

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 II
English 1302.C05

Molly Hunt

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 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 its equivalent with a grade of C or better, or consent of Division Chair.

Course Notes and Instructor Recommendations:

This course is a lecture format, so attendance is the key to your success. All work and announcements will be posted on Brightspace, so it is up to you to keep track of the assignments and deadlines.

Technical Requirements

- Students enrolled in this course need regular, reliable access to the internet and a computer (preferably a desktop or laptop computer). Also, students should regularly install updates to their browsers to ensure that they are using the most up-to-date systems.

Recommended Programs

- Microsoft Office, Google Drive (available to all students via their MCC email accounts) or OpenOffice.org – **please do not use Pages**, Word Perfect, or MS Works as your word processing software.
- Adobe Reader

Using Brightspace:

All course materials are posted on Brightspace, and all essays must be submitted via Brightspace. Hence, students should check Brightspace regularly to keep up with course assignments. Please familiarize yourself with this course management software. The course can be accessed at brightspace.mclennan.edu.

Instructor Information:

Instructor Name: **Molly Hunt**

MCC Email: **mhunt@mclennan.edu**

Office Phone Number: 254-299-8960 (please leave a voicemail message)

Office Location: FOB 112

Office/Teacher Conference Hours: **Mondays/Wednesdays 11:00am-1:00pm** **If you need to schedule an alternate time, please email me so we can make that happen.*

Other Instruction Information: Video conferencing on Zoom is also available.

Required Text & Materials:

Title: [Writing is Easier Than You Think](#)

Author: Nicholas Webb

***This is an online textbook written by an MCC professor. Click the title above to access the full textbook. ***

Methods of Teaching and Learning:

Students will be required to access MCC's email system, MCC's Brightspace system, Brightspace's Turnitin feature, and the MCC library's collection of databases.

Instruction methods will include lecture PowerPoints, class discussion boards, reading assignments, group work, writing assignments, quizzes, and written examinations. Most writing assignments will require multiple drafts and revision.

I will post class announcements, the work for each Unit organized week by week, essay assignments, video tutorials and lectures, course dates, course grades, and other helpful tips through Brightspace. You are responsible for checking Brightspace regularly.

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, 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

Learning Outcomes

1. Demonstrate knowledge of individual and collaborative research processes.
2. Develop ideas and synthesize primary and secondary sources within focused academic arguments, including one or more research-based essays.
3. Analyze, interpret, and evaluate a variety of texts for the ethical and logical uses of evidence.

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4. Write in a style that clearly communicates meaning, builds credibility, and inspires belief or action.
5. Write in MLA Style

Course Outline or Schedule:

Week 1

- Introduction. Course Overview, Reading Assignments
- MLK Reading Assignment
- Discuss Essay #1

Week 2

- MLK Holiday
- Critical Thinking strategies – Entering the Conversation
- Outlining and Organizing essay

Week 3

- Editing/Revising and Peer Review
- Writer's Workshop
- **Essay 1 due – Jan. 30 by 11:59pm**

Week 4

- Introduce Essay #2
- Elements of Rogerian Argument
- Introduction to Developing a claim; conducting research

Week 5

- Reading example essays
- Academic language and tone

Week 6

- Thesis invention
- Paragraph Organization

Week 7

- Writing Workshop
- **Essay #2 Due.**

Week 8

- Introduce Essay 3
- Elements of the Toulmin Argument

Week 9

Spring Break

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Week 10

- Analyzing Position Arguments
- Review research and evaluating sources and MLA Format.

Week 11

- Library class. Finding and Evaluating Sources.
- Citing and Documenting Sources

Week 12

- Annotated Bibliography
- Essay #3 Due

Week 13

- Discuss Essay 4
- Creative Pieces that Enter a Larger Conversation

Week 14

- Essay Examples
- Analysis Skills

Week 15

- Peer Review
- Editing and Revising

Week 16

- Essay 4 Due
- Presentations

FINAL EXAMS - May 3-6

*This schedule is subject to change as necessary.

Course Grading Information:

Grades in the course will be based on a sum of the weighted average your daily work, essay, and final exam grades. Daily work grades will be based on the thoroughness and quality of the student's work. Essay and final exam grades will be based on the standards reviewed in class.

Note: **To pass the course, students must complete all major essay assignments.**

Final grades will correspond to the following scale:

A = 90-100 B = 80-89 C = 70-79 D = 60-69 F = 0-59

Course grades will be based on the following approximate percentages:

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Assignment Percentage

Weekly Work/Quizzes	20%
Essays 1	15 %
Essay 2	15%
Essay 3	20%
Essay 4	20%
Final Exam	10%

(Note: I reserve the right to adjust these percentages as necessary)

I am more than happy to discuss any questions students may have concerning the grades they receive. However, I ask that students review their grades and determine what question(s) to ask prior to contacting me.

Late Work, Attendance, and Make Up Work Policies:

Late work: Late work is not accepted.

Attendance:

According to MCC attendance policy, 25% of absences (eight class sessions) may result in being withdrawn from the course with the grade of W or F, depending on whether a student is passing. An absence from a class session will be excused if it is caused by authorized participation in official school functions, personal illness, an illness or a death in the immediate family, or the observance of a religious holy day. Please notify me via e-mail in advance if you are unable to attend any given class session.

Each student absent from class should complete ALL weekly assignments in Brightspace BEFORE the due date. Patterns of late work will be reflected in lower grade for the course in fairness to others who have done their work on time and sometimes at a great sacrifice. If you need help in getting your course work done, please let me know as soon as possible.

Student Behavioral Expectations or Conduct Policy:

Students are expected to maintain classroom decorum that includes respect for other students and the instructor, prompt and regular attendance, and an attitude that seeks to take full advantage of the education opportunity.

Disrespectful comments on discussion boards will not be tolerated. Repeat offenders will be dropped from the course, and they will be reported to MCC's Discipline Coordinator.

[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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C O M M U N I T Y

COLLEGE

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.

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.

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.

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.