

**Clarendon College
Liberal Arts Division
IRAW303
Fall Mini 2025 (Online)**

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Brad Swygard

CONTACT INFORMATION:

I can be reached through the –Participants block located on the Course Dashboard on the course’s main page or my Clarendon College e-mail is brad.swygard@clarendoncollege.edu.

OFFICE HOURS:

I check my email and Open LMS messages 2-3 times per day.
Office Phone: 806 640 3252

Summer 2025 CALENDAR OF IMPORTANT DATES:

Last day to Drop with a W	January 5
Final Exam	January 12-14
Final Grades Due @ 2:00PM	January 15

Accommodation Statement

REQUIREMENTS OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT:

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, any student who feels that he or she may need any special assistance or accommodation because of an impairment or disabling condition should contact the Associate Dean of Enrollment Services at 806-874-4837 / janean.reish@clarendoncollege.edu or visit the Clarendon campus at Clarendon College. It is the policy of Clarendon College to provide reasonable accommodation as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to contact the Associate Dean of Enrollment Services.

Nondiscrimination Policy

Clarendon College, in accordance with applicable federal and state law, prohibits discrimination, including harassment, on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, religion, sex, disability, age, sexual orientation, or veteran status.

It is the policy of Clarendon College not to discriminate based on gender, age, disability, race, color, religion, marital status, veteran's status, national or ethnic origin, or sexual orientation. Harassment of a student in class, i.e., a pattern of behavior directed against a particular student with the intent of humiliating or intimidating that student will not be tolerated. The mere expression of one's ideas is not harassment and is fully protected by academic freedom, but personal harassment of individual students is not permitted.

STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Student Rights and Responsibilities are listed on Clarendon College's website at

<http://www.clarendoncollege.edu/Resources/Student%20Services/StudentResponsibilities.pdf>

TEACHING PHILOSOPHY:

I believe that successful students take the responsibility for their own learning. The course curriculum will come primarily from the required textbook, class handouts, and interaction with me and other students in the class. In other words, class participation and questions show your interest in this class. If you have questions or need extra help, please feel free to message or e-mail me.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Intensive study of and practice in writing processes, from invention and researching to drafting, revising, and editing, both individually and collaboratively. Emphasis on effective rhetorical choices, including audience, purpose, arrangement, and style. Focus on writing the academic essay as a vehicle for learning, communicating, and critical analysis.

COURSE PURPOSE:

English Composition I partially satisfies the requirements for the associate's degree at Clarendon College and is designed for transfer to a senior college.

COURSE VALUE:

Ability to communicate across the curriculum; ability to interpret what is read and to accept or reject ideas projected from that reading; designed to fulfill the requirements of the core curriculum.

REQUIRED INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS:

Clarendon College now uses a digital Composition I text, *Composing Ourselves and Our World*. You do not have to pay for this text. You will be accessing this text via your class in Moodle. You will be given instructions in your Student Portal for accessing Moodle. We will do all of our **reading, discussions, and Final Exam** online through Moodle. **All major writing assignments will be submitted online through the appropriate link in Moodle.** You can print your text, if you desire.

*Any good dictionary (Optional, but recommended) i.e. *The American Heritage Dictionary*, *Webster's Collegiate* or access to any good on-line site such as <http://www.m-w.com/>

****A flash drive or other additional means of saving your work is HIGHLY recommended****

**** For face-to-face classes, please have a spiral notebook and writing utensils for in-class exercises.**

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT PROGRAM OBJECTIVES:

1. Students will understand and demonstrate writing processes through invention, organization, drafting, revision, editing, and/or presentation.
2. Students will develop the ability to research and write a documented paper.
3. Students will be able to demonstrate an awareness of the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.
4. Students will demonstrate understanding of various works of literature as expressions of individual and human values within a historical and social context.

