INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Instructor: Cheylyn Brown (she/her)

Email: cbrown4@lit.edu *preferred method of contact*

Office Phone: 409-245-8284

Office Location: TC 112B

Office Hours: By Appointment Only

CREDIT
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 hours lecture, 0 hours lab)

MODE OF INSTRUCTION
Face to Face

PREREQUISITE/CO-REQUISITE:
TSI Complete in Reading and Writing.

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, communicating, and critical analysis.

COURSE OBJECTIVES
Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to
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.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND MATERIALS
Composing Ourselves and Our World Web Version | PDF
The instructor will provide information for supplemental required reading resources.
ATTENDANCE POLICY
Students are expected to show up to class regularly. However, I understand that there are times you may need to miss due to life circumstances. Students are allowed three unexcused absences for the semester. Following those three absences, missing class will only be excused for extenuating circumstances and on a case-by-case basis. Unexcused absences will result in a loss of 5 points per absence from your final grade. If you have reached your absence quota and need to miss, you are expected to communicate with me. If I don’t hear from you, additional absences will be unexcused and will count against your final grade. Also, I take attendance at the beginning of class. If you come in after I have taken attendance, you will be counted absent for the day.

DROP POLICY
If you wish to drop a course, you are responsible for initiating and completing the drop process by the specified drop date as listed on the Academic Calendar. If you stop coming to class and fail to drop the course, you will earn an “F” in the course.

STUDENT EXPECTED TIME REQUIREMENT
For every hour in class (or unit of credit), students should expect to spend at least two to three hours per week studying and completing assignments. For a 3-credit-hour class, students should prepare to allocate approximately six to nine hours per week outside of class in a 16-week session OR approximately twelve to eighteen hours in an 8-week session. Online/Hybrid students should expect to spend at least as much time in this course as in the traditional, face-to-face class.

COURSE CALENDAR: Deadlines subject to change

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>READINGS (Due on this Date)</th>
<th>ASSIGNMENTS (Due on this Date)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan 22</td>
<td>Intro to the Course</td>
<td>See Blackboard</td>
<td>See Blackboard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan 23-27</td>
<td>Student Conferences</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb 26</td>
<td>Narrative Unit</td>
<td>See Blackboard</td>
<td>See Blackboard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 26</td>
<td>Informative/Multimedia Unit</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr 30</td>
<td>Research Unit</td>
<td>See Blackboard</td>
<td>See Blackboard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 5</td>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td></td>
<td>See Blackboard</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
COURSE EVALUATION
Final grades will be calculated according to the following criteria:

Essay #1 10%
Essay #2 15%
Persuasive Research Essay--Common Assignment 15%
Short Writing Assignments 15%
Daily Grades 15%
Participation/Attendance 10%
Final Examination Essay 20%
Total 100%

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

LIT does not use +/- grading scales

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY
Students found to be committing academic dishonesty (cheating, plagiarism, or collusion) may receive disciplinary action. Students need to familiarize themselves with the institution’s Academic Dishonesty Policy available in the Student Catalog & Handbook at http://catalog.lit.edu/content.php?catoid=3&navoid=80#academic-dishonesty.

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS
The latest technical requirements, including hardware, compatible browsers, operating systems, etc. can be online at https://lit.edu/online-learning/online-learning-minimum-computer-requirements. A functional broadband internet connection, such as DSL, cable, or WiFi is necessary to maximize the use of online technology and resources.
DISABILITIES STATEMENT
The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are federal anti-discrimination statutes that provide comprehensive civil rights for persons with disabilities. LIT provides reasonable accommodations as defined in the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, to students with a diagnosed disability. The Special Populations Office is located in the Eagles’ Nest Room 129 and helps foster a supportive and inclusive educational environment by maintaining partnerships with faculty and staff, as well as promoting awareness among all members of the Lamar Institute of Technology community. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Special Populations Coordinator at (409)-951-5708 or email specialpopulations@lit.edu. You may also visit the online resource at Special Populations - Lamar Institute of Technology (lit.edu).

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT STATEMENT
It is the responsibility of all registered Lamar Institute of Technology students to access, read, understand and abide by all published policies, regulations, and procedures listed in the LIT Catalog and Student Handbook. The LIT Catalog and Student Handbook may be accessed at www.lit.edu. Please note that the online version of the LIT Catalog and Student Handbook supersedes all other versions of the same document.

