



ENGCOMP152: Expository, Analytical, and Argumentative Writing – Section 1 Spring 2026 Course Syllabus

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Classroom hours: Tuesday 19:20 – 21:55
Office hours: Fridays 13:00 - 16:00
Classroom: S109
Credit Hours: 3

Required Text:

1. Hacker, D. & Sommers, N. (2017). *A writer's reference* (9th ed.). Bedford/St. Martin's.
2. Supplementary materials handed in class or posted on Blackboard.

Course Description

ENGCOMP 152 prepares students for academic and professional writing, including a foundation in rhetoric, argumentation, composition, and style. Students will become familiar with planning, drafting, editing, and revising their academic writing with attention to audience, purpose, and genre. Students will also receive training in critical reading for academic purposes. Students will use creative and critical thinking skills to serve as a mode of communication, persuasion, and problem-solving, developing their analytical and argumentative skills to achieve academic, professional, and personal goals. The course will allow students to identify their writing processes, work collaboratively, and use multi-modal forms of academic expression. To this end, students will write essays, feedback reports, self-reflections, and routine communications that may include written, oral, visual, and electronic components.

Outcomes

Students completing this course will learn how to:

- Produce argumentative, analytical, expository, and reflective writing with appropriate tone, style, content, organization, format, and diction that match the intended purpose, audience, and genre
- Understand and employ strategies for writing as a process, including planning, drafting, revising, and editing
- Work collaboratively on writing projects, using writing to organize, plan, report, and give feedback
- Employ critical reading and listening strategies in academic situations and provide appropriate responses through oral, written, visual, and electronic communication
- Understand and employ rhetorical concepts necessary for sound academic reasoning and argumentation



Schedule (Tentative to class needs and the professor's discretion)

Week	Writing Topic	Reading	Assignment Due
1	Introduction to the course	A4-h: Sample student writing: argument	
2	Basic conventions of academic writing	A1: Reading and writing critically A3: Reading arguments	HW 1
3	Explore your subject	C1-b: Exploring your subject A4: Writing arguments	HW 2
4	Introduction and thesis statement	C1-c: Drafting and revising your thesis statement C2-a: Drafting an introduction C5-c: Suitable organization patterns	HW 3
5	APA formatting	APA-5: Manuscript format	HW 4
6	Writing mechanics	P: Punctuation and mechanics G: Grammatical sentences	HW 5
7	Outline and organize paragraphs	C1-d: Draft a plan	Proposal Due
8	Using sources to support the argument	A4-e: Support your claims with specific evidence	HW 6
9	Evaluating sources	APA-2: Citing sources; avoiding plagiarism	HW 7
10	Address the opposition	Materials on writing a refutation	HW 8
11	Peer Review		
12	Documenting sources	APA-4: Documenting sources	Formal Outline Due
13	Enhance your argument	S: Sentence style	HW 9



Week	Writing Topic	Reading	Assignment Due
14	Final Presentation	A5: Speaking confidently	
15	Final presentation	C3: Reviewing, revising, and editing	
16	Final presentation	C4: Reflecting on your writing	
17	Wrap up the course		Argument Essay Due

Assignments and Evaluation

Below is a breakdown of the course’s assignments and grading scale. Each essay and writing assignment will have a detailed prompt with instructions about content, format, and submission procedures. Unless discussed with the professor previously, late assignments will not be accepted, and the failure to complete your work will result in a failing grade.

ASSIGNMENT 1 Proposal	A proposal of 350-500 words, using a clear rhetorical mode of essay development	10%
ASSIGNMENT 2 Formal Outline	A brainstormed outline, including an introduction with a clear thesis statement that is supported by three levels of information per body paragraph	20%
ASSIGNMENT 3 Final Essay	A 1500-word argument essay	40%
ASSIGNMENT 4 Presentation	Each student will give one in-class presentation, which may include written, oral, and visual components	10%
ASSIGNMENT 5 Participation in class activities and routine writing exercises, final portfolios	This will include in-class activities, discussions, homework, and any other assignments inside and outside of class. This will be graded holistically	20%

Formatting:

All written work should be double-spaced, typed, in 12-point, Times New Roman font, with one-inch margins left, right, top, and bottom. Please write your name, course title, and date on the top left-hand corner of the first page.



Attendance Policy:

After two unexcused absences, students will lose half a letter grade from their final grade. According to the new Sichuan University policy guidelines, students with more than 4 absences (irrespective of whether these are excused absences or not) will automatically fail the course.

