

University of North Texas at Dallas
Fall 2025
SYLLABUS: UGRW 1200-005

Department: LLR School: Liberal Arts and Sciences	
Instructor Name:	Yolanda Wright
Office Location:	Founders Hall, Room 302A
Office Phone:	N/A
Email Address:	Yolanda.wright@untdallas.edu
Office Hours:	M/W 11:30AM-12:30PM
Classroom Location:	DAL2 213
Class Meeting Days & Times:	M/W 8:30-9:50
Course Catalog Description:	1200. 3 hours. This interactive writing workshop provides individualized instruction through guided practice, focusing on writing skills essential for success in ENGL 1313 (College Writing 1). Emphasizes audience, purpose, and occasion. Placement in this option is based on TSI Assessment score. Successful completion does not award academic credit or fulfill any degree requirement. Pass/no pass only. Co-Requisite(s):ENGL 1313, same section as UGRW 1200. Course Typically Offered: Fall and Spring.
Prerequisites:	None: This course runs concurrently with English 1313
Co-requisites	None
Required Text:	There is no text for this course. All materials are provided by the instructor. Note: Students will need a flash drive to maintain course assignments.
Access to Learning Resources:	UNT Dallas Library: phone: (972) 780-1616 web: http://www.untdallas.edu/library email: library@untdallas.edu UNT Dallas Bookstore: phone: (972) 780-3652 web: http://www.untdallas.edu/bookstore e-mail: untdallas@bkstr.com
Supported Browsers Chrome Firefox Flash 28, 29 (for audio/video) Internet Explorer 11 Safari 10, 11 Supported Devices: iPhone Android Chromebook (Tablet users can use the Canvas app)	Getting Help with Canvas: Canvas 24 /7 Phone Support for Students: 1-833-668-8634 Canvas Help Resources: web: https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10701 For additional assistance, contact Student Assistance (Distance Learning): Founders Hall, Rm 124 phone: (972) 338-5580 email: distancelearning@untdallas.edu <i>If you are working with Canvas 24/7 Support to resolve a technical issue, make sure to keep me updated on the troubleshooting progress.</i> If you have a course-related issue (course content, assignment troubles, quiz difficulties) please contact me during office hours or by email.

Course Goals or Overview: The goals of this course are as follows:	
The goal of this course is developmental in content. It is a course dedicated to helping students who demonstrate a need for extra assistance in collegiate reading and/or writing.	
Learning Objectives/Outcomes: At the end of this course, students will be able to:	

- 1 Understand, interpret, and critically analyze the content of readings, drawing inferences and evaluating arguments across multiple texts.
- 2 Identify and evaluate the rhetorical elements (such as audience, purpose, and message) in diverse texts and apply these insights to one's own writing.
- 3 Draft, proofread, and revise college writing assignments, including reading responses, essays, and other forms of academic writing, with attention to audience, purpose, and context.
- 4 Demonstrate the ability to write coherently in formal, academic style with correct English mechanics and grammar, while employing appropriate rhetorical strategies for given writing situations.

UGRW 1200 is a support course for ENGL 1313; therefore, the learning outcomes for ENGL 1313 are also outcomes for UGRW 1200:

Critical Thinking	Understand and utilize rhetorical principles in the analysis, evaluation, and creation of written, oral, and visual texts
Communication	Identify and implement writing and genre conventions from various disciplines
Teamwork	Utilize flexible and robust writing processes and composing strategies for creating effective, written, oral, and visual texts
Personal Responsibility	Collaborate effectively with their peers in composing and feedback processes

Course Outline

This schedule is subject to change by the instructor. Any changes to this schedule will be communicated in class or via class email or Canvas announcement. Additional readings and activities may be added, these will be noted in the Readings and Activities/Assignments sections.