Clarendon College endeavors to meet the Core Objectives proposed by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. The THECB has determined the following categories as necessary achievements of core curriculum in higher education:

THE CB CORE OBJECTIVES:

Critical Thinking Skills --- to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information (CT)

Communication Skills --- to include effective development and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication (COM)

Teamwork --- to include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal (TW)

Personal Responsibility --- to include the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making (PR)

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of individual and collaborative writing processes. (Assess CT, COM, PR, and TW through proposal project and essay)
2. Develop ideas with appropriate support and attribution. (Assess CT and COM through proposal project and essay)
3. Write in a style appropriate to audience and purpose. (Assess CT and COM through proposal essay)
4. Read, reflect, and respond critically to a variety of texts. (Assess CT through essays or in-class activities)
5. Use edited American English in academic essays. (Assess CT and COM through essays and pre and post writing test grades)

Students may vary in their competency levels on these abilities. You should expect to acquire these abilities only if you honor all course policies, attend classes regularly, complete all assigned work in good faith and on time, and meet all other course expectations of you as a student.

COMPUTER/TECHNOLOGY INFORMATION/REQUIREMENTS:

During your orientation course, you learned the following Moodle

□ requirements: Compatible Internet browsers and special browser settings

- Adobe Reader
- Flash Player

In addition, I would like you to consider the following items. I am assuming that you probably have as many or more computer skills than I do; however, if this is your ***first online course***, there are some questions you need to consider before beginning this or any online course:

- Are you self-motivated? Can you get assignments finished and submitted on time?
- Do you understand what you read? Can you follow written directions?
- Do you have the use of a computer--one that fits YOUR schedule and the

COURSE schedule? Furthermore, are you fairly proficient at navigating the world of computers, including software and digital environments?

- Is your Internet service reliable?
- **Do you have a back-up computer – or another place to go – in case of computer and software issues? Remember – no late work is accepted!!**

If the answer is **no** to any of these questions, you may wish to rethink your decision to take an online course. A face-to-face class may be a better option for you. If, on the other hand, you believe an online course is for you, here a few tips:

- Be prepared to spend as much or more time as you would in a face-to-face class. Students should be very disciplined and responsible in online classes—students are expected to participate *as if they are in a classroom*, but in an online environment. The state has set a standard for an expected amount of time students should spend on each class. The recommendation is 9-12 hours per week for a regular term and 17-26 hours per week for a summer semester. Students are expected to read the assigned text and be prepared to contribute to the class discussion in the online format as well as turn work in on time.
- Make the most of your time and try not to fall behind—it is difficult to catch up on readings. Moreover, **few assignments will be accepted late**, so you must keep up, yourself, with the schedule and turn work in on time.
- Make sure you can fit the exams into your schedule. **No make-up exams will be available.**
- If you have a problem, let me know as soon as you can. Do not wait or just do nothing. Remember that I am not a computer instructor, but an English one. Furthermore, the excuse –my computer crashed or –my Internet went down is very like the old –the dog ate my homework excuse. The dog MAY have eaten your homework, but these excuses will not be accepted.
- **Do not wait until the last minute to complete a test or submit material. Things can and do go wrong!**
Please be aware that all due dates are based on Central Standard Time.
- One more thing and this is so very important. **You must save your documents in a Microsoft Word compatible format – in other words - .doc, or .docx, or .rtf. Moodle will not open Google docs; I cannot grade or critique a .pdf file, .pages, or an .odt file.** This is especially something to be cautious of if you have an Apple computer because much of Apple's software is not compatible with what we use on the PCs.
Again, I simply cannot grade work that I cannot open. *****If I receive a document that is not compatible, you may receive one warning and then a zero on all following assignments if the above directions are not followed.*****

- ***One advantage of using Moodle is that you can access your course, check assignments, and check grades on your smart phone or tablet device. HOWEVER, please be aware that you cannot use these devices, however marvelous they are, to prepare and submit your written assignments because the font style, font size, and formatting will not be correct unless that device has MSWord.***

Clarendon College students have access to **Onedrive and Office 365**, which provide access to some software you might need for this class, **for free**. For further instructions on how to access these resources, go to your Student Portal Help section in CAMS. Click on the appropriate link for accessing your Bulldogsmail/Office 365 account. You will also find useful information on using Onedrive and the Office 365 Apps.

If you do plan to use your phone for preparation of major writing assignments, -- **Note - this is not recommended!!!** you must have MSWord on your phone. You can install the app version of MSWord on your phone.

