

ENG141 Rhetoric and Introductory Research Writing

(3 credit hours)

Course Syllabus

Course Description

This course prepares students for academic writing and research. Students will develop skills in summary, synthesis, and argument writing, and will be introduced to college research. They may be taught these skills through a variety of rhetorical modes (pro/con, cause/effect, comparison/contrast, etc.) and/or through rhetorical analysis (ethos, logos, and pathos). Emphasis is placed on developing essays characterized by strong thesis statements; focused, coherent, and logically ordered paragraphs; correct grammar; and correct documentation in APA style. Students must receive a grade of “C” or better to enroll in ENG 142.

Course Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

1. Describe the writing process and identify the three considerations necessary when communicating: audience, purpose, and voice.
2. Analyze the rhetorical context of a text by showing how the audience, purpose, and genre contribute to its composition.
3. Understand and use complex, college-level texts and be able to reference the ideas present.
4. Write an analytically sound, well-organized, correctly documented, and grammatically clear paper in APA format. The paper will include a thesis statement, concrete supporting evidence, and incorporate multiple sources.
5. Understand basic tools of library research and how to locate and evaluate sources.

Prerequisites/Corequisites

ENG 095 (“C” or better) or placement based on university assessment.

Required Textbook(s) and Resources

For this course you will need to obtain the following materials:

A digital copy of your textbook is included with your DragonACCESS fees for this course. Use the DragonACCESS tool in Moodle to view your book.

- Howard, Rebecca Moore. *Writing Matters: A Handbook for Writing and Research*. 4th ed., McGraw Hill LLC, 2022.

Be sure to also review the weekly **Explore** sections for additional library or web resources. For access to databases, research help, and writing tips, visit the [Tiffin University Library](#). You might consider registering for one of the library's many webinars on library research, source evaluation, copyright, and other topics, at the [Library Events - Upcoming Events](#) web page. For further assistance email a librarian, at: library@tiffin.edu.

Time Commitment

Effective time management is possibly the single most critical element to your academic success. To do well in this online class you should plan your time wisely to maximize your learning through the completion of readings, discussions, and assignments. Because of our accelerated, seven-week term, TU online courses are designed with the expectation that you dedicate a little over **six (6)** hours per credit hour to course activities and preparation **each week**. For example, for successful completion of a three-credit, seven-week online course you should reserve roughly **twenty (20) hours per week**.

To help plan your time and keep on track toward successful course completion, note the distinctive rhythm of assignment due dates:

1. All times assume Eastern Time (GMT-4).
2. Weeks begin at 12:00 a.m. ET on Monday and end at 11:55 p.m. ET on Sunday.
3. Unless otherwise noted, initial assignments or discussion posts are due by **11:55 p.m. ET on Wednesdays**.
4. Additional assignments or follow-up discussion posts are due by **11:55 p.m. ET on Saturdays, and**
5. Major assignments and reflections are typically due by **11:55 p.m. ET on Sundays**.

Learning Activities

The main course assessments will consist of discussions and peer reviews, self-study session completion, written essay assignments, and revisions of written work. The main assessments are the weekly discussions and peer reviews, Summary Essay, Rhetorical Analysis Essay, and the final course project, the Persuasive Essay. Upon completion of the

course, you should be able to analyze and understand rhetorical and writing strategies in reading material; demonstrate an understanding of audience, purpose, and approach in writing; write an APA-formatted college-level summary, rhetorical analysis, and persuasive essay; and use college-level texts in your own writing.

Key Assessment (Taskstream Submission)

This TU course features a “Key Assessment” that provides you the opportunity to demonstrate your program’s core competencies. It also shows how the course fits within the broader curriculum. For this course, your final Persuasive Essay due in Week 7 will be the Key Assessment uploaded to Taskstream.

Grading

The chart below identifies the individual contributions from each type of activity, per week.

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Total
Discussions Activity 1.1 (n/a) Activity 1.2 (50)	Discussions Activity 2.1 (50)	Discussions Activity 3.1 (50)	Discussions Activity 4.1 (50)	Discussions Activity 5.1 (50)	Discussions Activity 6.1 (50)	Discussions Activity 7.1 (50)	350
Assignments Activity 1.3 (25) Activity 1.4 (50)	Assignments Activity 2.2 (50)	Assignments Activity 3.2 (50)	Assignments Activity 4.2 (50) Activity 4.3 (50)	Assignments Activity 5.2 (50) Activity 5.3 (100)	Assignments Activity 6.2 (50)	Assignments Activity 7.2 (100)	575
	Journal Activity 2.3 (25)	Journal Activity 3.3 (25)		Journal Activity 5.4 (25)			75
125	125	125	150	225	100	150	1000

Grading Scale

- A: 90-100%
- B: 80-89%
- C: 70-79%
- D: 60-69%
- F: <60%

Please see the [Academic Bulletin](#) for grade appeal information.

