

ENGL 1541 - Introduction to College Writing

Fall 2026 Syllabus, Section 02, CRN 41592,

Credit hours: 3

Instructor

Amelia Sanker

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Public Instructor Information

Instructor Title: Writing Instructor

Instructor Professional Qualifications: M.A., English, Youngstown State University

Instructor Office Location: DeBartolo Hall, English Department

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Course Description

This course acclimates students to academic writing expectations and college-level reading practices. Students engage in reflective and expository writing and incorporate peer and instructor feedback throughout the writing process. Students in this developmental course must complete it prior to enrolling in the first of two required composition courses in the general education core. This course does not count toward the graduation requirement in composition and does not count toward a degree. Grading for English 1541 is ABC/NC. Next course in sequence must be ENGL 1549 Writing 1 with Support (4 semester hours). Prereq.: Placement by ACT/SAT test results or by CPT results. 3 s.h.

Course Readings

Group	Title	Author	ISBN
Required	The Norton Field Guide to Writing with Readings and Handbook (Seventh Edition)	W.W. Norton	ISBN 978-1-324-08766-3 (ebook)

The course readings are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, research developments, current events, and/or to ensure better learning.

- *The Norton Field Guide to Writing with readings + handbook, 7E*

Bullock, R., Bertsch, D., Goggin, M. D. (2025). *The Norton Field Guide to Writing with Readings and Handbook (Seventh Edition)*. W. W. Norton.

- Chapters as assigned in Blackboard and listed in the attached Schedule
- Note: Your Ebook access is included and is already paid for in your course fees. You need to opt out of the ebook by the date shown in Blackboard in order to avoid the fee.

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Schedule of Topics and Assignments

Day	Date	Reading(s)	Proposed Topic	Due/To Prepare for Class
Mon	8/24		Introductions	
Wed	8/26		Freewriting	Due 8/27 at 11:59pm: Week 1 Freewrite Due 8/30 at 11:59pm: Complete: Ask an Anonymous Question About the Syllabus Complete: Create A Writing Center Account (extra credit)

Mon	8/31	Norton Text Chapter 2	Pre-Reading Strategies	
Wed	9/2		Freewriting, Annotations	Due 9/3 at 11:59pm: Week 2 Freewrite Due 9/6 at 11:59pm: Complete: Annotation and screenshots assignment Due 9/6 before 11:59:04pm: Discuss: Annotation Strategies - Reply
Mon	9/7	Norton Chapter 2	Scan, Annotate, Question, Read	
Wed	9/9		Scan, Annotate, Question, Read	Due 9/13 at 11:59pm: Complete: AI Conversation with Professor Penguin - Thinking About Freewriting Due 9/10 at 11:59pm: Week 3 Freewrite Due 9/13 at 11:59pm: Complete: Scan, Annotate, Question, Read Assignment
Mon	9/14		Pre-reading and Active Reading Strategies, Library Instruction	Due 9/15 at 11:59pm: Extra Credit: Library Instruction Etiquette
Wed	9/16		Pre-reading and Active Reading Strategies, Library Instruction	Due 9/17 at 11:59pm: Week 4 Freewrite Due 9/20 at 11:59pm: Complete: Scan, Annotate, Question, Read - Viewpoints Article
Mon	9/21	Norton Text Chapter 6	Writing and Communicating Ethically	
Wed	9/23		Writing and Communicating Ethically, AI Literacy	Due 9/24 at 11:59pm: Week 5 Freewrite Due 9/27 at 11:59pm: Complete: AI Literacy - Crafting Professional Emails
Mon	9/28	Norton Text Chapter 28	Your Individual Writing Process	Loop Writing
Wed	9/30		Your Individual Writing Process	Due 10/1 at 11:59pm: Week 6 Freewrite Due 10/4 before 11:59:51pm: Discuss: "Perfect" AI vs. The Messy Human - Reply
Mon	10/5	Norton Text Chapter 1	Connecting Reading to Writing	
Wed	10/7	Norton Text Chapter 1	Connecting Reading to Writing	Due 10/8 at 11:59pm: Week 7 Freewrite Due 10/11 before 11:59:54pm: Complete: Annotation & Response Journal
Mon	10/12	Norton Handbook pages 4-10 Norton Text Chapter 30, pages 773-777	Writing Complete Sentences and Paragraphs	
Wed	10/14		Writing Complete Sentences and Paragraphs	Due 10/15 at 11:59pm: Week 8 Freewrite Due 10/18 at 11:59pm: Complete: Analyzing Introductions, Body Paragraphs, and Conclusions based on "Black Mamas' Lives Matter" (Norton Field Guide pp. 773-777)
Mon	10/19	Norton Text Chapter 3	Summarizing and Responding	
Wed	10/21		Summarizing and Responding	Due 10/22 at 11:59pm: Week 9 Freewrite Due 10/25 at 11:59pm: Complete: Reading Response
Mon	10/26	Norton Text Chapter 7 & 8	Rhetorical Situation: Audience and Purpose	



Wed	10/28		Rhetorical Situation: Audience and Purpose	
Mon	11/2	Norton Text Chapter 9	Rhetorical Situation: Genre	Due 11/1 at 11:59pm: Week 10 Freewrite Complete: Analyzing Audience and Purpose
Wed	11/4		Rhetorical Situation: Genre	
Mon	11/9	Norton Text Chapter 31	Brainstorming/Prewriting	Due 11/8 at 11:59pm: "Writing In The Wild" Genre Scavenger Hunt Week 11 Freewrite
Wed	11/11		Brainstorming/Prewriting	Due 11/12 at 11:59pm: Week 12 Freewrite
Mon	11/16	Norton Text: Chapter 33	Drafting and Peer Review	
Wed	11/18		Drafting and Peer Review	Due 11/19 at 11:59pm: Week 13 Freewrite
Mon	11/23		Conferences	
Wed	11/25		Conferences	
Mon	11/30		Presentations and Essay Submission	Due 11/29 at 11:59pm: Complete: Final Reflection Slideshow
Wed	12/2		Presentations and Essay Submission	
Mon	12/7		Final Reflective Essay	Due 12/6 at 11:59pm: Complete: Final Reflective Essay

The course schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, by mutual agreement, and/or to ensure better learning.