ENGL 1550 - Writing 1

Fall 2026 Syllabus, Section 34, CRN 40416,

Credit hours: 3

Instructor

Jeffrey Buchanan

Email: jmbuchanan@ysu.edu

Public Instructor Information

Instructor Title: Dr. Jeff Buchanan

- 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

1550. Writing 1. This course develops an awareness of writing processes and provides strategies for generating ideas, drafting, giving and receiving feedback, revising, and editing. Students analyze texts in light of specific audiences, purposes, and contexts and develop critical skills in reading, thinking, and writing. Students write a minimum of 5,000 words (approximately 20 double-spaced pages) cumulatively across the major assignments and incorporate sources into their writing. English 1550 is the first of two required composition courses in the general education core. Grading is ABCDF but must earn a "C" or better to satisfy the General Education requirement and continue to ENGL 1551 or ENGL 1551H. English 1550 is three semester hours. Prereq.: Placement by ACT/SAT test results OR Composition Placement Test results. 3 s.h.

Course Readings

Group	Title	Author	ISBN
Required	• The Norton Field Guide to Writing with Readings + Handbook, 6th edition		

This 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; “Man of Steel”	Reading	RR#1 DUE
Tue	9/1	NFG pp.325-339	Writing: Prewriting	
Thu	9/3	“Man of Steel”	Reading	RR#2 DUE
Tue	9/8	NFG pp.73-87	Writing: Openings/Beginnings	
Thu	9/10		Peer Workshop	
Tue	9/15		Reflection	Paper#1 Due; RR#3 (in class)
Thu	9/17	NFG pp.41-48	Writing: Exploration	RR#4 DUE
Tue	9/22	“The Work You Do”	Reading	RR#5 DUE
Thu	9/24		Writing: Exploration	

Tue	9/29		Writing: Support	
Thu	10/1	“The Work You Do”	Reading	RR#6 DUE
Tue	10/6		Peer Workshop	
Thu	10/8		Reflection	Paper#2 DUE; RR#7 (in class)
Tue	10/13	NYTimes Student Essays	Reading	RR#8 DUE
Thu	10/15	NYTimes Student Essays	Reading	
Tue	10/20	“Entering the Conversation”	Reading	RR#9 DUE
Thu	10/22	“Entering the Conversation”	Reading	
Tue	10/27		Writing: So What?	
Thu	10/29		Writing: So What?	
Tue	11/3		Peer Workshop	
Thu	11/5		Reflection	Paper#3 DUE; RR#10 (in class)
Tue	11/10	“The Loss of the Creature”	Reading	
Thu	11/12		Writing: Editing/Proofreading	
Tue	11/17	“The Loss of the Creature”	Reading	
Thu	11/19		Peer Workshop	
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.