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# Composition II

Amanda Oswalt

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**COLLIN COLLEGE**  
**COURSE SYLLABUS**

**Composition II**

ENGL 1302.P72

Spring 2019

Tuesday 7:00 pm – 9:45 pm in PC L206 (Preston Ridge Campus)

**Contact Information**

Instructor name: Amanda Oswald

Email: [aoswalt@collin.edu](mailto:aoswalt@collin.edu)

Office hours: by appointment

**Course Description**

Intensive study of and practice in the strategies and techniques for developing research-based expository and persuasive texts. Emphasis on effective and ethical rhetorical inquiry, including primary and secondary research methods; critical reading of verbal, visual, and multimedia texts; systematic evaluation, synthesis, and documentation of information sources; and critical thinking about evidence and conclusions. Lab required.

Course Credit Hrs: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Lab Hour: 1

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

- State Mandated Outcomes - upon successful completion of this course, students will:
  1. Demonstrate knowledge of individual and collaborative research processes.  
(Teamwork)
  2. Develop ideas and synthesize primary and secondary sources within focused academic arguments, including one or more research-based essays. (Communication Skills)
  3. Analyze, interpret, and evaluate a variety of texts for the ethical and logical uses of evidence. (Critical Thinking)
  4. Write in a style that clearly communicates meaning, builds credibility, and inspires belief or action. (Communication Skills)

5. Apply the conventions of style manuals for specific academic disciplines (e.g., APA, CMS, MLA, etc.).
- Additional Collin Outcome - upon successful completion of this course, students will:
    1. Demonstrate personal responsibility through the ethical use of intellectual property. (Personal Responsibility)

### **Americans with Disabilities Act Statement**

Collin College will adhere to all applicable federal, state and local laws, regulations and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to contact the ACCESS office, F-144 or 972.881.5898 to arrange for appropriate accommodations. See the current *Collin Student Handbook* for additional information.

### **Required Course Materials and Supplies**

- Barnet, Bedau, O'Hara's *Critical Thinking, Reading, and Writing*. 9<sup>th</sup> ed. ISBN: 978-1-319-03545-7
- USB Drive and/or Dropbox/Cloud software—it is highly suggested that you have a USB flash drive.

Regular Internet and email access are necessary and required elements of this course.

Computer/Internet access is available on campus for registered Collin College students with College ID. Students will be required to use Canvas (via Cougar Web) and to check their Cougar Mail (Collin email) **daily**, always in advance of each class meeting. If you are unable to meet these Internet requirements, your progress in the course will be negatively affected, as you will miss important announcements and assignments (if you need help accessing or finding any of these platforms, please let me know).

### **Assignments**

Major Assignments (75% of course grade)

- Writing Assignment 1: Research Prospectus (25%)
- Writing Assignment 2: Annotated Bibliography (15%)
- Writing Assignment 3: Research Paper (35%)

Minor Assignments (15% of course grade)

- Minor assignments may include: participation, student journals, workshops, peer reviews, quizzes, team presentations, etc.

### Lab component (10% of course grade)

The lab component is an integral part of this composition course. Over the course of the term, you will be required to complete 8 lab units. The lab work is NOT the same as the weekly coursework as noted above (minor assignments). It is, instead, designed as additional writing-focused activities that will further improve your writing and analytical skills. You will submit each of your labs on Canvas under the corresponding lab number you are completing. Labs are due every 2 weeks (see course calendar below for specific due dates). You will receive a zero for labs not completed by the due date.

This semester I am doing labs differently from any other way I have done them. Each lab will work to satisfy one of the State Learning Outcomes of the course. Labs will cover the following topics:

1. Teamwork
2. Communication skills (synthesizing and writing)
3. Critical thinking
4. MLA
5. Personal responsibility

Additionally, 2 labs will be reflections of sorts. For more info on specific lab assignments, see directions in Canvas for each lab.

### **Attendance**

Success in this program depends a great deal on whether you show up and participate. Missing a writing class isn't like missing a lecture, where a friend who takes good notes can help you get caught up. Missing a writing class is more like missing team practice or a workout; someone can tell you that everyone ran laps or practiced batting or did drills, but that isn't going to help you get caught up on the workout that you missed. For the most part, what happens in writing classes benefits only the people who fully participate in them: the act of giving an effective peer review sharpens your own ideas of how to write better; the act of analyzing and discussing a text in class teaches you a process you can use on other texts; the pre-writing, researching, and sentence strategy exercises in a writing class help students write better papers. If you miss a class, you need to understand that you probably will not be able to make up the missed experience, and there may be consequences in terms of your understanding or performance later

**I do not accept excuses for absences, but you may miss 2 classes with no penalty. At 3 absences, your final grade will be dropped a letter grade. At 4 absences, you may fail the course. Additionally, every 4 tardies you accrue will be counted as 1 absence.** Come to class and be on time! 😊

### **Structure of Class Time**

Research suggests that students have the most success with writing when they have actual class time to write and work; having your instructor and peers nearby helps students to feel not so isolated in a discipline that often feels isolating. Therefore, I will be structuring class to facilitate this idea. From 7 - 8:30 pm we will have roll call, announcements, lectures, discussions, group work, and any other things pertaining to the day's lessons. From 8:30 - 9:45 we will have open work time. This is time you may work on your papers and assignments (for my class only), with both me and your peers there to help in any way we can. There will be a couple of exceptions to this format, i.e. when we watch a film in class. However, for the most part, this is how class will work this semester.

