INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION
Instructor: Brandon Greer
Email: bgreer@lit.edu
Office Phone: (409) 247-4870
Office Location: TC Room 222
Office Hours: Monday 7:00 AM – 2:00 PM, Tuesday 7:00 AM – 2:00 PM, Wednesday 7:00 AM – 2:00 PM, Thursday 7:00 AM – 12:00 PM, Friday 7:00 AM – 11:00 AM

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

MODE OF INSTRUCTION
Online

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.
Core Objectives

1. Critical Thinking Skills: To include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information.

2. Communication Skills: To include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication.

3. Personal Responsibility: To include the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND MATERIALS
An electronic device with access to the Internet.

ATTENDANCE POLICY
This is an asynchronous course. Students are not required to attend any online class. However, students are expected to check BlackBoard and their LIT e-mail daily. Students who do not engage with the class daily will fall behind.

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

<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>
</table>
| Week One: 3/20/23 – | Orientation PowerPoint
                  | “English Is Not Normal” by John McWhorter        | Orientation Quiz
                  | 3/26/23
                  | The Introduction to the Introduction to English PowerPoint
                  | Introduce Yourself
                  | Discussion Board
                  | Nouns and Pronouns PowerPoint
                  | Nouns and Pronouns Quiz
                  | Getting Ahead with the MLA Header PowerPoint
                  | Quiz
                  | Verbs Quiz


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week Two: 3/27/23 – 4/2/23</th>
<th>Adverbs, Adjectives, Articles, and Alliteration PowerPoint</th>
<th>&quot;Your Ability to Can Even: A Defense of Internet Linguistics&quot; by Tia Baheri</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MLA Formatting PowerPoint</td>
<td>Adverbs, Adjectives, and Articles Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cunning Conjunctions and Preppy Prepositions PowerPoint</td>
<td>Conjunctions and Prepositions Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thesis Statement PowerPoint</td>
<td>Thesis Statement Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Interjections! PowerPoint</td>
<td>_interjections Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>How to Revise Your Paper PowerPoint</td>
<td>Narrative Essay Early Draft Due on Sunday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Seven Cs of Good Writing PowerPoint</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To Infinitive and Beyond PowerPoint</td>
<td>Sentences Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Rhetorical Analysis PowerPoint</td>
<td>Narrative Essay Peer Review Due Wednesday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>How to Be Unfazed by Phrases PowerPoint</td>
<td>Infinitives and Gerunds Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A Place for Everything: The Works Cited Page PowerPoint</td>
<td>Rhetorical Analysis Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Phrases Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Works Cited Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Narrative Essay Final Draft on Sunday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rhetorical Analysis Outline Due on Sunday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week Four: 4/10/23 – 4/16/23</td>
<td>Fragments of Memories: Common Sentence Errors PowerPoint</td>
<td>Sentence Errors Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>In-Text Citations and When to Use Them PowerPoint</td>
<td>In-Text Citation Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Punctuation! PowerPoint</td>
<td>Punctuation Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Citations Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Comma Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Quotations and Apostrophes Quiz</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Week Five: 4/17/23 – 4/23/23 | The Annotated Bibliography PowerPoint  
The University Library Presentation PowerPoint  
Finding Good Sources PowerPoint  
How to Read a Research Article PowerPoint  
Looking up an Article Together Video Lecture  
Hyphens-Dashes—(Parentheses) and [Brackets] PowerPoint  
Fallacious Reasoning: How to Keep from Looking Like a Fool PowerPoint  
CAPITALIZATION, Abbr., and Numbers PowerPoint | Annotated Bibliography Quiz  
Sources Quiz  
Hyphens and Dashes Quiz  
Fallacious Reasoning Quiz  
Capitalization and Abbreviation Quiz  
Rhetorical Analysis Peer Review on Wednesday  
Rhetorical Analysis Final Draft on Sunday |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| Week Six: 4/24/23 – 4/30/23 | How to Persuade and Influence People PowerPoint  
Elements of Style PowerPoint  
Common Mistakes in Papers and How to Avoid Them PowerPoint  
Writing is Rewriting PowerPoint  
How to Avoid Bias in Writing PowerPoint  
Spelling Tipps and Trickks PowerPoint | Elements of Style Quiz  
Common Mistakes Quiz  
Spelling Quiz  
Annotated Bibliography Due on Wednesday  
Persuasive Essay Early Draft Due Sunday |
| Week Seven: 5/1/23 – | Boiling It All Down: The Things You Must Need to  
“The American Scholar” by Ralph Waldo Emerson | Grammar Basics Quiz  
Introduction Quiz  
In Conclusion Quiz |
| 5/7/23 | Know about Grammar PowerPoint  
Introduction to  
Introductions PowerPoint  
In Conclusion PowerPoint  
The American Scholar:  
What You Can Do As a  
Writer and Reader PowerPoint | Persuasive Essay Peer  
Review Due Wednesday  
Persuasive Essay Final  
Draft Due Sunday |
|---|---|
| Week Eight:  
5/8/23 – 5/11/23 | Final Exam Due  
5/8/2023 |

