Syllabus English 1023  
Freshman Composition II

Instructor: Manjit Kaur  
Department: The Writing Program  
E-mail: manjit.kaur@utsa.edu or through blackboard

Course Description:
English 1023 is the second required course in the rhetoric sequence of the Core Curriculum. It is a course in academic discourse for which English 1013 is a prerequisite. Building on knowledge development in English 1013, student’s study persuasive writing relying on classical and modern theories of argumentation. These theories help them assess the effectiveness of different lines of reasoning as they begin writing within different academic disciplines and as they present their arguments before culturally diverse audiences. Students attend to oral and visual aspects of communication, incorporating these elements within the scope of their arguments. Students continue developing their research skills using the library’s print and electronic resources.

Materials:
Your Books, most important  
A computer with internet access  
A lot of time and commitment  
A fresh mind and readiness to learn (very important)

Textbooks Required:

- TITLE: Writing Program Student Handbook 2010-2011  
  AUTHOR: UTSA  
  EDITION:  
  COPYRIGHT YEAR: 2010  
  PUBLISHER: UTSA Writing Program  
  ISBN:  
  NEW: $14.00  
  USED: $10.50

- TITLE: St Martin's Handbook (2009 MLA Upd)  
  AUTHOR: Lunsford  
  EDITION: 6th  
  COPYRIGHT YEAR: 2009  
  PUBLISHER: Bedford Saint Martin’s  
  ISBN: 9780312594541  
  NEW: $77.50  
  USED: $58.25

- TITLE: RAMAGE WRITING ARGUMENTS VALUAPAK FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SAN ANTONIO,  
  AUTHOR: Ramage  
  EDITION:  
  COPYRIGHT YEAR: 2011  
  PUBLISHER: Pearson Custom Publishing  
  ISBN: 9780555870204  
  NEW: $82.75  
  USED: $62.25
Coursework:
There shall be a total of four essays and one final exam. The essays will be related to the readings and will often use the readings as sources. Some essays will require additional library research. Periodic Quizzes, Reading responses, and power point presentations shall be a part of this class as well.

Class Policies:

- In complying with Department policy, I will require that you attend all classes throughout the semester. Your attendance will be based upon your participation, and the turning in of your assignments on time. If you miss to participate in more than two class discussions, I will lower your grade by a whole letter grade. Late work will not be accepted; all essay assignments should be turned on time. **No exceptions!**
- Students, will be allowed to make-up one of their lowest essay grades; this shall be done towards the end of the semester. But, this chance will be given only to those students who did not miss, but, actually attempted the original assignment. For those who miss an assignment, there shall be no make-up.
- **Follow the netiquettes strictly.**
- Read all the assigned readings and participate in discussions. Participation plays a key role in this course.
- If you have any questions and want to get hold of me, just send me an email through blackboard, or at manjit.kaur@utsa.edu
- All assignments should be typed, double spaced and documented.
- Papers are due on the scheduled day. Late work will not be accepted.
- Students are expected to observe customary principles of courtesy and academic classroom etiquette. Do not disrupt the learning environment.
- If you fail to take your final examination, you will automatically be given an F as the final grade.

Attendance
Attendance will be based upon your participation, and the turning in of your assignments on time. If you miss to participate in more than two class discussions, I will lower your grade by a whole letter grade. **Late work will not be accepted; all the assignments should be submitted on time.**

Philosophy:
The purpose of the writing program is to provide opportunities for students to develop their writing skills and critical thinking skills to communicate in the academic community and in the work place.

Evaluation:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Two response papers</td>
<td>24% (12% each)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Two Research papers</td>
<td>30% (15% each)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quizzes, exercises, tests and online discussions</td>
<td>9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>PowerPoint presentation</td>
<td>6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Visual argument</td>
<td>6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>25%</td>
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Late Work:

**Late work will not be accepted.**

Criteria for Grading:
The Standard grading scheme will used to grade this course: **A** = Outstanding, **B** = Above Average, **C** = Average, **D** = below average but passing, **F** = Failure. **A W** will be given to a student who withdraws through the first nine weeks of the semester with a passing grade and an **F** to one who withdraws with a failing grade.
For detailed description see p. 13 of the Writing Program Student Hand Book.

