ENGL 1550 - Writing 1

Fall 2026 Syllabus, Section 37, CRN 40418,

Credit hours: 3

Instructor

Megan Donelson

Email: mdonelson@ysu.edu

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
Instructor Office Phone: 330-941-3414

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 Handbook and Readings, 7th edition	Richard Bullock, Deborah Bertsch, and Maureen Daly Goggin	1324087633

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 Videos on Blackboard Website - Learning Styles Inventory	Introductions and Growth Mindset	Discussion - Introduce Yourself Syllabus Test Ch. 5 Quiz
8/31	Ch. 1, 2, 4 Videos on Blackboard Website - Email Best practices	Effective Emails and Academic Literacies	Five Emails assignment Quiz on Chs 1, 2, 4
9/7	Ch. 7-10 Hamilton handout on Blackboard Video on Blackboard	The Rhetorical Situation	Hamilton and the Rhetorical Situation Adapting to the Rhetorical Situation Ch. 7-10 Quiz
9/14	Ch. 27-29 Writing 1 MA1 Assignment Sheet Writing 1 MA1 Pre-Writing Template Cyberslacking Activity Log Cyberslacking Activity Log Sample Videos on Blackboard	The Writing Process and MA1 Reflective Analysis	Early Assessment: Are you nomophobic? Ch. 27-29 Quiz
9/21	Ch. 6 AIU Student Guide to Artificial Intelligence Instructor Handout - Using AI	Writing Ethically With AI	AI Collaboration Practice AI Usage Evaluation Reflection Ch. 6 Quiz

9/28	Ch. 27-29 Writing 1 Reflective Analysis Pre-Writing Writing 1 Reflective Analysis Assignment Sheet	MA1 Pre-Writing	MA1 - What opportunity to learn does it offer? MA1 Pre-Writing
10/5	Ch. 30, 31, 33 "Track Your Time" article Writing 1 Reflective Analysis Pre-Writing to Essay Guide Writing 1 Reflective Analysis Assignment Sheet	MA1 1st Draft and Peer Review, Feedback Journal	Discussion: Collaborative Review of Clark's Use of Speculation, Specifics, and Structure Feedback Journal Entry #1 MA1 1st Draft Ch. 30-31 Quiz
10/12	Videos on Blackboard Writing 1 Peer Review Guidance Peer Review Practice	Effective Feedback, MA1 Peer Review	Discussion: Peer Review Practice MA1 Peer Review
10/19	Ch. 32-34	Revision, MA1 2nd draft	Feedback Journal Entry #2 MA1 2nd draft Quiz on Chs. 32-34
10/26	Ch. 13 MA2 Textual Analysis Assignment Sheet Website: "60 Powerful Social Issue Ads..." MA2 Prewriting Template	MA2 Textual Analysis - Intro and Prewriting	Journal: Ad Selection/Sponsor/Topic Confirmation Feedback Journal Entry #3 MA2 Prewriting Ch. 13 Quiz
11/2	Writing 1 MA2 Textual Analysis Assignment Sheet Writing 1 MA2 Prewriting to Essay Guide Writing 1 MA2 Student Sample	MA2 1st draft and peer review	Collaborate Review for MA2 Key Features MA2 1st draft and peer review
11/9	Writing 1 MA2 Textual Analysis Assignment Sheet Writing 1 MA2 Prewriting to Essay Guide Writing 1 MA2 Student Sample	MA2 2nd draft	MA2 2nd draft
11/16	Ch. 40 Writing 1 MA3 Compare and Contrast Assignment Sheet	MA3 - Compare and Contrast	Ch. 40 Quiz MA3 Daily Journal MA3 Compare and Contrast Essay
11/23	Writing 1 Key Principles Writing 1 Final Essay - Reflection on Writing	Semester Wrap Up	Writing 1 Key Principles Test Final Reflective Essay 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.