One of CC's services is Brainfuse, a tutoring service for students. You can download the Brainfuse Mobile App on your iOS or Android phone by going to CC's LRC webpage under the Brainfuse section. Go to option #2 in the instructions to set up your CC account on your phone.

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS:

You will access your course through Open LMS Moodle. Your textbook for this class is free to you and will be accessed through Moodle. All of the text, readings, assignments, and Final Exam are located in and accessed through Moodle. **All major writing assignments are submitted through the appropriate link in Moodle.**

CLASS POLICIES

Attendance

Regular attendance for college classes is up to the student, but necessary for successful completion of any class. Weekly attendance is mandatory in all online classes. Specific activities will be identified each week that must be completed in order for students to be considered –in attendance. **Students are also expected to log into their online course(s) at least twice a week.** Progress toward satisfactory completion of weekly assignments is expected on a weekly basis. No progress could jeopardize good standing and financial aid.

Required Enrollment Verification Activity

Students who fail to complete the Syllabus Agreement EVA activity (located in the Class Orientation section of the online course) by Sept. 5 cannot continue in the course and will receive a W (Withdrawn) at the end of the term. Students may also not be eligible for a financial aid refund. If you are receiving financial aid, you may also be required to reimburse tuition and fees.

The census date for this term can be found on the Academic Calendar located at the **Inside CC**

link on Clarendon College's home page and on the first page of this syllabus.

My policy for this course is that I will submit a required attendance report on the day after the

–Attendance assignment is due and on the census date. Students who are following the online attendance policy are marked –Present. Those who are not following the online attendance policy will be marked –Absent. Students can be placed on academic probation or lose financial aid for chronic nonattendance. Regular –attendance is also part of your Class Participation grade that is 30% of your final grade in this class.

Respectful Behavior

I will always show you the respect you deserve as a student. In return, I expect respectful behavior from you. An on-line class presents certain differences from the regular classroom concerning behavior. Since our communication is via e-mail, please be considerate and respectful while using these lines of communication with me and with other students in the class. **Remember the ramifications of posting anything on the Internet.** One infraction will result in my warning you verbally or by e-mail. A second infraction will result in our consulting the Vice President of Academic Affairs and the possibility of your withdrawal from the class, possibly with an –F.

Course Withdrawal

A student may drop a class with a –W. This must be done on or before the last day to drop a class as designated by the college calendar. This request for permission to drop a course is **initiated by the student** by procuring a drop form from the Dean of Students office. The student should sign the form, have the instructor sign the form, and return it to the office. For on-line students, this can also be done by calling the Registrar's Office. Please remember that failure to officially drop a course will result in a final grade of –F for the class. Any student who is considering dropping this course is encouraged to contact me before initiating the drop. **Remember, a student is only allowed to drop the**

same class twice before he/she will be charged triple the tuition amount at Clarendon College for taking the class a third time or more. Furthermore, students in Texas may only drop a total of 6 courses throughout their entire undergraduate career. After the 6, he/she will no longer be able to withdraw from any classes. The final drop date for Fall 2021 is Wednesday, Jan. 4.

Student Academic Integrity and Classroom Ethics

–Academic dishonesty violations include, but are not limited to: (1) obtaining an examination, classroom activity, or laboratory exercise by stealing or collusion; (2) discovering the content of an examination, classroom activity, laboratory exercise, or homework assignment before it is given; (3) observing the work of another during an examination or providing answers to another during the course of an examination; (4) using an unauthorized source of information during an examination, classroom activity, laboratory exercise, or homework assignment; (5) entering an office, classroom, laboratory, or building to obtain an unfair advantage; (6) taking an examination for another person; (7) completing a classroom activity, laboratory exercise, homework assignment, or research paper for another person; (8) altering grade records; (9) using any unauthorized form of an electronic communication device during an examination, classroom activity, or laboratory activity; and/or, (10) plagiarism. **Plagiarism is defined as the using, stating, offering, or reporting as one’s own, an idea, expression, or production of another person’s work without proper credit. This includes, but is not limited to, turning in a paper purchased or acquired from any source, written by someone other than the student claiming credit, or stolen from another student. (Clarendon College Student Handbook 2022/2023– Student Academic Integrity & Classroom Ethics section) --- The CC Student Handbook is available online on CC’s homepage. Click on –Inside CC|| – under –Students|| – click on –Forms & Resources|| – then click on –2022-2023 Student Handbook|| – Find the –Student Code of Conduct|| section and then the –Student Academic Integrity|| section --- More about plagiarism will follow.**

