

ENGLISH 1101 COURSE SYLLABUS

PROFESSOR: Doug Davis

office: FA126

Webpage: <http://faculty.gordonstate.edu/ddavis/>

e-mail: ddavis@gordonstate.edu

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS AND MATERIALS:

1. Aciman, Atwan. *The Best American Essays 2020*. New York: Mariner/Houghton Mifflin, 2020. ISBN 9780358359913.
2. Chiang, Ted. *Exhalation: Stories*. New York: Knopf, 2019. ISBN 9781101947883.
3. Venus, Wesley and Mark King. *The Gordon State College Writing Handbook*. Distributed free online at <http://www.gordonstate.edu/successcenter/writing-handbook.html>.

You must bring your personal copies of Exhalation or The Best American Essays to every class meeting during which we are discussing stories or essays in them.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

- Computer access and a Gordon email account. Your professor will send you materials via your Gordon email account, so you must check it regularly.
- A pocket folder or binder to keep class papers, notes, and handouts in.
- A pen and a notebook in which to write during class.
- A USB flash-memory drive to keep copies of your essays on. You must own your own disk or drive and keep copies of all your essays and presentations on it.
- Access to Microsoft Word and/or the ability to save files in MS Word format. You will be required to upload your writing assignments to a website in MS Word format. All Gordon students will receive a free subscription to Microsoft Office 365; go here for details: <https://www.gordonstate.edu/departments/computer-services/office-365/index.html>

COURSE DESCRIPTION: A composition course focusing on skills required for effective composition of a college-level essay.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- Students will demonstrate the ability to produce written communication that conforms to academic standard English and is organized into a series of coherent, unified paragraphs.
- Students will demonstrate the ability to assimilate, analyze, and organize information by composing in various formal modes and writing with a clearly developed thesis and effective support.
- Students will demonstrate the ability to adapt written communication stylistically to suit a variety of circumstances and audiences.

ASSIGNMENTS:

- 1. Readings, in-class writing assignments and exercises
- 2. Library orientation quiz
- 3. Fiction Summary essay
- 4. Creative Non-fiction Interpretation essay
- 5. Compare and Contrast essay
- 6. Film Review
- 7. Narrative
- 8. Revision

GRADES AND GRADING SCALE:

- 1. Class participation, brief in-class writing assignments 10%
- 2. Library orientation quiz 10%
- 3. Fiction Summary 10%
- 4. Creative Non-fiction Interpretation 20%
- 5. Compare and contrast 20%
- 6. Film review 20%
- 7. Narrative 10%

Grading scale: A=90-100, B=80-89, C=70-79, D=60-70, F=60 and below.

FINAL GRADE CALCULATOR:

You may calculate your final grade by adding your test and report scores to the following rubric and adjusting them to the noted percentages. This is this same rubric that your professor will use at the end of the term to calculate your final grade.

Library Quiz	Summary	Interpre-tation	Compare and Contrast	Film Review	Narrative	Class Particip.	Total
10%	10%	20%	20%	20%	10%	10%	

Grading scale: A=90-100, B=80-89, C=70-79, D=65-69, F=64 and below.

GRADING STANDARDS

Essays will be graded for their argumentative content, for the sources and documentation they contain, and for their mechanical and grammatical correctness. Essays must be written in Standard American English with minimal errors. Essays that exhibit a trend (3 instances) of a single serious grammar, mechanical, or style error cannot receive a grade higher than a 75. Serious errors consist of fragments, comma splices, run-ons, poor sentence structure, as well as errors in verb tense, verb forms, subject-verb agreement,

pronoun agreement, pronoun case, diction, and parallelism. Essays that exhibit more than one trend of a serious error cannot receive a grade higher than a 50.

CLASS PARTICIPATION:

Many days this semester we will be discussing readings from books. Thus, on days readings are assigned, you must bring your personal copy of the book you read for homework with you to class. Students who do not bring an assigned book with them to class will have their class participation grade lowered and may be counted absent for the day.

Your class participation grade is based upon several factors: in-class behavior; keeping up with reading assignments; participation in class discussion; and punctuality in turning in of assignments. All students begin class with an average class participation grade of 7 out of 10 possible points. Students who participate in class discussions, hand in assignments on time, and demonstrate that they are keeping up with the class readings will receive class participation grades higher than a 7; students who hand in assignments late, exhibit disruptive behavior in class, are late to class, have excessive absences, or do not demonstrate that they are keeping up with class readings will receive class participation grades of 6 or lower.

See “Academic Dishonesty” and “Class Attendance” below for related grading policies.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:

Cheating in any form, including plagiarism, is a serious academic offense. Plagiarism is the passing off of someone else’s ideas and/or words as your own, or the passing off of your old, previously graded work as new work. Plagiarism is the willful representation of another person’s work as your own, or of your old, previously graded work as new work. If you have questions about what constitutes plagiarism, ask now.

Wholesale plagiarism is the attempt to pass off a complete essay composed by another person or persons as your own; if caught committing wholesale plagiarism you will fail this course. Self-plagiarism is the attempt to pass off work that you wrote for another class and may have already received a grade on; you must write original essays in English 1101 and cannot re-use essays or work you have already submitted for another class or for a project external to this class. All self-plagiarized work will receive a grade of 0; all students who self-plagiarize will have their class participation grade reduced by a minimum of 5 points and a maximum of 10 points depending on the severity of the plagiarism. Patchwork plagiarism is the attempt to incorporate elements (exact quotes or ideas) of another’s work into your own without proper attribution; if caught committing patchwork plagiarism, you will receive a failing grade (zero points) for the assignment and your class participation grade will be reduced by a minimum of 5 points and a maximum of 10 points depending on the severity of the plagiarism. Additionally, there is also a condition known as collusion, which translates to receiving excessive help to the point that a work can no longer be considered the sole product of a single author. If I suspect a submitted work to be the result of collusion, I reserve the right to refuse credit for that work if the claimed author is unable to demonstrate sole authorship.