STARFISH
LIT utilizes an early alert system called Starfish. Throughout the semester, you may receive emails from Starfish regarding your course grades, attendance, or academic performance. Faculty members record student attendance, raise flags and kudos to express concern or give praise, and you can make an appointment with faculty and staff all through the Starfish homepage. You can also login to Blackboard or MyLIT and click on the Starfish link to view academic alerts and detailed information. It is the responsibility of the student to pay attention to these emails and information in Starfish and consider taking the recommended actions. Starfish is used to help you be a successful student at LIT.
ADDITIONAL COURSE POLICIES/INFORMATION

Communication: Email is my preferred means of communication. Please allow up to 24 weekday hours for a response. I do not answer emails on the weekend. All correspondence should be professional and specific. I also frequently utilize the Announcements section on Blackboard, primarily for cancellation of classes or updates to due dates and other important info, so please make sure you’re logging in and checking those regularly.

Late Work Policy: Late assignments are not accepted. If there is a legitimate emergency, i.e. death in the family, medical emergencies, or natural disasters (we do live in SETX), please notify me prior to assignment due date and I will do my best to work with you. IT IS THE STUDENT’S RESPONSIBILITY TO INFORM THE INSTRUCTOR PRIOR TO THE DUE DATE. Failure to do so will result in a zero for late work.

Addressing Tech/BB Issues: All of the work in this course will be submitted through Blackboard. It is the student’s responsibility to make sure they understand how to operate the platform--claiming you didn’t know how to work Blackboard will not excuse missed deadlines/missing assignments. Likewise, technology issues will not excuse late assignments. Please make sure you are not waiting until the last minute. As a backup, if there is an error with Blackboard, the student may attach the assignment to an email and submit it prior to the deadline.*

**This is for extenuating circumstances only. Regularly submitting assignments via email will result in said assignments being marked as missing.

Cultural Awareness: Cultural awareness is very important in this classroom. You may be required to read texts that challenge your beliefs or take you out of your comfort zone. You may share a classroom with people vastly different than yourself. I expect respect in my classroom at all times. Be aware that our classroom is a diverse environment and that you need to be conscious and respectful of others’ differences. Also, I encourage you to embrace those differences! Challenging our thinking and participating in scholarly debates are how we grow as learners. Disrespect or discrimination of any kind will not be tolerated.

Netiquette: Because we are operating in an online space, it is essential that you practice proper netiquette at all times. All correspondence should be professional and grammatically correct. Any collaboration online must be professional, respectful, and thoughtful. Inflammatory behavior and/or remarks will negatively impact the student’s grade.
An Extra Note on Plagiarism: All work submitted must be your own work. Plagiarism must be avoided. According to the statement from the handbook, “Plagiarism is defined as appropriating the literary composition of another person, including the parts, passages, or language of that writing, and passing off the appropriated material as one’s own. Plagiarism is the failure to give credit or citation to one’s sources of information. It includes the failure to use conventional methods of documentation for material quoted or paraphrased.” Students who plagiarize on an assignment will receive a zero on said assignment but may be given the chance to redo for partial credit at instructor discretion. Continued acts of plagiarism will result in the student failing the course.

MLA Format: Students must follow the rules of MLA formatting to succeed in this course. Formatting includes cover page, headings, page numbers, in-text citations, and works cited. All assignments must be typed, 12-point Times New Roman font, and double spaced.

Attendance and Tardies: You should be logging into the course every day. Failure to do so may result in the student missing information needed to be successful in class. I communicate predominantly via the announcements in Blackboard when announcing changes to course schedule/due dates, important class assignments, etc. It is your responsibility to be aware of upcoming due dates, changes in course material, course expectations, etc. Likewise, it is the student’s responsibility to make sure they are showing up to class on time. Showing up to class tardy may result in the student being counted absent or denied entrance to class.

Student Expectations: Students are expected to practice self-advocacy and ownership of the learning process. If there are any issues, it is the student’s responsibility to contact the instructor. Also, a lot of the learning we do in class is self-directed, includes collaboration, and requires intrinsic motivation on the part of the student. I do my best to offer hands-on, individualized instruction and feedback, and I utilize the workshop method frequently in my classroom. Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated.