



**LAMAR INSTITUTE
OF TECHNOLOGY**

ENGL 1302 3A1

INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Instructor: Joshua Cobb

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Office Phone: 409-245-9596

Office Location: T5, Room 102

Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday, 10:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday, 1-2:30 p.m.

CREDIT

3 Semester Credit Hours (3 hours lecture, 0 hours lab)

MODE OF INSTRUCTION

Face-to-Face. 9:30-10:45 a.m., TR, Technical Arts Building 5 (T5), room 100

PREREQUISITE/CO-REQUISITE:

TSI Complete in Reading and Writing.

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 OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to

1. Demonstrate knowledge of individual and collaborative research processes.
2. Develop ideas and synthesize primary and secondary sources within focused academic arguments, including one or more research-based essays.
3. Analyze, interpret, and evaluate a variety of texts for the ethical and logical uses of evidence.
4. Write in a style that clearly communicates meaning, builds credibility, and inspires belief or action.
5. Apply the conventions of style manuals for specific academic disciplines, APA, CMS, MLA, or other style manuals.

Core Objectives

1. Critical Thinking Skills: To include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information.
2. Communication Skills: To include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication.

3. Personal Responsibility: To include the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND MATERIALS

An electronic device with access to the Internet. Your instructor will provide supplemental required reading resources via Blackboard.

DROP POLICY

If you wish to drop a course, you are responsible for initiating and completing the drop process by the specified drop date as listed on the [Academic Calendar](#). If you stop coming to class and fail to drop the course, you will earn an “F” in the course.

STUDENT EXPECTED TIME REQUIREMENT

For every hour in class (or unit of credit), students should expect to spend at least two to three hours per week studying and completing assignments. For a 3-credit-hour class, students should prepare to allocate approximately six to nine hours per week outside of class in a 16-week session OR approximately twelve to eighteen hours in an 8-Module session. Online/Hybrid students should expect to spend at least as much time in this course as in the traditional, face-to-face class.

COURSE OUTLINE:

- Introduction
 - Academic Dishonesty
- Fiction
 - MLA Refresher
 - Critical Approaches to Literature
 - Plot
 - Point of View
 - Characters
 - MLA Works Cited
 - Setting
 - Tone and Style
 - Theme
 - College Essay Structure
- Poetry
 - Peer Review
 - Poetic Pattern
 - Poetic Meter
 - Steps of Poetry Analysis
 - Stanza
 - Rhyme
 - Poetic Devices
- Research
 - Annotated Bibliography
 - The University Library

- Finding Good Sources
- Drama
 - Analyzing a Play
 - The Parts of a Play
 - Greek Tragedy
 - Shakespearean Theatre
 - The Modern Play

COURSE CALENDAR

Subject to change at your instructor's discretion

For dual-credit students whose school districts might operate on a different calendar, remember that the [LIT academic calendar](#) supersedes all those, and *all* LIT students are expected to complete assignments during the LIT term.

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS	ASSIGNMENTS (Due last day of week)
Week One: 8/24/2026- 8/30/2026	Classroom Orientation Lecture ENGL 1302 Introduction Academic Dishonesty Presentation	"That It Will Never Come Again" by Emily Dickinson	● Orientation Quiz ● Academic Dishonesty Quiz ● Class Reading Contract
Week Two: 8/31/2026- 9/06/2026	<i>The Art of Fiction</i> Lecture <i>Critical Approaches to Literature</i> Lecture <i>MLA Refresher</i> Lecture <i>Works Cited Page</i> Lecture <i>In-Text Citations</i> Lecture <i>How to Structure a College Essay</i> Lecture	"The Lady, or the Tiger?" by Frank Stockton	● Short Story Journal 1 ● MLA Template ● Works Cited Page Assignment ● Midterm Prewriting ● MLA In-Text Citations Assignment
Week Three: 9/07/2026- 9/13/2026	<i>Plot</i> Lecture <i>Point of View</i> Lecture <i>Characters</i> Lecture <i>Setting</i> Lecture <i>Tone and Style</i> Lecture	Read either: "Everyday Use" by Alice Walker Or "Cathedral" by Raymond Carver	● Short Story Journal 2 ● Midterm Outline
Week Four: 9/14/2026- 9/20/2026		Read either: "The Storm" by Chopin Or "To Build a Fire" by London	● Short Story Journal 3

Week Five: 9/21/2026- 9/27/2026	<i>Symbols</i> Lecture <i>Theme</i> Lecture	Read either: “The Yellow Wallpaper” by Charlotte Perkins Gilman Or “The Lottery” by Shirley Jackson	• Short Story Journal 4 • Midterm Rough Draft Due
Week Six: 9/28/2026- 10/04/2026	<i>The Art of Poetry</i> Lecture <i>Peer Review</i> Lecture	Read either: “To a Locomotive in Winter” by Walt Whitman Or “Speech to the Young. Speech to the Progress- Toward” by Gwendolyn Brooks Or “Dog Haiku” by Anonymous	• Poetry Journal 1 • Midterm Peer Review
Week Seven: 10/05/2026- 10/11/2026	<i>The Pleasure of Poetic Pattern</i> Lecture <i>Poetic Meter</i> Lecture <i>Steps of Poetry Analysis</i> Lecture	Read either: “The winter evening settles down” by Eliot Or “The Fish” by Bishop Or “Sonnet 18: Shall I Compare Thee to a Summer’s Day” by Shakespeare Or “Metaphors” by Plath	• Poetry Journal 2 • Midterm Final Draft
Week Eight: 10/12/2026- 10/18/2026	<i>Stanza</i> Lecture <i>Rhyme</i> Lecture <i>The Research Essay</i> Lecture	Read either: “We Real Cool” by Gwendolyn Brooks Or “Break, Break, Break” by Alfred Lord Tennyson Or “Dream Boogie” by Langston Hughes	• Poetry Journal 3 • Research Topic Discussion Board
Week Nine: 10/19/2026- 10/25/2026	<i>Poetic Devices Part One</i> Lecture <i>The Annotated Bibliography</i> Lecture	Read either: “The Second Coming” by William Butler Yeats Or “Lady Lazarus” by Sylvia Plath Or “Cinderella” by Anne Sexton	• Poetry Journal 4 • Literary Criticism Research Essay Prewriting Assignment

Week Ten: 10/26/2026- 11/01/2026	<i>Poetic Devices Part Two</i> Lecture <i>Works Cited and In-Text Citations</i> Refresher		• Annotated Bibliography • Works Cited and In-Text Citations Refresher Assignment
Week Eleven: 11/02/2026- 11/08/2026	<i>The University Library Presentation</i> Lecture <i>Finding Good Sources</i> Lecture		• Literary Criticism Research Essay Outline
Week Twelve: 11/09/2026- 11/15/2026	<i>Analyzing a Play</i> Lecture <i>The Parts of a Play</i> with <i>Trifles</i> Lecture	Read or watch “Trifles” by Susan Glaspell	• Drama Journal 1 • Literary Criticism Research Essay Rough Draft
Week Thirteen: 11/16/2026- 11/22/2026	<i>Greek Tragedy</i> Lecture	Read or watch <i>Oedipus the King</i>	• Drama Journal 2 • Literary Criticism Research Essay Peer Review
Week Fourteen: 11/23/2026- 11/29/2026	<i>Shakespearean Theatre</i> Lecture	Read or watch <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> by William Shakespeare	• Drama Journal 3
Week Fifteen: 11/29/2026- 12/02/2026	<i>The Modern Play</i> Lecture <i>The Literary World</i> Lecture	Read or watch <i>A Doll’s House</i> by Henrik Ibsen Or Read or watch <i>Waiting for Godot</i> by Samuel Beckett	• Drama Journal 4 • Literary Criticism Research Essay Final Draft
Finals Week: 12/03/2026- 12/06/2026	TBA	TBA	• Final Exam tentatively due Dec. 6

COURSE EVALUATION

Final grades will be calculated according to the following criteria:

- Participation 10%
- Daily Work Assignments 40%
- Mid-Term Exam 15%
- Research Paper--Common Assignment 20%
- Final Exam 15%
- Total 100%

GRADING SCALE

90-100: A

80-89: B

70-79: C

60-69: D

0-59: F

All numeric grades will be rounded to the nearest whole number.

LIT does not use +/- grading scales.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Students found to be committing academic dishonesty (cheating, plagiarism, or collusion) may receive disciplinary action. Students need to familiarize themselves with the institution's Academic Dishonesty Policy available in the Student Catalog & Handbook at <http://catalog.lit.edu/content.php?catoid=3&navoid=80#academic-dishonesty>.

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

The latest technical requirements, including hardware, compatible browsers, operating systems, etc. can be online at <https://lit.edu/online-learning/online-learning-minimum-computer-requirements>. A functional broadband internet connection, such as DSL, cable, or WiFi is necessary to maximize the use of online technology and resources.

DISABILITIES STATEMENT

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are federal anti-discrimination statutes that provide comprehensive civil rights for persons with disabilities. LIT provides reasonable accommodations as defined in the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, to students with a diagnosed disability. The Special Populations Office is located in the Eagles' Nest Room 129 and helps foster a supportive and inclusive educational environment by maintaining partnerships with faculty and staff, as well as promoting awareness among all members of the Lamar Institute of Technology community. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Special Populations Coordinator at (409)-951-5708 or email specialpopulations@lit.edu. You may also visit the online resource at [Special Populations - Lamar Institute of Technology \(lit.edu\)](#).

