

# ENGL 1550 - Writing 1

Fall 2026 Syllabus, Section 35, CRN 40417,

Credit hours: 3

## Instructor

Megan Donelson

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## Public Instructor Information

Instructor Title: Part Time Faculty

Instructor Professional Qualifications: MFA Writing & Poetics (Naropa University 2009), PhD English (Middle Tennessee State University 2018)

Instructor Office Location: 2nd Floor Debartolo Hall

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## 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 | Norton Field Guide to Writing with Readings and Handbook, 7th Edition | Richard Bullock, Deborah Bertsch, and Maureen Daly Goggin | 1324087633 |

Ebook is available in Blackboard course shell; this is covered by students' First Day Access payment.

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

| Week of | Reading(s)                                                                                                                                                                             | Proposed Topic                                  | Due/To Prepare for Class                                                                           |
|---------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8/24    | Textbook Ch. 5<br>Videos on Blackboard<br>Website - Learning Styles Inventory                                                                                                          | Introductions and Growth Mindset                | Discussion - Introduce Yourself<br>Syllabus Test<br>Ch. 5 Quiz                                     |
| 8/31    | Textbook Ch. 1, 2, 4<br>Videos on Blackboard<br>Website - Email Best Practices                                                                                                         | Effective Emails and Academic Literacies        | Five Emails assignment<br>Quiz on Chs. 1, 2, 4                                                     |
| 9/7     | Textbook Chs. 7-10<br>Hamilton handout on Blackboard<br>Video on Blackboard                                                                                                            | The Rhetorical Situation                        | Hamilton and the Rhetorical Situation<br>Adapting to the Rhetorical Situation<br>Quiz on Chs. 7-10 |
| 9/14    | Textbook Chs. 27-29<br>Writing 1 MA1 Assignment Sheet<br>Writing 1 MA1 Pre-Writing Template<br>Cyberslacking Activity Log<br>Cyberslacking Activity Log Sample<br>Videos on Blackboard | The Writing Process and MA1 Reflective Analysis | Early Assessment: Are you nomophobic?<br>Quiz on Chs. 27-29                                        |



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|-------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 9/21  | Textbook Ch. 6<br>AIU Student Guide to Artificial Intelligence<br>Instructor Handout - Using AI                                                                             | Writing Ethically with AI                          | AI Collaboration Practice<br>AI Usage Evaluation Reflection<br>Quiz on Ch. 6                                                                                   |
| 9/28  | Textbook Chs. 27-29<br>Writing 1 Reflective Analysis Pre-Writing<br>Writing 1 Reflective Analysis Assignment<br>Sheet                                                       | MA1 Pre-Writing                                    | MA1 - What opportunity to learn does it<br>offer?<br>MA1 Pre-Writing                                                                                           |
| 10/5  | Chs. 30-31, 33<br>"Track your time for 30 days" article<br>Writing 1 Reflective Analysis Pre-Writing to<br>Essay Guide<br>Writing 1 Reflective Analysis Assignment<br>Sheet | MA1 1st Draft and Peer Review, Feedback<br>Journal | Discussion: Collaborative Review of Clark's<br>Use of Speculation, Specifics, and Structure<br>Feedback Journal Entry #1<br>MA1 1st Draft<br>Quiz on Chs 30-31 |
| 10/12 | Videos on Blackboard<br>Writing 1 Peer Review Guidance<br>Peer Review Practice                                                                                              | Effective Feedback, MA1 Peer Review                | Discussion: Peer Review Practice<br>MA1 Peer Review                                                                                                            |
| 10/19 | Chs. 32-34                                                                                                                                                                  | Revision, MA1 2nd draft                            | Feedback Journal Entry #2<br>MA1 2nd draft<br>Quiz on Chs. 32-34                                                                                               |
| 10/26 | Ch. 13<br>MA2 Textual Analysis Assignment Sheet<br>Website: "60 Powerful Social Issue Ads<br>That'll Make You Stop and Notice"<br>MA2 Prewriting template                   | MA2 Textual Analysis - Intro and Prewriting        | Journal: Ad Selection/Sponsor/Topic<br>Confirmation<br>Feedback Journal Entry #3<br>MA2 Prewriting<br>Quiz Ch. 13                                              |
| 11/2  | Writing 1 MA2 Textual Analysis Assignment<br>Sheet<br>Writing 1 MA2 Prewriting to Essay Guide<br>Writing 1 MA2 Student Sample                                               | MA2 1st draft and peer review                      | Collaborate Review for MA2 Key Features<br>MA2 1st draft and Peer Review                                                                                       |
| 11/9  | Writing 1 MA2 Textual Analysis Assignment<br>Sheet<br>Writing 1 MA2 Prewriting to Essay Guide<br>Writing 1 MA2 Student Sample                                               | MA2 2nd Draft                                      | MA2 2nd draft                                                                                                                                                  |
| 11/16 | Ch. 40<br>Writing 1 MA3 Compare and Contrast<br>Assignment Sheet                                                                                                            | MA3 - Compare and Contrast                         | Quiz Ch. 40<br>MA3 Daily Journal<br>MA3 Compare and Contrast Essay                                                                                             |
| 11/23 | Writing 1 Key Principles<br>Writing 1 Final Essay - Reflection on Writing                                                                                                   | Semester Wrap Up                                   | Writing 1 Key Principles Test<br>Final Reflective Essay<br>Optional: MA1/MA2 Revisions                                                                         |

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.