review assignments, and a final exam. Major Essay #1 and Major Essay #2 will require a submission of a first and (a revised) final draft.

Course Objectives and/or Competencies

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, 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.

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

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1. Demonstrate knowledge of individual and collaborative writing processes.
2. Develop ideas with appropriate support and attribution.
3. Write in a style appropriate to audience and purpose.
4. Read, reflect, and respond critically to a variety of texts.
5. Use edited American English in academic essays.

Course Grading Information

A final grade will be based on a sum of the weighted average of participation, short essays, major essays, and a final exam (see description of assignments below). To pass this course, students must complete all major essay assignments.

Standard of Evaluation

Your final course grade will be derived as follows:

Argumentative Essay #1	5%
Argumentative Essay #2	5%
Argumentative Essay #3	5%
Major Essay #1	15%
Issue Proposal and Annotated Bibliography	20%
Major Essay #2	25%
Final Exam	10%
Participation	15%
Total:	100%

Assignment of Letter Grades

A = 90 – 100

B = 80 – 89.99

C = 70 – 79.99

D = 60 – 69.99

F = 0 – 59.99

If a student has questions about any grade, please meet with me during my office hours and bring questions.

Description of Assignments

Reuse Policy

All writing must be new and original work. Students cannot reuse previous essays. If a student

submits unoriginal work, this student will receive a zero on the assignment. In cases of plagiarism, even self-plagiarism, you cannot resubmit a new assignment.

MLA

For this course, our citation style is MLA. In addition to class meetings on MLA, here is an online resource.

Participation

Students will be evaluated on their completion and submission of weekly work, which may include required readings and videos, writing assignments, peer-review workshops, self-review assignments, and, ideally, daily writing. Since this course is an asynchronous course, your weekly participation will determine your attendance in this course.

Argumentative Essay #1

In ENGL 1302, we will learn about the different types of arguments you can construct. We will discuss Arguments of Fact, Arguments of Definition, Arguments of Evaluation, Causal Arguments, and Proposal Arguments. In this essay, select ONE of these five argumentative styles and prove an argument. You may select the target audience and topic for this essay. This essay should be in MLA format (e.g., Times New Roman, size 12, double space your essay, etc.). Additionally, it should be a minimum of two complete pages (not including your Works Cited page), include a minimum of one credible source, and include a Works Cited page. ***You can only use an argumentative style once as you complete your argumentative essays.***

Argumentative Essay #2

In ENGL 1302, we will learn about the different types of arguments you can construct. We will discuss Arguments of Fact, Arguments of Definition, Arguments of Evaluation, Causal Arguments, and Proposal Arguments. In this essay, select ONE of these five argumentative styles and prove an argument. You may select the target audience and topic for this essay. This essay should be in MLA format (e.g., Times New Roman, size 12, double space your essay, etc.). Additionally, it should be a minimum of two complete pages (not including your Works Cited page), include a minimum of one credible source, and include a Works Cited page. ***You can only use an argumentative style once as you complete your argumentative essays.***

Argumentative Essay #3

In ENGL 1302, we will learn about the different types of arguments you can construct. We will discuss Arguments of Fact, Arguments of Definition, Arguments of Evaluation, Causal Arguments, and Proposal Arguments. In this essay, select ONE of these five argumentative styles and prove an argument. You may select the target audience and topic for this essay. This essay should be in MLA format (e.g., Times New Roman, size 12, double space your essay, etc.). Additionally, it should be a minimum of two complete pages (not including your Works Cited

page), include a minimum of one credible source, and include a Works Cited page. *You can only use an argumentative style once as you complete your argumentative essays.*

Major Essay #1

In this major essay, select ONE of the commercials listed below. After watching the commercial of your choosing, identify the target audience of this commercial. Then, write an essay, arguing how and why this commercial is persuasive to its target audience. This essay should be in MLA format (e.g., Times New Roman, size 12, double space your essay, etc.). Additionally, it should be a minimum of two complete pages (not including the Works Cited page) and include a Works Cited page, which will only cite the commercial.