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT STATEMENT

It is the responsibility of all registered Lamar Institute of Technology students to access, read, understand and abide by all published policies, regulations, and procedures listed in the *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook*. The *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook* may be accessed at www.lit.edu. Please note that the online version of the *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook* supersedes all other versions of the same document.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE STATEMENT

Lamar Institute of Technology (LIT) recognizes the recent advances in Artificial Intelligence (AI), such as ChatGPT, have changed the landscape of many career disciplines and will impact many students in and out of the classroom. To prepare students for their selected careers, LIT desires to guide students in the ethical use of these technologies and incorporate AI into classroom instruction and assignments appropriately. Appropriate use of these technologies is at the discretion of the instructor. Students are reminded that all submitted work must be their own original work unless otherwise specified. Students should contact their instructor with any questions as to the acceptable use of AI/ChatGPT in their courses

STARFISH

LIT utilizes an early alert system called Starfish. Throughout the semester, you may receive emails from Starfish regarding your course grades, attendance, or academic performance. Faculty members record student attendance, raise flags and kudos to express concern or give praise, and you can make an appointment with faculty and staff all through the Starfish home page. You can also login to Blackboard or MyLIT and click on the Starfish link to view academic alerts and detailed information. It is the responsibility of the student to pay attention to these emails and information in Starfish and consider taking the recommended actions. Starfish is used to help you be a successful student at LIT.

ADDITIONAL COURSE POLICIES/INFORMATION

Due dates are subject to change.

I do not allow students to retake/redo assignments.

Communication: I will respond to e-mails within 24 hours during the week and within 48 hours over the weekend. Typically, I will only respond to e-mails during my office hours.

Grading: I try to return assignments within one week of the due date. This is a target, not a promise, and in a writing-intensive course such as this, sometimes grading takes longer. If you have any questions or concerns about the pace of grading, please contact your instructor directly.

Special Populations: If a student requires accommodations while on LIT campus, they must contact the Special Populations office in Student Services. If a dual credit student has

accommodations through their school's special populations office, they must still contact LIT's Special Populations office at specialpopulations@lit.edu.

Electronics Policy: Students cannot use electronic devices such as cell phones, laptops, AirPods, or any other distracting devices in the classroom, *unless at my discretion*. If a student needs an electronic device for accommodations in class, they should contact the Special Populations office at LIT. Unless I allow students to use their devices, devices will stay in backpacks, not pockets, until the end of class.

Plagiarism/Cheating: Academic Dishonesty is a crime that Lamar Institute of Technology and I take seriously. Most colleges expel cheating students. Examples of academic dishonesty include but are not limited to:

- Directly copying a source into an essay without citing the original source.
- Paraphrasing a source without citing the original source.
- Paying someone to complete an assignment, having a friend or family member complete an assignment, or using Artificial Intelligence to write a paper. If a paper has a student's name on it, I expect to see that student's work.
- Making minor changes to an original source while still retaining up to 75% of the structure of the sentence.
- Taking a quiz or test with another student, giving the answers to a quiz or test to another student, or **Googling the answers to the quiz or test**. My quizzes are not open-book quizzes. Students are only allowed the notes they have taken over an assignment during a quiz.

How to Know If Something Is Not Plagiarism: Generally, plagiarism only covers things that are not general knowledge. If a student makes the claim that the sky is blue, then they do not have to cite where they got that information because it is something that 90% of the world already knows. However, if a student describes *why* the sky is blue, they must cite their source since that is not common knowledge.

How to Avoid Plagiarism: First, students should practice good paraphrasing and rewrite sentences *in their own words*. Part of the course will be discussions, assignments, and videos over good paraphrasing. Also, when students turn in their assignments, they should get a visible score from SafeAssign. SafeAssign is not perfect, and I have found plagiarism in papers with as low as a 10% score. If SafeAssign flags a paper as plagiarized, a student should rewrite and resubmit the paper until the percentage 25% or less.

Late Work: If a student misses a deadline, they will get an automatic zero. Late work may be accepted with a penalty only up until the point when the assignment has been graded, typically within a week of the due date. Once an assignment is graded, it cannot be redone or resubmitted, or submitted late. Typically, if a student gets in the habit of turning in all assignments within the first three weeks, they can build that habit for the rest of the class.

Make-Up Work: I can make accommodations on deadlines for extenuating circumstances (family emergencies, sickness, mental health, chronic health issues, etc.) However, communication is necessary in these circumstances. **I need to know at least three days before a deadline if a student cannot complete an assignment on time. The new deadline will be three days after original deadline.** If a student asks for more time on an assignment the day before or the day it is due, I will not respond to their e-mail. Absolutely no late work will be accepted after the last day of class.

Concerns or complaints: If you have any concerns or complaints during this course, please follow the chain of command outlined below to ensure your issue is addressed promptly and appropriately:

- **Instructor:** Your first point of contact should be your course instructor. They are available to discuss any issues related to the course content, assignments, or classroom environment. (If your instructor has not responded to your email in a timely manner, please proceed to the next level.)
- **Program Director/Lead Faculty:** If your concern is not resolved after speaking with your instructor, please contact their Program Director or Lead Faculty. They can provide additional support and mediation. As of Spring 2026, the lead faculty for the English program in the GEDS department is Sarah Culver. Email sculver@lit.edu.
- **Department Chair:** Should the issue remain unresolved, your complaint will be escalated to the Department Chair. The Chair's office is equipped to handle more serious or persistent issues

COVID-19 Requirements: LIT no longer requires masks in the classroom. However, you are still allowed to wear a mask if it makes you feel comfortable. If you receive a positive COVID test, please do not come to class. Instead, send me an e-mail/phone call/text, and I will do what I can to ensure you have access to daily lectures and assignments.