

ENGL 1541 - Introduction to College Writing

Fall 2026 Syllabus, Section 08, CRN 43964,

Credit hours: 3

Instructor

Stephanie Caldwell, Ed.D.

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Public Instructor Information

Instructor Title: Dr. Stephanie Caldwell, Lecturer

Instructor Professional Qualifications: Ed.D., Educational Leadership, Youngstown State University, 2026; M.A., English, Youngstown State University, 2011; B.A., English, Youngstown State University, 2009

Instructor Office Location: Steubenville Campus (Office 2003E)

Instructor Office Phone: (877) 468-6978

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 (7th Edition)	Richard Bullock, Deborah Bertsch, & Maureen Daly Goggin	978-1324087335

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
Wed	8/26	Intro to course/instructor		Due 8/27 at 11:59pm: Week 1 Freewrite
Fri	8/28	Intro to course/instructor		Due 8/30 at 11:59pm: Complete: Ask an Anonymous Question About the Syllabus Due 8/28 at 11:59pm: Writing Sample Assignment: Please read and follow directions carefully Due 8/30 at 11:59pm: Complete: Create A Writing Center Account (extra credit)
Wed	9/2	Pre-reading strategies		Due 9/3 at 11:59pm: Week 2 Freewrite
Fri	9/4	Pre-reading strategies		Due 9/6 at 11:59pm: Complete: Annotation and screenshots assignment Due 9/6 before 11:59:04pm: Discuss: Annotation Strategies - Reply



Wed	9/9	Application - pre-reading strategies	Due 9/10 at 11:59pm: Week 3 Freewrite
Fri	9/11	Application - pre-reading strategies	Due 9/13 at 11:59pm: Complete: AI Conversation with Professor Penguin - Thinking About Freewriting Complete: Scan, Annotate, Question, Read Assignment
Mon	9/14	Library Instruction	Due 9/15 at 11:59pm: Extra Credit: Library Instruction Etiquette
Wed	9/16	Pre-reading & active reading strategies	Due 9/17 at 11:59pm: Week 4 Freewrite
Fri	9/18	Pre-reading & active reading strategies	Due 9/20 at 11:59pm: Complete: Scan, Annotate, Question, Read - Viewpoints Article
Wed	9/23	Writing and communication ethically	Due 9/24 at 11:59pm: Week 5 Freewrite
Fri	9/25	Writing and communication ethically	Due 9/27 at 11:59pm: Complete: AI Literacy - Crafting Professional Emails
Wed	9/30	Exploring individual writing processes	Due 10/1 at 11:59pm: Week 6 Freewrite
Fri	10/2	Exploring individual writing processes	Due 10/4 before 11:59:51pm: Discuss: "Perfect" AI vs. The Messy Human - Reply
Wed	10/7	Connecting Reading to Writing	Due 10/8 at 11:59pm: Week 7 Freewrite
Fri	10/9	Connecting Reading to Writing	Due 10/11 before 11:59:54pm: Complete: Annotation & Response Journal
Wed	10/14	Complete sentences and paragraphs	Due 10/15 at 11:59pm: Week 8 Freewrite
Fri	10/16	Complete sentences and paragraphs	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)
Wed	10/21	Responding to writing	Due 10/22 at 11:59pm: Week 9 Freewrite
Fri	10/23	Responding to writing	Due 10/25 at 11:59pm: Complete: Reading Response
Wed	10/28	Rhetorical Situation: audience & purpose	
Mon	11/2	Rhetorical Situation: Genre	Due 11/1 at 11:59pm: Week 10 Freewrite Complete: Analyzing Audience and Purpose
Mon	11/9	Rhetorical Situation: Genre	Due 11/8 at 11:59pm: "Writing In The Wild" Genre Scavenger Hunt Week 11 Freewrite
Fri	11/13	Brainstorming and pre-writing	Due 11/12 at 11:59pm: Week 12 Freewrite
Fri	11/20	Drafting and peer review	Due 11/19 at 11:59pm: Week 13 Freewrite
Wed	11/25	Drafting and Peer Review	
Mon	11/30	Conferences and presentation guidelines	Due 11/29 at 11:59pm: Complete: Final Reflection Slideshow

Mon12/7Essay Submission & presentations

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.