Week	Class Date	Unit	Topics	UGRW Assignments
Week 1	8/25-8/30		Course Introduction Introduction to the Importance of Writing	Writing Diagnostic Due
Week 2	9/1-9/6 *Campus Closed 9/1	Literacy Narrative	Read: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frederick Douglass, "Learning to Read and Write" • "Malcolm X, "Literacy Behind Bars" 	Read Aloud #1
Week 3	9/8-9/13 *Census Date 9/10		Writing Introductions and Conclusions Writing Drafts Read: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tanya Barrientos, "Se Habla Español" • Gloria Anzaldua, "How to Tame a Wild Tongue" 	

Week	Class Date	Unit	Topics	UGRW Assignments
Week 4	9/15-9/20		1:1 Rough Draft Workshops Read: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anne Lamott, "Shitty First Drafts" Literacy Narrative Due	Literacy Narrative Rough Draft Due
Week 5	9/22-9/27	Academic Discourse	Academic Writing: Voice and Style Read: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lauren Leffer, "Humans Absorb Bias from AI— And Keep It after They Stop Using the Algorithm" 	Read Aloud #2
Week 6	9/29-10/4		Academic Writing: Format and Structure Thesis Statements Read: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Victoria Turk, "How AI Reduces the World to Stereotypes" 	Literacy Narrative Revision Due
Week 7	10/6-10/11		1:1 Rough Draft Workshops Academic Discourse Due	Academic Discourse Rough Draft Due
Week 8	10/13-10-18	Discourse Communities	Food: Culture, Employment, Production, Ethics Reference together in class: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patricia Bizzell, from "What Is a Discourse Community?" Keith Grant-Davie, from "Rhetorical Situations and Their Constituents" John Swales, from "The Concept of Discourse Community" Read: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leslie Cappiello, "Food, A Love Language" Stephanie Toone, "A TED Talk Put Ron Finley on the Map. 10 Years Later, the 'Gangsta Gardener' Is Going Strong" 	Read Aloud #3
Week 9	10/20-10/25		Integrating Sources Read: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> David Bacon, "'Strawberry 	Academic Discourse Revision Due

Week	Class Date	Unit	Topics	UGRW Assignments
			Farmworkers Fight for a Living Wage” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ariyana Griffin, "Surviving a Food Desert in College" 	
Week 10	10/27-11/1		Research Other Conversations Read: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tracie McMillan, “The American Way of Eating: I got hired to do the hardest job at Applebee’s” • Toni Tipton-Martin, from the introduction to Jubilee, Recipes from Two Centuries of African American Cooking: A Cookbook 	Read Aloud #4
Week 11	11/3-11/8		1:1 Rough Draft Workshops Discourse Communities Due	Discourse Communities Rough Draft Due
Week 12	11/10-11/15	New Discourse Community	Introduction to Listening <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listen: “StoryCorps Then and Now: Mother Mary” • "Befriending Radical Disagreement" 	
Week 13	11/17-11/22		Introduction to Interviewing Introduction to Profile Writing Read: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharon Salzberg, "Proximity Leads to Understanding" 	Discourse Communities Revision Due
Week 14	11/24-11/29		Introduction to Research	
Week 15	12/1-12/6		1:1 Rough Draft Workshops New Discourse Community Due	New Discourse Community Rough Draft Due
Week 16	12/8-12/13		Finals Week	

Description of Graded Work

This class is Pass/Fail. Your participation is essential to passing this class.

Writing Diagnostic: You will complete a writing and reading diagnostic so I can formulate a skills plan for you to work on this semester.

Rough Drafts: You are required to complete rough drafts of each of your major ENGL 1313 essays. Part of that rough draft requirement may include meetings with me.

Revisions: You are required to revise each of your major ENGL 1313 essays.

***Read Alouds:** You are required to record yourself reading the provided passages and upload the recordings, allowing me to offer feedback that will help you improve your reading skills.

***Journal Entries:** You are required to complete a journal entry at the start of each class. There are 12 in total.

***RDG's:** You will complete RDG assignments to improve/practice reading comprehension. There are 8.

NOTE: Anything marked with an asterisk (*) is conditionally based on the results of your writing and reading assessments

Before we begin, please keep this idea in mind. We are in this together. Your professor wants to help you get from where you are to where you want to be with your writing in preparation for your next English course and your other university courses. To achieve that goal, we will constantly strive for the following:

- demonstrate a process-based approach to writing and reading;
- generate topics and supporting details from one's personal and educational experience;
- write an essay with a three-part structure (introduction/body/conclusion) that makes a point;
- support general statements with specific details and examples;
- recognize the difference between writing for an audience and writing for self;
- employ a strong writer's voice and revise and edit writing for standard written English;
- identify the parts of speech; and
- develop proofreading strategies to be able to edit writing for the following errors: apostrophes in contractions, possessives, and misused apostrophes; articles and prepositions; awkward wording; capitalization; commas with items in a series, coordinating conjunctions, introductory clauses, phrases, and transitional devices, and unnecessary commas; ten commonly confused words - *a/an/and; are/our; it's/its; knew/know/new/no; than/then; their/there/they're; to/too/two; were/we're/where; whose/who's; your/you're* - parallelism; omitted words and letters; pronoun case, agreement, and reference; quotation marks; run-ons and sentence fragments; subject-verb agreement; verb tense consistency; and document design.
- Increase vocabulary through writing and reading.
- Increase vocabulary through writing and reading
- State the content of readings
- Interpret content of readings

Course Evaluation Methods

This course will utilize the following instruments to determine student grades and proficiency of the learning outcomes for the course. This course is pass/fail, and you will exit this course when the professor determines that your reading and/or writing meets the minimum threshold of 70.

Discussion Posts, Quizzes, Exams, Writings

Grading Matrix:

Activities/Assignments	Value (percentages)
<p>This course is pass/fail. You will exit the course when the professor determines you meet the threshold of 70.</p> <p>This course runs concurrently with English 1313.</p>	
Total:	Pass/Fail

Grade Determination

A = 90% or better

B = 80 – 89 %

C = 70 – 79 %

D = 60 – 69 %

F = less than 60%

University Policies and Procedures

Course and University Policies and Procedures

Late Work Policy

An assignment that is not uploaded and/or turned in on the due date is considered late.

- I realize that sometimes life happens and you cannot submit an assignment on time. I will give you a *three days' grace period to submit a late assignment*, no questions asked. No need to email me that you will turn in your assignment within the grace period.
- Late submissions will be graded only after I have graded all assignments submitted on time. Do not text or email me inquiring when I will grade your late submission as I will grade it only after I have graded timely submissions.

Attendance

Your active participation and presence are key ingredients for success in this course. Being present for class discussions, activities, and learning opportunities creates the best environment for you to grow and excel.

To support your learning journey, attend class regularly. Life can sometimes present unexpected challenges, so you have up to four absences available each semester if needed. However, please note that additional unexcused absences beyond these four may impact your final grade, as determined by your instructor. If absences extend to six or more, it may become difficult to achieve the course objectives, potentially resulting in a course failure.

I'm here to support your success, so if you're experiencing circumstances that affect your attendance, please reach out to me to discuss your situation. Together, we can work to ensure you stay on track with your learning goals.

Absences may be considered excused only if 1) students have made pre-arranged plans with the instructor for events and circumstances that are appropriate for missing class or 2) the student has documentation (timestamped picture, official note, dated materials) of extenuating circumstances.

Students who are more than 20 minutes late may be marked absent.

Revision Policy

Revision is a skill you will learn and be required to do in this class. You will upload revisions in our class Canvas site.

Contacting the Instructor

Text: You are welcome to text me at 325.665.2647 during business hours (8AM-5PM). Please text your name and class, and please also understand I may not be at my computer when you text and therefore I may not have an immediate answer. If you text me after 5 PM, I will block you from contacting me.

Email: Email me via our Canvas inbox. Once the semester ends, you may email me at yolanda.wright@untDallas.edu

University Resources:

- **Writing Center:** Good writers do not write in a vacuum; rather, they seek feedback and assistance from many people and groups. One of the best resources to use on campus is the Writing Center, where a trained writing consultant can help students review and revise their papers, no matter what stage they are at.
- **BrainFuse:** BrainFuse is a free online tutoring and paper-feedback service for all UNTD students. More information and instructions will be provided in Canvas.
- **Canvas Help:** Our department of Distance Learning and Technology has an [online help bot](#) as well as on-campus help in DAL1 157.

Basic Course Information

- **Minimum Technology Requirement:** Students must have access to high speed Internet, MS Word or an equivalent program that can save files as a .docx or pdf.
- **Minimum Student Skills:** Students must be proficient with using word processing software and uploading and downloading files. Students must be able to use Canvas.
- **Netiquette Expectations:** Appropriate behavior (in the classroom and online) is expected in order to create a supportive and comfortable experience. Students are expected to be courteous and to respect the rights of other class members and the professor. Any behavior that is not acceptable (e.g., trolling, flaming, or any other aggressive or counterproductive behavior) may be reported to the Dean of Students.

