

LAMAR UNIVERSITY
English and Foreign Language Division
Course Syllabus, Fall 2010
Interactive English 1301-66F (3.0 credits)

Instructor: Ms. Nadine Pearce
Office Location: Maes 28
Telephone: 880-8594
Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

E-Mail: pearceng@my.lamar.edu or through Blackboard

Send only personal messages to me through e-mail that you don't want others to read. Questions concerning course work should be posted to ASK THE PROFESSOR found on the Course Contents Weekly pages. Chances are that if you have a question concerning the course work, others will, too, so before posting a question, check ASK THE PROFESSOR to see if the problem you're having has already been answered. If you have technical problems with the course, contact the HELP desk, 880-7849. I respond to e-mails in the evenings Monday through Sunday; I only answer phone messages Monday and Wednesday during office hours.

Required Texts/Materials:

- ***Some Ways of Writing/A Writer's Way*, Jim Sanderson (Dr. Sanderson is the LU Director of Composition), available at Lamar University Bookstore only**
- ***Little Brown Handbook*, 11th edition, ISBN-13: 978-0-205-615171-9**
- ***Longman Reader*, 9th edition, ISBN-13: 978-0-205-63256-5**
- **A computer with high speed internet and a back-up computer in case your primary one malfunctions.**
- **A word processing program that reads .doc files and submits all assigned work in .doc or .rtf extension**

Prerequisites:

- **Successful completion of the THEA writing test.**

Student Learning Outcomes:

- **Students will compose expository essays with a clear thesis and support.**
- **Students will compose clear and fluent sentences.**

- Students will demonstrate a knowledge of Standard English grammar and punctuation.
- Students will write in a style appropriate for the essay's purpose and audience.
- Students will use all the steps in the writing process and make use of peer and instructor feedback for revisions.
- Students will utilize critical thinking in response to readings and in written essays.
- Toward the end of the course, students will write at least one successful argumentative or analytical essay.

To achieve student outcomes, you will need to:

- Read actively and critically.
- Write based on purpose and audience.
- Reflect upon the readings and course lectures in postings on the **DISCUSSION BOARD**.
- Participate in conversations and peer essay reviews on the **DISCUSSION BOARD**.
- Brainstorm, construct, revise, and edit effective arguments.
- Master grammar rules and sentence structure patterns by studying the Sanderson manual and taking the practice tests.

Course Requirements:

- You must pass English 1301 with a "C" or better in order to enroll in English 1302 or English 1374.
- I'll assign readings and exercises evidencing rhetorical patterns of development, form, critical thinking, and grammar and ask for your responses to those assignments in **DISCUSSION BOARD** postings, assignments, and/or quizzes.
- You will write four essays based upon the Rhetorical Modes, with at least one essay being argumentative.
- You'll take one English departmental grammar/punctuation exam as your final exam. During the course, I will assign ten sets of five grammar questions which mimic the final exam, with each set worth ten points. Please complete each set as assigned and submit for grading.
- You will make a weekly posting to the "Understanding Quotient" Discussion site. Use a 1-10 rating for understanding level, with 10 being the highest. In addition, report specifically those areas that you learned well and those that you are still experiencing problems with.

Course Policies:

- **Logging onto the Course:** Even though we will meet every Monday and Wednesday, your assignments and all your written work will be done through the Blackboard program. You need to log onto the course every Saturday or Sunday to see the week's assignments. Some of your work will be done in class, but most of the written assignments are done outside of class time. You will need to spend a minimum of one hour a day outside of class time working on assigned work. In most instances, after presenting lectures in class, I will post them on the course content pages on Blackboard so that you can refer to them as you need.
- **Needing Help:** If you are experiencing a classroom problem with an assignment or concept, post your problem to ASK THE PROFESSOR found on the COURSE CONTENTS weekly page or under DISCUSSIONS rather than sending me an e-mail. Send me an e-mail only if you need to discuss a personal problem with me.
- **Submitting Work:** In order to keep all assignments organized, you must submit your work to the assigned folder. I will not grade anything that is not in the proper folder or is not submitted according to the directions.
- **Returning Graded Assignments:** I try to return all assignments within one week from the submission date.
- **Work Week:** Our work week begins on Monday and ends on Sunday. Every Saturday or Sunday, be sure to open the Blackboard COURSE CONTENTS page for the next week's work. Discussion posting due dates usually will be on Wednesday 11:30 p.m. or Friday 11:30 p.m.. Assignment and Essay due dates usually will be on Sunday 11:30 p.m.. Weekly quizzes will be open on Friday of the week they're assigned from 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 p.m.
- **Academic Honesty:** The University is very clear in its policy on Academic Honesty. If you plagiarize, you will receive an "F" on the assignment and possibly for the entire course. As defined by the University, plagiarism includes copying someone else's work, submitting work that is not yours, quoting work without documenting the source, or allowing someone else to copy your work. The course policy is spelled-out in the *Lamar Student Handbook*.
- **Accountability:** As a college student, you are accountable for your success in the class. This means completing all assignments

timely, interacting with peer groups, asking for assistance if you need it, spending the appropriate number of hours on the course, and following the directions carefully for each assignment. This syllabus acts as a contract between you, the student, and me, the instructor. Each of us has specific responsibilities in the course.

- **File Naming Conventions:** All assignments must be submitted with the following file name form: first name last initial, assignment name.doc (or .rtf) **Example: nadinep, Essay 1.doc** In addition, all work submitted must have a .doc or .rtf file extension; my computer will not read any other extensions.
- **Late Assignments:** I do not accept late work, even for school related activities. Since all your assignments are posted on the COURSE CONTENTS weekly pages, I expect you to keep up with the due dates and submit the work timely.
- **Technology:** If you have computer problems, please contact the HELP desk, 880-7849. I cannot assist you with any technical problems.

Grades: I use a weighted percentage for each category of work performed in the class. At any time, you can go to the weighted percentage column in MY Grades and see what your course grade is at that moment.

- | | | |
|--|------------|-----------------|
| • Writing Project One | 100 points | 5% course grade |
| • Writing Project Two | 100 points | 5% “ |
| • Writing Project Three | 100 points | 10% “ |
| • Writing Project Four | 100 points | 20% “ |
| • Final Grammar Test | 100 points | 15% “ |
| • Five-Question Grammar Quizzes (10 total quizzes with 5 questions each, 10 points each quiz) | | 10% “ |
| • Discussion Board Postings based on assignments (Grading based on quantity and quality of postings. Value: 10 points each Discussion) | | 20% “ |
| • Reading Quizzes | | 10% “ |
| Total Percentage: | | 100% |

This course complies with University policies on disabilities, accommodations, and academic dishonesty as printed in the *Lamar University Student and Faculty Handbook*.