Students are responsible for ensuring that their work is consistent with Clarendon College’s expectations concerning academic integrity. In this course you may be asked to submit some papers using an online tool, **Turnitin.com**, to confirm that you have submitted your own work or that you have used sources accurately in your papers. Turnitin also checks for papers written by AI. You cannot see this. I recommend you run your papers through Qillbot, a free online AI checker. If Turnitin detects AI, I will give you a low grade and contact you for resolution. This could be a zero or a rewrite. If it is a zero, that counts as a plagiarism infraction according to the policy below.

You will also receive step-by-step instructions about how to use **Turnitin.com** from me. The instructions and videos are also available at CC's website at the **Students >> Forms & Resources** link. Additional information about the Turnitin.com plagiarism prevention tool is available at <http://turnitin.com>

Disciplinary actions for cheating in a course are at the discretion of the individual instructor. The instructor of the course will file a report with Brad Vanden Boogaard, Vice President of Academic Affairs, when a –cheating event occurs, whether the class is a workforce or academic course. The report shall include the course, instructor, student's name, and the type of cheating involved. The Vice President shall discipline students who are reported as offenders more than once. The Vice President will notify all involved parties within fourteen days of any action taken.

PLAGIARISM: Please read and make sure you understand the following!

1. Word-for-word plagiarism: The student quotes his or her source without using quotation marks. Even if the student cites the source, he or she is still plagiarizing because proper quotation procedures were not used. Proper documentation **must** include quotation marks and the proper citation.
2. Paraphrased plagiarism: The student uses a source and with the exception of changing a few words or phrases essentially quotes the original. Even if the source is properly cited, the writing is still plagiarized because the student has used the author's style, vocabulary, and content and claimed it as his or her own.
3. Improper citations: If a student uses someone's information other than his or her own, the source of the material must be properly cited. Failure to do so is plagiarism.
4. Improper use of ideas: Ideas are as equally protected as words. If the student uses someone's ideas, but expresses them in his or her own words, the student plagiarizes if he or she does not cite the source of the idea.
5. Internet use: Copying and pasting from the Internet is plagiarism. Purchasing papers from a paper mill is plagiarism.
6. Student sharing: While students are certainly free to work together and study together, an assignment that calls for individual work to receive an individual grade must reflect the student's personal effort. In other words, if each student is to turn in a paper for a grade, it must be obvious to me that each student has done his/her own work. The papers should not be exactly

alike!!! If a student borrows or copies another student's work, that is plagiarism. One student writing a paper for another student is plagiarism. Plagiarism also occurs if two students collaborate on an individual assignment and turn in the same work.

7. Student sharing: Plagiarism also occurs when you use someone else's electronic files or allow another student to use any of your personal files. It is important to protect all of your electronically saved files. The Student Handbook states that accounts (IDs and passwords) are approved and issued by the Dept. of Information Systems and Computer Operations and are issued to individuals and intended for the sole use of that individual. The individual to whom the account has been issued is responsible for the proper use of the account . . . and shall keep his or her keywords and passwords confidential to protect himself/herself and said files. Users shall not give or sell passwords to others.
8. Self-plagiarism: If you have previously taken this course, or have papers from another course, the submission of papers that were previously written is NOT ALLOWED. If it is found that a paper is submitted more than once, you will receive a 0 on that assignment. **Also, programs that –edit|| or exchange words for synonyms are not acceptable**: I want to see YOUR thoughts, not a computer-generated facsimile!

***Your responsibility is to protect your electronically saved files. If someone else turns in an assignment as if it were that student's work, but is the work that you have completed, I will have to assume that you allowed this to happen. **Both of you will suffer the same consequences.**

Therefore, make sure your saved files are kept in a place where others cannot copy them. **DO NOT SHARE FLASH DRIVES, COMPUTERS, ETC.**

Plagiarism is also committed if you use work that you have turned in for another instructor *if you do not get my permission first. Always ask!*

NEVER LET ANYONE ELSE USE YOUR COLLEGE LOGIN OR PASSWORD!!!!