Students with Disabilities (ADA Compliance)

The University of North Texas at Dallas makes reasonable academic accommodations for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Disabilities Services Office (DSO) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the DSO will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodation at any time, however, DSO notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delays in implementation. Note that a student must obtain a new

letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet/communicate with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see the Disability Services Office website at <http://www.untDallas.edu/disability>. You may also contact them by phone at 972-338-1777; by email at UNTDDisability@untDallas.edu on the first floor of the Student Center.

Canvas Instructure Accessibility Statement:

University of North Texas at Dallas is committed to ensuring that online and hybrid courses are usable by all students and faculty including those with disabilities. If you encounter any difficulties with technologies, please contact our ITSS Department. To better assist them, you would want to have the operating system, web browser and information on any assistive technology being used. The Canvas Instructure Accessibility Statement is provided at <https://www.canvaslms.com/accessibility>.

NOTE: Additional instructional technology tools, such as Turnitin, Respondus, Panopto, and publisher cartridge content (i.e. MyLab, Pearson, etc.) may NOT be fully ADA compliant. Please contact our Disability Office should you require additional assistance utilizing any of these tools.

Course Evaluation Policy

Students' evaluations of teaching effectiveness is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT Dallas. This short survey will be made available to you at the end of the semester, providing you a chance to comment on how this class is taught. I am very interested in the feedback I get from students, as I work to continually improve my teaching. I consider students' evaluations to be an important part of your participation in this class.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is a hallmark of higher education. You are expected to abide by the University's code of Academic Integrity policy. Any person suspected of academic dishonesty (i.e., cheating or plagiarism) will be handled in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to the UNT Dallas Academic Integrity Policy in the appropriate Catalog at <http://dallascatalog.unt.edu>.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarizing, fabrication of information or citations, facilitating acts of dishonesty by others, having unauthorized possession of examinations, submitting work of another person or work previously used without informing the instructor, or tampering with the academic work of other students.

Web-based Plagiarism Detection: Please be aware in some courses, students may be required to submit written assignments to Turnitin, a web-based plagiarism detection service, or another method. If submitting to Turnitin, please remove your title page and other personal information.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to , cheating, plagiarism, or collusion.

- Cheating includes copying from another student's test or homework paper, using materials not authorized, collaborating with or seeking aid from another student during a test, knowingly using,

buying, selling, stealing, or soliciting the contents of an unadministered test, and substituting for another person to take a test.

- In any written paper, you are guilty of the academic offense known as plagiarism if you partially or entirely copy the author's sentences or words without quotation marks. Copying and pasting from Chat GPT, Snapchat AI, or any other AI Large Language Model (LLM) is plagiarism. If you use AI or LLM, you must cite that in your writing. Bottom line: If the idea you write did not come out of your head, and you use words that someone or something else wrote, you are plagiarizing, and you will *not receive credit for the assignment nor be able to resubmit that assignment*.
- Collusion is the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing written work for fulfillment of course requirements

Applied English Program's AI Policy

The UNT-Dallas Applied English program acknowledges the evolving capabilities of Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies and their various effects on student writing and content creation. The program and the Department of Languages, Linguistics, and Rhetoric is focused on implementing AI-Aware strategies and fostering an environment that emphasizes the ethical and strategic use of AI. Instructors are encouraged to provide clear information, strategies, and policies on AI use in each course and assignment, and students are expected to use AI in an ethical manner. The Applied English program will work at creating an environment of instructor-student-technology collaboration as we move forward in a society where students must learn how to critically harness the capabilities of new technologies.

Classroom Etiquette

Students are encouraged to contribute their perspectives and insights to class discussions. However, offensive & inappropriate language (swearing) and remarks offensive to others of nationalities, ethnic groups, sexual preferences, religious groups, genders, or other ascribed statuses will not be tolerated. Disruptions which violate the Code of Student's Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct will be referred to the Dean of Students as the instructor deems appropriate (UNT Policy 7.001 found at <https://untsystem.policyletech.com/dotNet/documents/?docid=1278&public=true>).