**Scholastics Dishonesty:**
The Information Bulletin of UTSA, 2003-2004 states the following:
The integrity of a university degree depends on the integrity of the work done for that degree by each student. The University expects a student to maintain a high standard of individual honor in all scholastic work.

**Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to**
- Cheating on test or other class work
- Plagiarism (the appropriation of another’s work and the unauthorized incorporation of that work in one’s own written work offered for credit)
- Collusion (the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing college work offered for credit)

Should a student be accused of scholastic dishonesty, the faculty member may initiate disciplinary proceedings.

The writing you do in all courses must be your own. Sometimes, however, students commit plagiarism because of the failure to understand its meaning. For this reason we offer an extensive definition of plagiarism.

- Failure to acknowledge the sources of information which is neither common nor personal knowledge. Your instructor will clearly explain documentation, and you are expected to use it in all work where it is appropriate.
- Failure to place another’s direct words in quotation marks or to indent in the case of longer quotations. If a passage is copied in the exact words of the original text, it must be placed in quotation marks in addition to citation of the source.
- Failure to document a source that has been paraphrased. When you use information from a source, put the ideas into your own words, and if you use any phrases of the original text, be sure to place those phrases in quotation marks. This material too must be clearly documented.

The definition of Collusion follows:
**Collusion** is collaborating with another person to prepare work presented for credit. Collusion includes allowing someone else to write or to edit your papers.

**Weekly Schedule (Tentative)**

Writing Arguments – (WA)
The St Martin’s Handbook – (SMH)

**PS:** Lectures and other material posted on Blackboard will be made available only for a limited time period (five days). Make sure you save or print all postings.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics and source material</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1/10 - 1/14</td>
<td>Read the syllabus and all other instructions carefully. Formally introduce yourself to the class; this will be your attendance for the week. <em>(Introductions should be completed by 1/14: Friday before noon).</em></td>
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</table>
| 2    | 1/18 - 1/21 | **Read:** (SMH) Chapter 46, p. 710 – 726 and take the comma quiz  
**Quiz:** Complete the comma quiz. The quiz will be made available on Blackboard on the 18th of January (Due 1/21: Friday before noon) |
| 3 | 1/24 – 1/28 | **Diagnostic:** Detailed prompt will be posted on Blackboard.

The Diagnostic will be made available on the 18th of January and will be due on the 21st - before 12 noon. |
|  | Census Date Jan. 26 (Wednesday 5 pm) | **Lecture:** Thesis Statement, topic sentences and other basic elements of developing an essay. You will be given a test based upon this lecture. The quiz will be made available on Blackboard on the 24th of January ((Due 1/28: Friday before noon).

**Assignment:** Write strong controlling thesis statements based upon the provided general topics. The assignment will be made available on the 24th of January (Due 1/27: Thursday before noon).

On time submission of the assignment and the quizzes, will be the attendance for this week. |
| 4 | 1/31- 2/4 | **Lecture I:** (WA) p. 2-23, Argument: An Introduction

Topic: Overview of Argument.

**Read:** (WA): Council for Biotechnology Information, “Would it Surprise You to Know that growing Soybeans Can Help the environment?” p. 606

Gregory A. Jaffe, “Lessen the Fear of Genetically Engineered Crops” p. 615 & Gerald D. Coleman, "Is Genetic Engineering the Answer to Hunger?” p. 619

**Lecture II:** (WA) p. 368-387, Using, Citing, and Documenting Sources, & (SMH) Documenting sources MLA style chapter 18 - p. 300

Topic: MLA Documentation and use of source

Week 7, you will be given a test based on lecture II.

**Discussion 1:** Based upon the assigned readings, open a class discussion. (Discussion should start on 1/31 and will be closed at noon on 2/4).

Analysis the assigned readings and give personal opinion about the issue.

Read the postings by other students, and comment or ask questions. Each student has to ask at-least two different questions to two different students.