Issue Proposal and Annotated Bibliography

The first page of this document will include your issue proposal. In it, you will state the topic of your research, the relevancy and importance of this topic, a potential argument that you can make in Major Essay #2, and potential target audiences and naysayers for a future argument. Your issue proposal must be a minimum of 250 words.

The second page and the rest of this document will include your annotated bibliography. Find, evaluate, and read at least FIVE sources on a topic of your choosing. Then, draft two body paragraphs about each source:

- What is the overall claim of the source? What reasoning does it use? What kind of evidence does it incorporate? Is it persuasive (review your notes on audience selection)?
- How could you potentially use this source in a future paper?

Each body paragraph should be a minimum of five complete sentences.

Major Essay #2

After completing your Issue Proposal and Annotated Bibliography, construct and prove your position on this topic. Before you begin to write, identify a target audience. Your target audience should determine the structure of your essay (see notes on different kinds of arguments). After deciding on an audience, create an introduction that introduces your topic, acknowledges what has been said about your topic, includes an argumentative thesis, and explains how and why this topic is still important. Then, construct a body paragraph (or two) to prove each reason. Be sure to contextualize, incorporate, and analyze relevant evidence. Before you conclude your essay, you should summarize and respond to at least one naysayer. This essay should be a minimum of five complete pages (not including your Works Cited page). Additionally, your essay has to be in MLA format (i.e., Times New Roman, size 12, double space your essay, include a Works Cited page, and have in-text citations). Finally, your essay has to incorporate five sources.

Final Exam

Create a visual argument. You may select the topic and target audience for this visual argument. Your visual argument can take many forms: a video, a poster, an infographic, a comic strip, etc. During your video presentation of your visual argument, you will state your argument, target audience, and how your visual argument supports your position. Then, you will summarize your work process (e.g., the opportunities and challenges of creating a visual argument). Your presentation must be a minimum of three minutes and should not exceed five minutes. You can complete this assignment in various ways. For example, you could upload your visual argument AND an audio recording of your presentation. You could also upload a video recording that includes the image and your presentation. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Essay Prompts and Grading Rubrics

Please find and review each prompt and grading rubric for every assignment on Brightspace.

Revision Opportunities

You can revise two minor essays (e.g., Argumentative Essay #1) and/or Major Essay #1. However, you must submit a revision *within a week after receiving a grade*. To submit a revision, complete these steps: 1) Highlight the changes you make in yellow and 2) Upload the revised essay to Brightspace. *If you fail to follow any of these steps, your revised essay will not be accepted.*

Classroom Policies

Attendance

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.

Since this course is an asynchronous course, your weekly participation will determine your attendance in this course. If you must miss class due to an emergency (see more below) or an excused absence (review MCC's full policy on excused student absences), it is your

responsibility to 1) keep up with the course and 2) request notes from a peer (or visit me during my office hours).

Feedback

For minor assignments, you should receive some form of feedback within three days. For major assignments, ideally, you should receive some form of feedback within a week.

Videos

If you need subtitles for videos on Brightspace, please click “CC.”

Student Examples

In our course shell, you will find some student examples. Each example is not the only way to write a specific essay or the standard. Instead, each example is simply a visual example for you to review. If you plagiarize a student example, you will receive a zero for the assignment and will not be able to resubmit it for a higher grade.

Evaluation and Late Work

You will find prompts and grading rubrics for every assignment on Brightspace. While we will review every prompt and grading rubric as a class, you may want to read these documents over to express any question or comment that you may have **BEFORE** you submit a final draft. **For every due date, you must upload a draft to Brightspace. Late assignments will NOT be accepted.** If you have any technological issues, simply email your final draft to me on the due date. *If you submit an essay before it is due and I grade it and provide feedback, you cannot resubmit another draft based on my feedback (even if you can meet the deadline).*

Emergencies

If an emergency occurs, preventing you from attending class and/or submitting an assignment, please submit documentation that verifies the emergency within five days. We can, then, discuss potential make-up scenarios.