Participation:

The final grade will be greatly affected by students' attendance and participation. For each part of a class period missed, a student will receive a deduction of half the point value of a full absence for that day. Participation will be assessed holistically throughout the semester. Late attendance, use of electronic devices without the professor's permission, non-participation in the online/in-class activities, and not submitting homework will all be negatively reflected in your grades.

Student Responsibility:

It is your responsibility to keep track of your assignments, the due dates, as well as additional information announced by the professor. It is also your responsibility to ask me if you need clarification.

A Note Concerning Plagiarism, Translator, and AI Use:

The class adopts a zero-tolerance policy towards plagiarism, translation, and AI use. You should never copy the words of another and present those words as your own work. The professor has access to powerful software that is very effective in determining whether an assignment has been plagiarized, translated, or written (either in whole or in part) by Artificial Intelligence (AI). Any assignment found in transgression of this rule will be automatically disqualified, and an F grade will be assigned. All papers, including the diaries, must be written in English and in your own words. Also, any paper that is written in Chinese and then processed through an online translator will also be considered unacceptable. If you are unsure of the meaning of the above, it is of absolute and vital importance that you ask your professor for clarity.

Student Use of Electronic Technology Policy:

Students must use electronic technology (including cell phones, laptops, tablets, and iPads) in appropriate ways during classes. Out of respect, cell phones should generally be turned off or on silent and stored out of sight. They should not be used during classroom activities unless the professor has given permission. Electronic devices are forbidden during quizzes, tests, or other in-class graded assignments, unless the professor has given permission. Technology use in this class is meant to improve the learning environment for all students. Please be respectful of your professor and classmates and use the technology appropriately. If you have questions about what this means, please talk to your individual professor.



Recording:

To ensure the free and open discussion of ideas, students may NOT record classroom lectures, discussions, and/or activities without the advance permission of the professor, and any such recording properly recorded in advance can be used solely for the student's own private study.

Any reposting of recorded course materials may result in expulsion from the course.

Make-up Policy for Missed Assignments and Tests:

Students are responsible for the assignments in their classes. Assignments include in-class activities, quizzes, tests, homework, and any other work related to classes.

- If you are absent from class, you should try to contact one of the students in your class to find out what work was missed.
- If you cannot find out from another student about what work you have missed, when you return to class, you must talk to your professor about the missed work and if/when you can make up the work. You are responsible for talking to your professor; your professor is not responsible for reminding you about missed work.
- If you are absent from class on the due date of an assignment, you must hand in the assignment and be prepared to make up tests the day that you return to class or on a date decided with your professor.
- If you know you will be absent, talk to your professor before you leave or email your professor to find out about the work that you will miss while you are away.
- If you have not been absent from class and you want to hand in an assignment late, you must first discuss the reason with your professor before or on the due date. Do not assume that your professor will accept late assignments. Also, you may lose points for late work based on the professor's discretion.
- If you and your professor arrange to meet so that you can make up an assignment, and you miss that meeting, you may receive a "0" for that assignment.

SCUPI Honor Code:

Students in this course must follow the SCUPI Honor Code. This includes:

- Not getting help from anyone to do his/her work without the professor's permission.
- Not getting help from any outside sources to do his/her work without the professor's permission.
- Not copying the words of another and presenting those words as his/her own work.

Participating in these activities can result in an F. Turning in work that is not your own can result in an F Grade.



Policy on Plagiarism:

The first instance of plagiarism will result in a failing grade with the option of re-writing the assignment; a second instance will result in failure of the assignment and meeting with the program director, and no option for re-writing the assignment; a third instance will result in failure in the course and referral to university officials for Honor Code violation.

Participation:

Active participation is crucial for language learning. Participating in class makes you an engaged learner of English. In this class, participation means:

- arriving at class on time
- staying on task (including appropriate use of technology)
- actively listening to your classmates and professor when they speak in class
- asking questions
- bringing all class materials
- attending class regularly
- completing all homework on time
- actively and constructively participating in class activities
- being prepared to answer questions
- using English in class

Student Responsibility:

This syllabus is a contract between you and the professor. It is the first place you should look for answers to your questions about course requirements, expectations, and policies. By enrolling in this course, you are agreeing to adhere to the requirements, expectations, and policies outlined in this syllabus, including sections on the SCUPI Honor Code. Students who fail to submit their work on time or miss more than 4 classes could receive a failing grade and may not graduate.