

Bearkat Connect: INRW 0301-LTSH 1000.4 Fall 2026 Course Syllabus
CRN 89727 MWF 9-9:55 CHSS 236



Welcome to SHSU INRW
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Office hours: MW 7:30 am to 8:15 am

Friday 11:00 am to 12:00 pm

While you may contact me by email, I prefer that you use Blackboard Messages as it leaves no room for me to wonder which section you are in. I typically respond within 24 hours Monday to Friday; however, it may take me a bit longer over the weekend and on holidays.

I try to maintain an open-door policy which means if the door is open, you are free to stop by. Of course, you are always welcome to make an appointment.

➔ **Course Overview**

Catalogue Description: This is a reading and writing tutorial designed to integrate students' critical reading and academic writing skills. The goals of the course are to increase practice with SAE (Standard American English), reinforce reading strategies, and support students in the co-requisite ENGL 1301. Variable Credit (0 to 3). This course must be taken concurrently with ENGL 1301.

Student Learning Outcomes:

- Develop **reading tools** including annotation, summary, vocabulary, and inquiry to understand college-level readings.
 - Develop **a writerly mindset**, including identifying audience and purpose for readings.
 - Build on themes of **rhetorical knowledge** in reading and writing as introduced in ENGL 1301.
- Develop **strategies to generate and organize writing** including prewriting, drafting, revision, and editing.
 - Understand **pathways for accessing informational resources**.

➔ Required Texts

- We'll be using Open Access Educational Resources readings for this course. All materials will be provided on Blackboard.
- Regular and consistent access to a computer, printer, and the internet
- Regular and consistent access to a SHSU email account, Blackboard, and Microsoft Word. Contact SHSU IT for technical assistance.

➔ Course Assignments & Grading

The grade for this class is pass 70 % and above (credit) or fail 69% and below (no credit).

This course will feature a number of short writing and reading assignments, all graded on a labor basis. This means you earn credit for completing the assignment.

You are graded on the following:

- 1. In-class attendance, and activity participation and completion: 50% of course grade**
- 2. Required Academic Success Center Appointments: 30% of course grade**
- 3. Required Library Workshops: 20% of course grade**

Students who do not pass INRW and who do not pass ENGL 1301 must repeat both Classes. Students who fail INRW, but pass ENGL 1301 do not have to re-take INRW, and students who pass INRW, but fail ENGL 1301 do not need to retake INRW. While INRW 0014 includes daily work (and possible quizzes), there are no exams.

Method of Instruction:

INRW 0014 is a class to build community and offer students time to learn additional information to support their learning in English 1301. This class will likely involve brief lectures, class discussions, and frequent library workshops and collaborations with writing tutors in the Academic Success Center.

➔ Student Support

University Academic Success Center Writing Tutoring

This class makes extensive use of the writing tutoring services at the Academic Success Center in the Newton Gresham Library Main second floor. Tutors help students improve writing skills and confidence through one-on-one or group sessions for essays, reports, and other academic writing tasks. Plan ahead to schedule your appointments in person or online to receive credit in INRW 0014 and plan to complete a process memo or other form of attendance verification. Visit [Writing and Language Tutoring](#) and Campus Connect to schedule an appointment. [New Appointment](#) | [Navigate360](#)

Library Workshops

The Newton Gresham Library (NGL) will be holding regularly scheduled workshops on essential research skills. These workshops provide ENGL 1301 students with foundational knowledge about conducting academic research and how to navigate the vast resources available through the NGL. The NGL will provide instructors with attendance information, but instructors are highly encouraged to attend. Make sure students sign up to attend all English 1301 Library workshops during their regular INRW 0014 course meeting times with the exception of the online-only E2b module on lateral reading. Online modules and other library workshop times may be available through the workshop signup document. Visit [Home - Undergraduate Research Workshops - Research Guides at Sam Houston State University](#) to register for workshops.

➔ Course Policies

Instructor Policies

Academic Policy [800401 Class Attendance](#)

Attendance is particularly important in writing courses because so much of the learning in these courses happens during in-class writing exercises, peer review, and discussion. Having said that, life happens. We get sick, our cars get flat tires, and sometimes we need to focus on other life needs. That's okay. Please be aware that attendance is taken every class. **If you miss more than two weeks' worth of classes (four classes, which includes the required library workshops and ASC tutoring appointments), your course grade will be an F. This does not include absences resulting from official SHSU responsibilities, such as athletics, clubs, and more as listed in the Academic Policy Statement.** If you need to miss more than a few days for any reason, communicate with your faculty member as soon as possible.

Should an emergency arise (such as a serious illness or death in the family) please report your absences through the [Dean of Students](#). Their office will assist you in gathering the required documentation and make sure that all your professors are made aware of the circumstances. The instructor will decide whether the documented circumstances qualify as an emergency or not.

Tardiness: Please try to arrive on time. I realize that circumstances occur which cause you to be late; however, late arrival to class causes disruptions and missed information. That said, I would rather you come to class late than not at all. In fairness to your classmates, arriving after the first 10 minutes of class will be noted and the third tardy will be marked as an absence.

All faculty are required to track attendance through the official 12th day report as a component of the Federal Aid Eligibility Validation (FAEV) initiative.

Assignments and Late Work

Due dates for each assignment are listed in the course calendar and Blackboard. These deadlines are created to help you keep pace with this course and your English 1301 course. However, if an extension would be helpful, please communicate with your faculty member in writing at least twenty-four hours before the missed assignment due date to request an extension. Individual faculty may or may not accept late work, and assign penalties for late work. If you turn in a paper after the deadline, you may receive minimal to no feedback.

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

SHSU Academic Policy Statement 810213 outlines academic honesty and related disciplinary procedures. You should also familiarize yourself with Academic Policy Statement 900823, which outlines procedures for students to file an academic grievance should you wish to appeal your grade for reasons other than academic dishonesty.

[SHSU Code of Student Conduct and Discipline](#), section 5.3 “Academic Honesty” defines **plagiarism** as “the appropriation and unacknowledged incorporation of another’s work or idea into one’s own work offered for credit.”

Another’s work or idea can be anything; a book, an article, photographs, a drawing, music recordings, and concepts, images and text from the Internet.

The consequences of plagiarism, unintentional or intentional, will initially be applied by your professor. The professor will review the suspected case of plagiarism and determine the penalty, which can range from a simple warning to expulsion from the University.

Students may appeal the penalty starting with the department chair, then the dean of the college, and lastly the Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs, whose decision is final. [810213 Procedures in Cases of Academic Dishonesty 2018 \(shsu.edu\)](#)

Generative Artificial Intelligence Writing Tools

SHSU Composition Courses

[Plagiarism](#), whether intentional or unintentional, may result in failing the assignment and--if repeated--may result in failing the course. Submitting another person’s work, using AI generative software to write your assignment (in part or in full), or using sources you didn’t cite will receive a zero, and a second offense is grounds for failing the course. Plagiarism includes not attributing source material. Please don’t plagiarize.

Composition is a class devoted to learning how to build upon your own “rhetorical knowledge,” writing process, and critical thinking skills. Both in service of Composition’s learning outcomes and because of the unethical business practices and environmental impact of AI, the use of AI software to generate writing (even in part) is prohibited in composition classes and will be treated as plagiarism. This includes but is not limited to using Generative Artificial Intelligence or Large Language Models for brainstorming, summarizing readings, generating

citations, conducting research, and creating sentences that appear in the final draft. Using standard spelling and grammar editing software, and online dictionaries and encyclopedias, is encouraged.

Because it can be difficult to tell AI generated and human writing apart, **your Composition course requires you to complete your writing assignments through handwriting, and/or *Google Docs or Microsoft OneDrive Word***, where your instructor will have access to your version history (ie: your instructor can see, word by word, how you drafted your essay over time). This ensures you are not accused of using AI software when you did not. **If you believe you have been falsely accused of plagiarism/AI use, [you may appeal](#)**, starting with the department chair.

Again, your instructor wants you to be successful. If you have questions or concerns about this policy, please contact your instructor.

Classroom Conduct

Students will refrain from behavior in the classroom that intentionally or unintentionally disrupts the learning process and, thus, impedes the mission of the university. To the best of your abilities, use technology only for approved class work, show students and the faculty member respect by arriving to class on time, talk at appropriate times, and be an attentive class community member. We are all learning and growing. You may be asked and expected to read things that do not adhere to your worldview. You may be asked to engage in conversation with peers (or possibly a faculty member) who disagree with you or sees the world differently. You, your peers, and your faculty members are allowed differing opinions, but prejudice, xenophobia, and bigotry are not tolerated. In this and all SHSU classes, we are required to follow the SHSU Code of Conduct.

Student-Provided Technological Devices

Students are responsible for having access to the necessary technology for coursework, including a reliable computer, internet connection, and required software. Some courses may have additional technology requirements. Lack of access will not excuse missed work.

Students are responsible for ensuring that their personal technological devices (e.g., laptops, tablets, mobile devices) meet the necessary hardware and software requirements for participation in this course. Failure to maintain a functional device will not be accepted as a valid excuse for incomplete coursework, missed deadlines, or inability to participate in course activities. SHSU Online and the university's IT department provide limited technical support for personal devices.

