

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.D080

Molly Hunt

NOTE: This is a 16-week online course.

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 the Division Chair.

Course Notes and Instructor Recommendations:

You are enrolled in an online course. All of your work will be completed online and submitted through Brightspace. I am available by email, Zoom, phone, etc. for any help you may need. It is important to **follow the work week-by-week on Brightspace** and keep up with due dates. Staying organized is the key to success in this course.

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
- Java
- PowerPoint Viewer

Using Brightspace:

All course materials are posted on Brightspace, and ALL ESSAY assignments will be submitted via Brightspace. Hence, students should check Brightspace regularly to keep up with course assignments. Please familiarize yourself with this course management software.

Turnitin

In order to help students learn proper composition skills and to promote academic honesty, this class will use the services provided by Turnitin. You do not need to make a Turnitin account; your submissions on Brightspace will be automatically linked.

AI

The use of ChatGPT or any form of AI for essay assignments is not permitted in this course. The Turnitin software has an AI detector and any offense will be treated as plagiarism.

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 107

Office/Teacher Conference Hours: Please email me if you would like to set up a time to meet together. I have flexibility on Tuesdays and Thursdays, so let me know what works for you.

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 revisions.

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.

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- 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.
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:

This weekly schedule is subject to change depending on our pace this semester. **ALL due dates for major essays will be on Sunday nights by 11:59 pm. EXCEPT for Essay 4.**

Week 1

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

Week 2

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

Week 3

- Editing/Revising and Peer Review
- Writer's Workshop
- **Essay 1 due – Jan. 28 by 11:59 pm**

Week 4

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

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Week 5

- Reading example essays
- Academic language and tone

Week 6

- Thesis invention
- Paragraph Organization

Week 7

- Writing Workshop
- **Essay #2 Due Feb. 25.** by 11:59 pm

Week 8

- Introduce Essay 3
- Elements of the Toulmin Argument

Week 9

-Spring Break-

Analyzing Position Arguments

Assignments TBA

Week 10

- Review research and evaluating sources and MLA Format.
- Library class. Finding and Evaluating Sources.

Week 11

- Citing and Documenting Sources
- Annotated Bibliography
- **Essay #3 Due March 24.**

Week 12

- Introduce 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 April 26th**
- Presentations

FINAL EXAMS - May 1-4

*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 of your daily work and essay grades. Daily work grades will be based on the thoroughness and quality of the student's work. Essay 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:

Assignment Percentage

Weekly Work/Quizzes	20%
Essay 1	20 %
Essay 2	20%
Essay 3	20%
Essay 4	20%

(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.

Attendance:

For this online course, attendance will be based on keeping up with weekly assignments.

According to MCC attendance policy, **25%** of absences may result in being withdrawn from the course with a 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 College functions, personal illness, an illness or a death in the immediate family, or the observance of a religious holy day. However, even excused absences count toward 25% attendance requirement. Please notify me via e-mail in advance if you are unable to complete work for the week.

Make-up work:

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Each student whether present or absent in class should complete ALL weekly assignments in Brightspace ON or BEFORE the due date. Patterns of late work will be reflected in lower grades 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 coursework done, please let me know as soon as possible.*

Late Work:

Late work is not accepted for daily assignments. Writing assignments, including major essays, will be available for **THREE** more days after the due date; however, 20 points per day will be deducted from your grade. If an essay is late beyond three days, it will NOT be accepted and receive a zero. Reading quizzes and discussion boards will NOT be available for the users after availability ends. Incomplete quizzes and discussion boards will receive a zero.

Student Behavioral Expectations or Conduct Policy:

To create a comfortable learning environment for all present, students are asked to respect their peers. Please respect differences of culture, nationality, values, opinions, and styles. 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.

Academic Integrity

I take all cases of academic dishonesty seriously. I believe academic integrity is the fundamental virtue of any professional community. It is important that students adhere to high standards of professionalism and display academic integrity in their behavior.

Engaging in academic misconduct violates the academic integrity of the institution and is a significant offense. Students involved in any of the following warrants immediate disciplinary action:

Plagiarism: The deliberate appropriation, theft, purchase, or obtaining by any means another's work and the unacknowledged submission or incorporation of that work as one's own offered for credit. Appropriation includes the quoting or paraphrasing of another's work without giving credit.

For further clarification, students will be given a zero for the assignment:

- 1) if they try to submit somebody else's paper;
- 2) if they try to submit a paper that was written for another course;
- 3) if they submit a paper written by someone else – this includes AI;
- 4) if they copy and paste from online sources with obvious intentions to deceive;
- 5) if they fail to paraphrase research sources properly and do not use quotation marks to indicate borrowed text ("patchwriting");
- 6) if they fail to provide proper documentation for the sources they use;

7) if a paper is written on an unassigned or inappropriate topic.

** For students who are retaking this course, you may not reuse essays written in a previous semester, in part or whole. All writing that you submit must be new and original work.

No cases of plagiarism or other forms of dishonest conduct will be tolerated. Anyone caught committing plagiarism on any assignment will be given a failing grade automatically without permission to make it up.

[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.

*** [Click Here for the MCC Academic Integrity Statement](http://www.mclennan.edu/academic-integrity)**

(www.mclennan.edu/academic-integrity)

The link above will provide you with information about academic integrity, dishonesty, and cheating.

10/09/2023



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. 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 may report sexual harassment anonymously by visiting <http://www.lighthouse-services.com/mclennan/>

Additionally, Title IX provides rights and protections for pregnant and newly parenting students. 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 success@mclennan.edu.

Paulanne's Pantry (MCC's food pantry) provides free food by appointment to students, faculty and staff. To schedule an appointment, go to <https://calendly.com/paulannespantry-mcc/15min>.

The CREW, Success Coaches, and Paulanne's Pantry are all located on the second floor of the Student Services building in Success Coaching Services.

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:

Please view our [Academic integrity statement](#) for more 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-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/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](#) 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.