A student who plagiarizes or otherwise cheats on two or more assignments in any form will automatically fail the class.

All plagiarized work will automatically be submitted to the college administration for disciplinary review. All students who plagiarize in any form will be reported to the college administration for academic dishonesty.

To prevent plagiarism, all students will be required to cite all sources used in their essays and to quote and paraphrase appropriately. Furthermore, all student work will be automatically reviewed by Turnitin.com (see Turnitin.com submission guidelines below).

SAMPLE ESSAYS:

Sample papers for many class assignments are available for download from your professor's faculty webpage (<http://faculty.gordonstate.edu/ddavis/>). It is recommended that you read these sample papers as guides for your own writing.

WRITING CENTER:

Gordon State College runs a writing assistance center in the Student Success Center. At the SSC you can get one-on-one assistance with your assignments as many times during the semester as you want.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES, TITLE IX, ADA, AND OTHER POLICIES:

<https://www.gordonstate.edu/documents/departments/academic-affairs/resources/syllabus-statements-required-and-optional---august-20211.pdf>

CLASS POLICIES:

Absences:

Regular class attendance is your obligation. You are expected to attend every class meeting. However, absences will not be held against you this semester due to the ongoing pandemic. If you are not feeling well in any way whatsoever, do not attend class.

Late essays:

Essays must be submitted to their corresponding folders in turnitin.com by 11:59 on the day they are due. Late essays may be graded down one full letter grade for each day they are late, for whatever reason. After one week, the essay assignment folder may close; essays may not be accepted after one week of their due date and may be given the grade of 0.

It is your responsibility to keep track of your assignment due dates and to submit material to turnitin.com on time. All due dates are stated on the class schedule of assignments. Your professor will not remind you to submit an essay if you have missed a due date.

Email and discussion policy:

All personal questions or announcements for your professor should be directed to him either in person before or after class, during his office hours, or by email.

Your professor generally responds to emails within two business days. If you send your professor an email on Friday or on the weekend, do not expect a reply until the following Wednesday at the earliest.

Your professor cannot discuss the details of grades with you over email in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). See <https://www2.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa/index.html>. See your professor in person if you want to discuss a grade.

CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE:

Good attendance, punctuality turning in assignments, participation in class discussion, a good attitude, and evidence that you are keeping up with reading assignments will all raise your class participation grade. However, your class participation grade will be lowered for the following kinds of behavior:

1. Inopportune absences (such as on days assignments are due).
2. Forgetting to bring your books with you to class.
3. Coming into class late.
4. Sleeping during class.
5. Doing work for other courses during our class period.
6. Interrupting people. In discussions, allow the person speaking to finish.
7. Whispering or talking to someone else while the professor or another student is speaking.
8. Using your cell phone, texting, etc.

TURNITIN.COM GUIDELINES:

Turnitin.com class ID for section L (11:00 – 12:15): **30735882**

Turnitin.com class ID for section M (2:00 – 3:15): **30735905**

Turnitin.com enrollment key/password: **1101**

By taking this course, you agree that all required papers may be subject to submission of textual similarity review to Turnitin.com. All submitted papers will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism in other papers. Use of the Turnitin.com service is subject to the Terms and Conditions of Use posted on the Turnitin.com site <http://www.turnitin.com/static/usage.html>.

According to the Family Compliance Office of the U.S. Department of Education, your papers are education records within the meaning of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA) (<http://www.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa/index.html>). Education records may not be disclosed to third parties in a form that identifies you without your consent. Since Turnitin.com is a third party, you must choose one of the two ways below (not both) to submit papers to Turnitin.com in order to comply with FERPA.

1. YOU CONSENT TO DISCLOSE PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION TURNITIN.COM

You may consent to release your personal identification to Turnitin.com by establishing an account and uploading your paper. Your professor will give you instructions on how to set up your Turnitin account.

OR

2. YOU DO NOT CONSENT TO DISCLOSE PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION TO TRUNITIN.COM

If you choose not to consent to release your personal identification to Turnitin.com, you must send your paper to your professor by email as an electronic attachment that can be opened by Microsoft Word, by the deadline given on the syllabus. Your identifying information will be removed and the paper uploaded to Turnitin.com for you. Because your paper will not be in a Turnitin.com account that is accessible to you, you will not be able to view your report on-line. Instead, after the deadline has passed and all papers have been processed by Turnitin.com, your instructor will email an electronic copy of your paper's report to you.

Your paper will be processed by Turnitin.com whichever option you choose. The different options simply determine how the paper is submitted to Turnitin.com whether the paper has your name on it, and how you receive the Turnitin.com report.

Please note that in Turnitin.com there is a "test upload" assignment area for your paper. Because test uploads are not required or graded, and need not be a sample of your own work, they are not "education records."

IMPORTANT NOTE: If you upload an early draft of your paper to the test upload assignment, and then upload the final assignment, the final originality report will show that a substantial part of your paper is identical to your draft. That is expected.

You can read more about Turnitin.com here: <http://www.turnitin.com>