### **Scholastic Dishonesty**

Every member of the Collin College community is expected to maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. All work submitted for credit is expected to be the student's own work. Collin College may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student or prospective student accused of scholastic dishonesty. While specific examples are listed below, this is not an exhaustive list, and scholastic dishonesty may encompass other conduct, including any misconduct through electronic or computerized means. Scholastic dishonesty shall include, but is not limited to, one (1) or more of the following acts:

1. Cheating includes, but is not limited to, having access to unauthorized materials or electronic, digital media, telecommunication, and/or wearable devices (i.e., phones, smart watches, Fitbits, Bluetooth devices, tablets, etc.) during an examination; the giving or receiving of information in an unauthorized manner during an examination or to complete an assignment; using, buying, selling, soliciting, stealing, or otherwise obtaining course assignments and/or examination questions in advance; using someone else's work for an assignment as if it were one's own; submitting or resubmitting an assignment in whole or in part (i.e., recycling an assignment) for more than one (1) class or institution without permission from each of the professors; using annotated texts or teacher's editions; using

information about exams posted on the Internet or in any electronic medium; leaving a test site without authority; failing to secure test materials; removing tests or answer sheets from a test site; and any other dishonest means of attempting to fulfill the requirements of a course.

2. Collusion includes, but is not limited to, intentionally or unintentionally aiding or attempting to aid another in an act of scholastic dishonesty; failing to secure academic work; providing a paper or project to another student; providing an inappropriate level of assistance; unauthorized collaboration or communicating answers to a classmate about an examination or course assignment; and allowing a classmate to copy answers.
3. General Scholastic Dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, statements, acts, or omissions related to applications for enrollment, credit or class work, research, or the award of a degree; and/or falsifying academic records or documents. Students are expected to record honestly and accurately the results of all their research. Falsification of research results shall include misrepresentations, distortions, or omissions in data or reports on research.
4. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, intentionally or unintentionally failing to quote and cite an author's words, information, and/or ideas in accordance with American Psychological Association (APA) Style, Modern Language Association (MLA) Style, The Chicago Manual of Style (Chicago Style), or another citation style approved by the professor.

### Tentative Course Calendar

Document subject to change. All changes will be announced in class and/or on Canvas.

WA = Writing Assignment, *CTRW* = *Critical Thinking, Reading, and Writing*. Other readings may be assigned from time to time and will be available through Canvas.

Week 1: Jan 22

Go over syllabus, preview course, introductions

Homework: read Chapter 1 in *CTRW*

Week 2: Jan 29

Discuss chapter 1, introduce WA1: Research Prospectus

Homework: read Chapter 2 in *CTRW*, complete lab 1

Week 3: Feb 5

**Lab 1 due before class**

Discuss chapter 2, topic brainstorming, question and example session for WA1

Homework: read Chapter 3 in *CTRW*

Week 4: Feb 12

Discuss chapter 3, question and example session for WA1

Homework: read Chapter 4 in *CTRW*, complete lab 2

Week 5: Feb 19

**Lab 2 due before class**

Discuss chapter 4, question and example session for WA1, MLA

Homework: read Chapter 5 in *CTRW*, WA1 due next class.

Week 6: Feb 26

**WA1: Research Prospectus due BEFORE class**

Discuss chapter 5, introduce WA2: Annotated Bibliography

Homework: read Chapter 6 in *CTRW*, complete lab 3

Week 7: Mar 5

Lab 3 due before class

Discuss chapter 6, question and example session for WA2, MLA

Homework: read Chapter 7 in *CTRW*, complete lab 4 before we meet again after spring break

Week 8: Mar 12

SPRING BREAK!

Week 9: Mar 19 (Last day to withdraw is March 22)

Lab 4 due before class

Discuss chapter 7, question and example session for WA2, MLA

Homework: read Chapter 8 in *CTRW*, WA2 due next class

Week 10: Mar 26

WA2: Annotated Bibliography due

Discuss chapter 8, introduce WA3: Research Paper

Homework: complete lab 5

Week 11: Apr 2

Lab 5 due before class

Watch movie

Homework:

Week 12: Apr 9

Discuss movie

Homework: read chapter 9 in *CTRW*, complete lab 6

Week 13: Apr 16

Lab 6 due before class



Discuss chapter 9, discuss intros and conclusions

Homework: read chapter 10 in *CTRW*, have intro for WA3 ready for next week

Week 14: Apr 23

Discuss chapter 10, question and example session for WA3

Homework: work on WA3

Week 15: Apr 30

Lab 7 due before class

Question and example session for WA3

Homework: work on WA3

Week 16: May 7

Question and example session for WA3

Homework: work on WA3, paper due next class, complete lab 8

Week 17: May 14 FINALS WEEK (Final exam time 7-9 pm)

Lab 8 due before class

WA3 Research Paper due BEFORE class

Final in-class reflection