Your participation in the discussion will be your attendance for the week. I expect to see each student’s name on the discussion board at least four times.

a) First, when you post your response.
b) Second, when you post your two questions to the first student.
c) Third, when you post your two questions for the second student.
d) Fourth, when you answer the questions that were raised to your original posting.

Details will be provided in the assignment |
| 5 | 2/7 – 2/11 | **1st Response Essay:** Based on the previously assigned readings, you will be given the topic to write the first response essay. Detailed prompt will be provided on Blackboard.

**Essay due on 2/11:** Friday before 12 noon. The prompt will be made available on the 2nd of February

On time submission of essays, will be the attendance for this week. |
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<th>Week</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Activities</th>
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| 6    | 2/14 – 2/18 | **Lecture I:** An Introduction to The Types Of Claims (WA) p. 200  
**Lecture II:** Discuss Conducting research (SMH) chapter 13 p. 222  
Week 7, you will be given a test based on lecture II and MLA Documentation.  
2/14 Start your research project. All your sources should be academically scholarly sources. |
| 7    | 2/21 – 2/25 | **Test:** MLA documentation and conducting research (Due 2/23: Wednesday before 12 noon). The test will be made available on the 21st of Feb.  
**1st Research Essay:** Use library sources and readings. The essay is due on Friday 2/25 before 12 noon. You will not only turn in your essays, but also submit power point presentation based on your essay (presentations are due next week). Details will be discussed in the prompt.  
**Issue:** Optional |
| 8    | 2/28 – 3/4  | **Presentations** should start on 2/28 and will be closed at 12 noon on 3/4.  
Go over all the presentations posted by other students, and comment or ask questions based upon the topic/issue. Each student has to ask at least two different questions to two different students.  
Details will be provided in the assignment |
| 9    | 3/7 – 3/11  | **Lecture:** The Core of an Argument: A Claim With Reasons (WA) p 60  
**Discussion 2:** Based upon the assigned readings, open a class discussion.  
Read the postings by other students, and comment or ask questions. Each student has to ask at least two different questions to two different students.  
(Discussion should start on 3/7 and will be closed at 12 noon on 3/11).  
Your participation in the discussion will be your attendance for the week. I expect to see each student's name on the discussion board at least four times.  
a) First, when you post your response.  
b) Second, when you post your two questions to the first student.  
c) Third, when you post your two questions for the second student.  
d) Fourth, when you answer the questions that were raised to your original posting.  
Details will be provided in the assignment |
| 10   | 3/14 – 3/18 | **SPRING BREAK (Classes will not meet).** |
| 11   | 3/21 – 3/25 | **2nd Response Essay:** Based on the previously assigned readings, you will be given the topic to write the second response essay.  
Detailed prompt will be posted on blackboard.  
**Essay due on 3/25:** Friday before 12noon. |
| 12   | 3/28 – 4/1  | **Lecture:** Informal fallacies  
**Star working on your research paper:** Students will be given the option to choose their own topics. Detailed prompt will be posted on Monday 3/28 |
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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Assignments and Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>4/4 – 4/8</td>
<td><strong>2nd Research Essay:</strong> Use library sources and readings to thoroughly support your argument. <strong>This essay will be due on Wednesday 4/6 before 12 noon.</strong> Details will be discussed in the prompt. Late work will not be accepted</td>
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| 14   | 4/11 – 4/15 | **Lecture:** Conducting Visual Arguments p.165  
**Assignment:** Visual arguments assignment due 4/15, Friday before 12 noon. |
| 15   | 4/18 – 4/22 | **Make-Up Week:** If you had an essay that you did not get a grade for or you got a grade lower than 70. This week is your chance to make up that low grade. Detailed prompt for the make-up paper will be posted on the 18th of April and the paper will be due on the 22nd – before noon. |
| 16   | 4/25 – 4/27 | This week, the final examination reading packets will be made available online.  
**4/28 – 4/29 Student study days. Classes will not meet.** |
| 17   | 5/2 Final Exam Week | **Final Examination paper is due on the 2nd of May, Monday before 12 noon. The Prompt will be made available on the 30th of April.** |