Course Schedule and Weekly Checklist

Start Here

- MON: Activity 1.1: Driving Force - Initial Post

Week 1

- WED: Activity 1.1: Driving Force - Secondary Post
- WED: Activity 1.2: Reading and Writing Processes - Initial Post
- SAT: Activity 1.2: Reading and Writing Processes - Secondary Post
- SUN: Activity 1.3: Course Diagnostic Essay
- SUN: Activity 1.4: Grammarly Practice Essay

Week 2

- WED: Activity 2.1: Topic for Persuasive Essay - Initial Post
- SAT: Activity 2.1: Topic for Persuasive Essay - Secondary Post
- SUN: Activity 2.2: Persuasive Essay Topic Proposal and Outline
- SUN: Activity 2.3: Journal Assignment

Week 3

- WED: Activity 3.1: Peer Review - Initial Post
- SAT: Activity 3.1: Peer Review - Secondary Post
- SUN: Activity 3.2: Summary Essay
- SUN: Activity 3.3: Journal Assignment

Week 4

- WED: Activity 4.1: Peer Review- Initial Post
- SAT: Activity 4.1: Peer Review - Secondary Post
- SUN: Activity 4.2: Summary Essay (Revision)
- SUN: Activity 4.3: Rhetorical Analysis Essay

Week 5

- WED: Activity 5.1: Peer Review - Initial Post
- SAT: Activity 5.1: Peer Review - Secondary Post
- SUN: Activity 5.2: Rhetorical Analysis Essay (Revision)

- SUN: Activity 5.3: APA Citation Machine Practice and Summary
- SUN: Activity 5.4: Journal Assignment

Week 6

- WED: Activity 6.1: Peer Review- Initial Post
- SAT: Activity 6.1: Peer Review- Secondary Post
- SUN: Activity 6.2: Persuasive Essay

Week 7

- WED: Activity 7.1 Reflection - Initial Post
- THU: Activity 7.2: Persuasive Essay (Revision)
- SAT: Activity 7.1: Reflection - Secondary Post

Tips for Success

Online learning requires self-discipline and self-direction. As seekers of the truth, we should be willing to challenge one another's academic work in a spirit of respectful comradery. Your course is a place for you to grow as you benefit from the expertise, experience, and diverse perspectives of your instructor and peers. Constructive feedback will challenge you to stretch your own thinking, thereby expanding your knowledge and understanding.

To get the most out of your learning experience, you should actively engage (participate) in **ALL** course activities. Course elements are arranged chronologically. To complete a week, simply work your way "down the page" through all of the course materials and activities.

Your Instructor Will Expect You to:

- Thoroughly review orientation materials (Start Here) within the first 48 hours of the term.
- Monitor your TU email account **daily** for important updates and announcements.
- Take ownership of your learning experience and act in a proactive, self-directed manner. That means:
 - Fully participate in all learning activities.
 - Complete assignments as described in rubrics or other instructions.
 - Submit all work on time and in the specified format (e.g. APA format for citations).
 - Utilize and incorporate instructor provided feedback to improve your work.
 - Ask questions so you can better understand course material or assignments.

- Use the highest standards of intellectual honesty and integrity. For details, see the TU Library guide: [Digital Literacy: Netiquette and Internet Safety](#).
- Treat others respectfully and demonstrate "netiquette" (online politeness and respectfulness) at all times. TU celebrates cultural uniqueness and expects all students to be considerate and thoughtful throughout their learning experiences.

You Should Expect Your Instructors to:

- Post an introductory announcement/email at the beginning of each week to provide updates and help you prepare for the week's activities.
- Maintain an active and engaged presence in all course activities and throughout the course.
- Respond to your emailed questions within 48 hours, if not sooner.
- Clearly communicate any absences or expected non-participation due to extenuating circumstances. For example, "I will be traveling to attend a funeral this week and may not be able to respond to questions or participate in forums for a couple of days."
- When grading your work:
 - clearly indicate their grading approach (what they like to see in submitted work as well as what types of errors they tend to penalize more harshly),
 - thoroughly review and evaluate your submissions in a timely manner (in less than 5 days for most assignments), and
 - provide constructive feedback on the strengths and weaknesses of your work with suggestions on how you can improve your performance on future assignments.
- Advocate for your success as a learner and help guide you toward successful completion of the course activities and most importantly, attainment of the course learning outcomes.

Accommodations (Disability Services)

The Office of Disability Services supports the institutional commitment to diversity by providing educational opportunities for qualified individuals with disabilities through accessible programs and services in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990. If you need reasonable accommodations due to a documented disability, contact the Office for Equity, Access, & Opportunity via email at disabilityservices@tiffin.edu or by calling 419-448-3021.

Technical Support

For Moodle support, either email moodlesupport@tiffin.edu or call the 24/7 Technical Support Call Center at 855-664-1200 (3430, Option 2, from on-campus). For non-Moodle support, contact the Tiffin University ITS helpdesk at the number above or submit a [support ticket](#).

Veterans

The Veteran and Military Resource Center assists veterans, active Military, and spouses of current service members in utilizing their education benefits. VMRC provides information regarding benefit processes and procedures, as well as support in navigating the transition from military to academic life by facilitating connections with the appropriate support services on campus. More information can be found on the Veteran and Military Resource Center website, at <http://www.tiffin.edu/va>.

Additional Support

If you need to consult an academic advisor refer to TU's [Meet the Team](#) page. For information about TU's peer tutoring program see the Murphy Center's [Tutoring Policies and Procedures](#) page.

Comments or Concerns

TU's online programs are designed to be student *driven*: to empower you with a voice and stake in your learning. Our courses feature multiple and varied ways that you can share feedback, and we invite you to become an active voice and help drive our improvement efforts. In addition to providing in-course feedback, we encourage you to submit questions or comments directly to the online team at online@tiffin.edu.