Classroom Disruption

Students are expected to always engage with the instructor and other students in this class in a respectful and civil manner to promote a classroom environment that is conducive to teaching and learning. Students who engage in disruptive behavior will be directed to leave the classroom. A student who is directed to leave class due to disruptive behavior is not permitted to return to class until the student meets with a representative from the Dean of Students Office. It is the student's responsibility to meet with the Dean of Students before class meets again and to provide the instructor confirmation of the meeting. A student who is directed to leave class will be assigned an unexcused absence for that class period and any other classes the student misses because of not meeting with the Dean of Students. The student is responsible for material missed during all absences, and the instructor is not responsible for providing missed material. In addition, the student will be assigned a failing grade for assignments, quizzes or examinations missed and will not be allowed to make up the work.

The Code of Student's Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct (UNT Policy 7.001 found at <https://untsystem.policyletech.com/dotNet/documents/?docid=1278&public=true>) describes disruption as the obstructing or interfering with university functions or activity, including any behavior that interferes with students, faculty, or staff access to an appropriate educational environment. Examples of disruptive behavior that may result in a student being directed to leave the classroom include but are not limited to: failure to comply with reasonable directive of University officials, action or combination of actions that unreasonably interfere with, hinder, obstruct, or prevents the right of others to freely participate, threatening, assaulting, or causing harm to oneself or to another, uttering any words or performing any acts that cause physical injury, or threaten any individual, or interfere with

any individual's rightful actions, and harassment. You are encouraged to read the Code of Student's Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct for more information related to behaviors that could be considered disruptive.

Course Evaluations

Student evaluations of teaching effectiveness are a requirement for all organized classes at UNT Dallas. This short survey will be made available to you at the end of the semester via your campus email, providing you a chance to comment on how this class is taught. I (as the instructor) will not have access to the results of the evaluations until after final grades have been posted. I am very interested in the feedback I get from students, as I work to continually improve my teaching. I consider students' evaluations to be an important part of your participation in this class.

Sexual Harassment, Sexual Misconduct, Intimate Partner Violence and Stalking

UNT Dallas is committed to creating a safe learning environment for all members of our community, free from gender and sex-based discrimination, including sexual harassment, domestic and dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, in accordance with Title IX, Texas laws and University Policies. Please note that all employees are mandated reporters and must report all instances of sexual misconduct, dating violence, sexual assault, domestic violence and stalking to the Title IX Coordinator. If you or someone you know has experienced any form of sex or gender-based discrimination or violence and wish to speak to the Title IX Coordinator, you can email them at attitleix@untDallas.edu or file a report [here](#).

Pregnancy, Pregnancy Related Conditions and Parenting Modifications Under Title IX

UNT Dallas is committed to compliance with Title IX, and to supporting the academic success of pregnant and parenting students and students with pregnancy related conditions. If you are a pregnant, have pregnant related conditions or a parenting student (child under one-year needs documented medical care) who wishes to request reasonable related modifications from the University under Title IX, please email the Title IX Coordinator at attitleix@untDallas.edu. The Title IX Coordinator will work with your professors and academic unit to provide reasonable modifications needed to be supportive of your education while pregnant or as a parent under Title IX.

Bad Weather Policy:

Campus facilities will close, and operations will be suspended when adverse weather and/or safety hazards exist on the UNTD campus or if travel to the campus is deemed dangerous as the result of ice, sleet or snow. In the event of a campus closure, the Marketing and Communication Department will report closure information to all appropriate major media by 7 a.m. That department will also update the UNTD website, Facebook and Twitter with closing information as soon as it is possible. For more information, please refer to <http://www.untDallas.edu/police/resources/notifications>.

Inclement Weather and Online Classes:

Online classes may or may not be affected by campus closures due to inclement weather. Unless otherwise notified by your instructor via e-mail, online messaging, or online announcement, students should assume that assignments are due as scheduled.

Technology Assistance: To successfully access the materials in Canvas, UNT Dallas advises that your computer be equipped with the minimum system requirements listed on the first page of the syllabus.

If you have trouble accessing or using components of the course, try using Google Chrome browser. If you still experience technical difficulties, first, notify your instructor.

If the problem is still not resolved, call Distance Learning at the phone number listed on the first page of the syllabus. Also, no matter what browser you use, always enable pop-ups.

For more information see:

UNT Dallas Canvas Technical Requirements: <https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10721>

Canvas Instructure Support & Unsupported Operating Systems: <https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10720>