There are computers available for use in the Newton Gresham Library (NGL), Evans Complex, and other locations around SHSU's campus.

For significant technological issues, please contact the SHSU IT Department at ServiceDesk@shsu.edu, and ask the staff at the English Department main office, Evans 458, if

you can check out a tablet or laptop during class time. If in doubt, plan to attend class and participate by writing by hand in a notebook.

Sam Houston State University Policies:

Refer to <https://intranet.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/faculty-handbook/syllabus-guidelines>

SHSU Religious Holy Days Policy

Section 51.911 (b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence. "Religious holy day" means a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20, United States Tax Code.

Pregnancy and Parenting Policy

Title IX provides for equal educational opportunities for pregnant and parenting students. It prohibits educational institutions from discriminating against students based on pregnancy, childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy, or recovery from any of these conditions.

SHSU Disability Policy

Academic Policy Statement 811006 Any student with a disability that affects their academic performance should contact the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities to request accommodation(s).

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may affect adversely your work in this class, then I encourage you to register with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities, located in the Lee Drain Annex (telephone 936-294-3512, TDD 936-294-3786, and e-mail disability@shsu.edu). I also encourage you to talk with me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will remain strictly confidential.

Instructor Evaluations

Toward the end of the semester, all students will have the opportunity to evaluate this course and its instructor. These evaluations allow students to rate the efficacy of the instructional methods as well as their perceptions of the course in general. Any information provided by students is anonymous, and instructors do not receive students' evaluations until the following semester.

Classroom Visitor Policy

At Sam Houston State University (SHSU), only registered students may attend class, though a professor can make exceptions on a case-by-case basis. Visitors are not allowed to be a disruption to the class, and any individual not registered must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance to be permitted to stay, according to one source. If a visitor does not have a current, official SHSU ID card, their attendance is at the instructor's discretion.

➡ Recommended SHSU Resources

Student Advising and Mentoring Center

The [SAM Center](#) provides mentoring and study skills help for online students.

Student Money Management

[Student Money Management Center \(SMM\)](#) is a financial outreach and educational program that is administered by the Division of Enrollment Success. The SMM offers personal, one-on-one coaching sessions about your personal finances in order for you to be a successful Bearkat! The SMM is known for giving out scholarships and food at our workshops.

Student Legal Services

SHSU offers [legal and mediation services](#), including an attorney on staff to help you with your legal rights and responsibilities.

Food Pantry

SHSU has a [food pantry](#) as [well as a thrift store](#) that includes access to free items.

First-Generation Center

A student is considered first-generation if neither parent nor guardian earned a bachelor's degree in the United States. Approximately 52% of our students are first-generation students! The [First-Generation Center](#) is here to assist you in navigating higher education and connecting with SHSU's community of first-generation students, faculty and staff who will support and encourage you throughout your entire academic journey. The First-Generation Center staff has been in your footsteps as they are also first-generation.

Mental Health Resources

SHSU Counseling Center is here to help. You can learn about the free, confidential mental health services available on campus by calling (936)294-1720 or visiting www.shsu.edu/dept/counseling/.

In a crisis situation, or after hours, contact Campus UPD at (936)294-1794. The National Suicide Prevention 24-hour hotline is 988.

Students Right to their Own Language

From Conference on Composition and Communication Fall 1974

“We affirm the student’s right to their own patterns and varieties of language—the dialects of their nurture or whatever dialects in which they find their own identity and style. Language scholars long ago denied that the myth of a standard American dialect has any validity. The claim that any one dialect is unacceptable amounts to an attempt of one social group to exert its dominance over another. Such a claim leads to false advice for its speakers and writers, and immoral advice for communities. A nation proud of its diverse heritage and its cultural and racial variety will preserve its heritage of dialects. We affirm strongly that teachers much have the experiences and training that will enable them to respect diversity and uphold the right of students to their own language.”

In other words, use the languages and writing styles most comfortable for you this semester while learning to write in American Academic English when appropriate. If you have questions about which variety of English you should use in your final drafts, please do not hesitate to ask your faculty member in class, over email, or in office hours.

Video or Audiotaping Class Sessions

All classes are closed the Press and Media. No videos or audio tapings of class sessions are allowed unless you obtain my permission to do so. I may record class sessions for students who are unable to attend in person, but those recordings are not to be shared beyond the members of this class

SHSU Land Acknowledgement

Sam Houston State University was established on the traditional and ancestral homeland of the Bidais and Tonkawa Tribes. In this class, we recognize and respect the enduring relationship that exists between many Indigenous peoples and their traditional homelands. We respect the sovereign relationship between tribes, states, and the federal governments.