Student Behavioral Expectations

Students are expected to adhere to MCC’s General Conduct Policy both inside and outside of the classroom. Our classroom environment should be productive, collaborative, and respectful. We should all respect everyone’s comments. Do not distract or disrespect your classmates. If you cause a classroom disruption, which includes sleeping in class, talking in class when you should not be talking, excessive lateness, making and/or receiving phone calls or text messages, listening to music, completing readings or work for another class, etc., I will ask you to leave the classroom immediately. ***Since this course is an asynchronous course, you are expected to act professionally when participating and communicating with our class.***

Academic Integrity

As stated in MCC's information about Academic Integrity, "the term 'cheating' includes, but is not limited to: (1) use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations; (2) dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the professor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems or carrying out other assignments; or (3) the acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a member of the MCC faculty or staff." Additionally, "the term 'plagiarism' includes, but is not limited to, the use, by paraphrase or direct quotation, of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment. It also includes the unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials." If you use AI to write some or an entire essay, you are plagiarizing. Finally, "collusion" includes, but is not limited to: The unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit." Students who commit any of these academic violations will face immediate disciplinary action. After a first offense, a student will receive a zero on the assignment. If a second offense occurs, all violations will be presented to MCC's Coordinator of Discipline, who may determine additional penalties.

Course Schedule

Potential Course Modifications

This syllabus represents diligent planning based on knowledge at the beginning of the semester. Further adaptations may be required. In the event it is necessary to update academic policies, students will be provided with as much notice as possible regarding any subsequent course changes. Simply put, if necessary, the professor has the right to change the syllabus. To ensure you do well, **KEEP UP WITH THE SYLLABUS.**

Week 1 10/16 – 10/22	Required Readings "Syllabus," "AE Prompts and Rubrics," "Thesis/Purpose Statements," and "Organizing an Essay" Required Videos "Writing an Introduction," "Writing a Body Paragraph," "Creating a Counterargument," "Writing a Conclusion," "Making Different Arguments," and "Audience" (see "Week 1")
<i>Due</i>	<i>Orientation Assignment Introducing Myself (Survey) Argumentative Essay #1</i>

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Week 2 10/23 – 10/29	Required Readings “Major Essay #1: Prompt and Rubric,” “AE Prompts and Rubrics,” and “Peer-Review Workshop Guidelines” Required Videos “Rhetorical Appeals” (see “Week 2”)
<i>Due</i>	<i>Argumentative Essay #2</i>
Week 3 10/30 – 11/5	Required Readings “Major Essay #1: Prompt and Rubric” and “AE Prompts and Rubrics” (see “Week 3”)
<i>Due</i>	<i>Draft of Major Essay #1</i> <i>Peer-Review Workshop</i> <i>Argumentative Essay #3</i>
Week 4 11/6 – 11/12	Required Readings “Major Essay #1: Prompt and Rubric” (see “Week 4”)
<i>Due</i>	<i>Major Essay #1</i>
Week 5 11/13 – 11/19	Required Readings “IP and AB: Prompt and Rubric” (see “Week 5”)
<i>Due</i>	<i>Issue Proposal and Annotated Bibliography</i>
Week 6 11/20 – 11/26	Required Readings “Major Essay #2: Prompt and Rubric” (see “Week 6”)
<i>Due</i>	<i>Draft of Major Essay #2</i> <i>Self-Review Assignment</i>
Week 7 11/27 – 12/3	Required Readings “Major Essay #2: Prompt and Rubric” (see “Week 7”)
<i>Due</i>	<i>Major Essay #2</i>
Week 8 12/4 – 12/7	Required Readings “Final Exam”

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	(see “Week 8”)
<i>Due</i>	<i>Final Exam</i>

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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.