**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%

**GRADING 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 home page. 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**
Due dates are subject to change.

**Special Populations:** If a student requires accommodations while on LIT campus, they must contact Jarmarcus Corks in the Special Populations office in Student Services. If a dual credit student has accommodations through their school’s special populations office, they must still contact LIT’s Special Populations office at specialpopulations@lit.edu.
**Plagiarism/Cheating:** Academic Dishonesty is a crime that Lamar Institute of Technology and I take seriously. Most colleges expel cheating students. Examples of academic dishonesty include but are not limited to:

Directly copying a source into an essay without citing the original source.

Paraphrasing a source without citing the original source.

Paying someone to complete an assignment, having a friend or family member complete an assignment, or using Artificial Intelligence to write a paper. If a paper has a student’s name on it, I expect to see that student’s work.

Making minor changes to an original source while still retaining up to 75% of the structure of the sentence.

Taking a quiz or test with another student, giving the answers to a quiz or test to another student, or Googling the answers to the quiz or test. My quizzes are not open-book quizzes. Students are only allowed the notes they have taken over an assignment during a quiz.

**How to Know If Something Is Not Plagiarism:** Generally, plagiarism only covers things that are not general knowledge. If a student makes the claim that the sky is blue, then they do not have to cite where they got that information, because it is something that 90% of the world already knows. However, if a student describes why the sky is blue, they have to cite their source, since that is not common knowledge.

**How to Avoid Plagiarism:** First, students should practice good paraphrasing and rewrite sentences in their own words. Part of the course will be discussions, assignments, and videos over good paraphrasing. Also, when students turn in their assignments, they should get a visible score from SafeAssign. SafeAssign is not perfect, and I have found plagiarism in papers with as low as a 10% score. If a paper flags anything in SafeAssign, a student must rewrite and resubmit the paper until the percentage is at zero.

**Late Work:** If a student turns in their work late, they will get a zero. Once an assignment is turned in late, it cannot be redone or resubmitted. It is important that students not get behind in a class. Typically, if a student gets in the habit of turning in all assignments within the first three weeks, they can build that habit for the rest of the class.

**Make-Up Work:** I can make accommodations on deadlines for extenuating circumstances (family emergencies, sickness, mental health, chronic health issues, etc.) However, communication is necessary in these circumstances. **I need to know at least three days before a deadline if a student cannot complete an assignment on time.** The new deadline will be three days after original deadline. If a student asks for more time on an assignment the day before or the day it is due, I will not respond to their e-mail.

**Diversity and Inclusion:** LIT wishes to create a safe and understanding environment for students of all genders, ethnicities, religions, sexualities, and backgrounds. Literature in
particular is a landscape full of authors with various personalities and cultures. I personally embrace diversity of thought and opinions. In class discussions, I want to be sure that everyone has the chance to voice their thoughts on a matter without unnecessary judgment. However, slurs or jokes pointed at minority groups are unacceptable, even if the student is a member of that group. I expect all students to treat each other and themselves with respect in my classroom. Students will read works that are challenging and controversial in this class. Please ensure classroom conversation remains civil.

**COVID-19 Requirements:** LIT no longer requires masks in the classroom. However, you are still allowed to wear a mask if it makes you feel comfortable. If you receive a positive COVID test, please do not come to class. Instead, send me an e-mail/phone call/text, and I will do what I can to ensure you have access to daily lectures and assignments.