➔ Course Calendar

Important: This calendar is subject to change. Plan to have your current English 1301 class project and reading and writing tools available for each class period.

Additional readings, assignment descriptions, and course materials may be available on Blackboard.

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Additional readings, assignment descriptions, and course materials may be available on Blackboard.

	Monday	Wednesday	Friday
Week 1 Aug. 19		First Day of Class Last day to process schedule changes by midnight CST Focus: Class Welcome	Mini Essay Navigating the Course
Week 2 Aug. 24	Read the Introduction to <i>Evicted</i> before class; Draft an Email to your Professor; sign up for Library workshops Focus: Reading like a Writer	Friday Aug. 28: Last day to register and process schedule changes No Regular Class: Attend Library Workshop in the SHSU NG Library Due: Certificate for Library Workshop E1: What Can the Library Do for Me?	
Week 3 Aug. 31	Due: Bring your current 1301 assignment sheet with you; Sign up for tutoring	Thursday Sept. 3: Census Day: Last day to drop with a 100 % tuition credit No Regular Class: Attend Writing Tutoring Session in	Unit 1: WIP Draft

	Focus: Putting Pen to Paper: Getting Started with an Essay	the NG Library Academic Success Center Due: ASC Writing Tutoring Appointment 1 process memo 1; Bring 1301 assignment, essay in progress	
Week 4 Sept. 7	Focus: What's a Thesis?	Due: Find example text in two classes to read-like-a-writer Focus: Paragraphing Like a Pro	
Week 5 Sept. 14	Due: Sign up for tutoring Focus: Reading like a Writer, pt. 2	No Regular Class: Attend Writing Tutoring Session in the NG Library Academic Success Center Due: ASC Writing Tutoring memo 2	Unit 1: Final Draft
Week 6 Sept. 21	Due: Bring 1301 Instructions for major Writing Project to Class; sign up for Library workshop Focus: Reading Between Assignment Lines	No Regular Class: Attend Library Workshop in the SHSU NG Library Due: Certificate for Library Workshop E2: Getting Started with Undergraduate Research	
Week 7 Sept. 28	Due: Observations about citation styles in major; sign up for tutoring Focus: Writing with Sources, a Primer	No Regular Class: Attend Writing Tutoring Session in the NG Library Academic Success Center Due: ASC Writing Tutoring Memo 3	Unit 2: WIP Draft

Week 8 Oct. 5	Due: One strong nonfiction introduction Focus: Strategies for Strong Introductions	Due: Sign up for tutoring Focus: Strategies for Strong Introductions and Conclusions	
Week 9 Oct. 12	Fall break: No class	No Regular Class: Attend Writing Tutoring Session in the NG Library Academic Success Center Due: ASC Writing Tutoring Memo 4	Unit 2: Final Draft
Week 10 Oct. 19	Focus: Checking Sources Class Workshop; sign up for Library workshop	No Regular Class: Attend Library Workshop in the SHSU NG Library Due: Certificate for Library Workshop E3: The Samantha Bearkat Mystery: Scholarship as Conversation	
Week 11 Oct. 26	Due: Sign up for Library workshop Focus: Introduction to Research in Context	No Regular Class: Attend Library Workshop in the SHSU NG Library Due: Certificate for Library Workshop E4: Research in context	
Week 12 Nov. 2	Due: Sign up for tutoring Focus: Research Skills, Ethics, Habits Focus: Writing Strategies a Review	No Regular Class: Attend Writing Tutoring Session in the NG Library Academic Success Center	Unit 3: WIP Draft

		Due: ASC Writing Tutoring Memo 5	
Week 13 Nov. 9	Due: Bring GenAI policies from at least two classes Focus: Using Sources Like a Writer	Friday Nov. 13: Last day to drop without a “Q” Focus: Writing Strategies, Review	
Week 14 Nov. 16	Focus: Reading Like a Writer, pt. 3	Due: Certificate for Library Workshop E2a: Lateral Reading online module; Sign up for tutoring Focus: Class Writing Workshop and Revision Plans	
Week 15 Nov. 23	No Regular Class: Attend Writing Tutoring Session in the NG Library Academic Success Center Due: ASC Writing Tutoring Memo 6	Thanksgiving: No Class	Unit 3: Final Draft
Week 16 Nov. 30	Focus: Writing Next Semester, and Beyond	Last Day of Class: Last Day to Resign by 4 PM CST Focus: Writer’s Workshop, conferences, or reflections	Reflection

Finals Week			Note: There is no final exam in this class.
Dec. 7			