

ENGL 1541 - Introduction to College Writing

Fall 2026 Syllabus, Section 04, CRN 41594,

Credit hours: 3

Instructor

Jeffrey Buchanan

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Public Instructor Information

Instructor Title: Dr. Jeff Buchanan

Instructor Professional Qualifications:

- PhD, English & Education, University of Michigan
- MA, English Language & Literature, University of Pittsburgh
- AB, English Language & Literature, University of Michigan

Instructor Office Location: 212 DeBartolo Hall

Instructor Office Phone: 330-941-1642

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 + Handbook, 6th edition.		

The Norton Field Guide is a First Day Ready textbook, which means that it should already be available to you in Blackboard.

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

Schedule of Topics and Assignments

Day	Date	Reading(s)	Proposed Topic	Due/To Prepare for Class
Tue	8/25		Introduction to the Course	
Thu	8/27	NFG pp.11-15	Writing: Reading Responses	
Tue	9/1	"Man of Steel"	Reading	RR#1 DUE
Thu	9/3	NFG pp.325-339	Writing: Prewriting	
Tue	9/8	"Man of Steel"	Reading	RR#2 DUE
Thu	9/10	NFG pp.73-87	Writing: Openings/Beginnings	
Tue	9/15	NFG pp.41-48	Writing: Exploration	RR#3 DUE
Thu	9/17		Peer Workshop	
Tue	9/22		Reflection	Paper#1 DUE; RR#4 (in class)
Thu	9/24		Writing: Exploration	



Tue	9/29	"The Work You Do"	Reading	RR#5 DUE
Thu	10/1		Writing: Support	
Tue	10/6	"The Work You Do"	Reading	RR#6 DUE
Thu	10/8		Writing: Exploration	
Tue	10/13	NYTimes Student Essays	Reading	RR#7 DUE
Thu	10/15	NYTimes Student Essays	Reading	
Tue	10/20		Peer Workshop	
Thu	10/22		Reflection	Paper#2 DUE; RR#8 (in class)
Tue	10/27	"Entering the Conversation"	Reading	RR#9 DUE
Thu	10/29	"Entering the Conversation"	Reading	
Tue	11/3		Writing: So What?	
Thu	11/5		Writing: So What?	
Tue	11/10		Peer Workshop	
Thu	11/12		Writing: Editing/Proofreading	
Tue	11/17		Reflection	Paper#3 DUE; RR#10 (in class)
Thu	11/19		Writing: Editing/Proofreading	
Tue	11/24		CLASS CANCELLED	
Thu	11/26		UNIVERSITY CLOSED THANKSGIVING	
Tue	12/1		CLASS CANCELLED	
Thu	12/3		Reflection	Paper #4 DUE
Tue	12/8		NO CLASS--Exam Week	
Thu	12/10		NO CLASS--Exam Week	

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.