The 9th edition of the *MLA Handbook* states that student plagiarism does considerable harm because, –one instance of plagiarism can cast a shadow across an entire career because plagiarism reflects poorly on a person's judgment, integrity, and honesty and calls into question everything about that person's work. The consequences of plagiarism are not just personal, however. The damage done is also social. Ultimately,

plagiarism is serious because it erodes public trust in information. Plagiarism is cheating and is unfair to other students who make the effort to do their own work.

My policy is that anyone who commits any of the above infractions (#1 - #8) will receive a zero on that assignment or test with no opportunity to make up the zero. You will receive an –F in the course for more than one violation. This –F will be given for a second offense if the assignment is a major writing assignment or something as simple as a daily assignment. In addition, **this instructor reserves the right to give the student an “F” for the class if there is any one cheating violation which she perceives as a deliberate, not accidental, infraction.** In other words, cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated.

ASSIGNMENTS:

Assignments are due as stated in the –Tentative Course Schedule and in each Moodle section for each writing assignment, discussion, and Final Exam. No exceptions!!!!

Late work --- I may accept late assignments due to extenuating circumstances. **This decision will at my discretion and must be discussed with me.** You will receive a grade no higher than a 70. This must be turned in within a week of the original due date. A 0 will be given if the assignment is not completed.

Important: Assignments must be computer generated. **The MLA format must be used for all typed assignments. Always keep at least two (2) saved copies of your work.** Flash drives are your best option. See the **REQUIRED INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS** section of this syllabus. Any lost or damaged data will not be accepted as an excuse for late work.

You must be prepared to spend a minimum of 9-12 hours on this class per week for a regular semester and 17-26 hours per week for a mini-semester.

GRADING PROCEDURE:

The final grade in this course will be determined by the following:

Major writing assignments/1301.....	40%
Homework.....	40%
Classwork	20%

(Including discussions), Teacher contact, Good –attendance.

The final semester grades will be figured as set in the current catalog:

90-100 --- A 80-89 --- B 70-79 --- C 60-69 --- D Below 60 --- F

GRADE APPEALS:

Students have **three (3)** business days from the day grades are posted at the end of the semester in which the course was taken to challenge the assigned grade.

COURSE EVALUATION:

Clarendon College has implemented a new policy wherein a student must complete the Class Evaluation by the end of the semester in the Student Portal in order to be able to view his or her final grade for this class. Please let me know if you have questions about this.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE FOR IRAW303, Fall Mini

IRAW303S Fall Mini Schedule Overview

Week One December 17-21 (Short Week)

Type	Titles
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Comp 1

Forums: Ice Breaker, College Writing

Quizzes: Syllabus Quiz and Evaluation/Agreement

Quiz 1 Logic and Fallacies

Writing Assignment: Writing Anxiety

IRAW

Read: "Desiree's Baby", answer study sheets

Logic Worksheet, etc.

Write: Writing Anxiety

Week Two December 22-28

Comp 1

Forums: Strong Paragraphs, The Importance of Audience

Quiz 2: Run-on Sentences/Sentence Fragments

Writing Assignment: Literacy Narrative

IRAW

Read: "Hills Like White Elephants" answer study sheets

Sentences Worksheets

Write: Literacy Narrative

Week Three December 29- January 4

Comp 1

Forums: Reverse Outlines, Peer Review

Quiz 3: Capitalization

Writing Assignment: Academic Argument Paper

IRAW

Read "An Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge" answer study questions

Capitalization Worksheets

Writing: Academic Argument

Week Four January 5-11

Comp 1

Forums: Writing for the Web, Parts of an Essay

Quiz 4: Pronouns/Antecedents

Writing Assignment: Literature Analysis and Evaluation

IRAW

Meet Twice, January 6th, 9th

No Reading

6th Writing Literary Analysis (Story)

Study Guide Pronouns

9th Writing Sandwich

Study Guide Final

Week Five January 12-13 (Short)

Quiz: FINAL

Writing Assignment: Sandwich