



ONLINE

CMA515 Teaching in the Humanities (2 credit hours) Course Syllabus

Course Description

This course will investigate both theoretical and practical issues related to teaching First-Year composition. Topics will include developing effective syllabi, identifying and articulating learning objectives, designing effective writing assignments, assessing college writing, understanding and creating rubrics, and developing an effective critique process. Students will also develop a teaching philosophy, syllabus, and sample lesson plans.

Course Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

1. Understand the nature of rhetoric and composition in a college freshman first-year writing classroom.
2. Identify major trends in research for a chosen issue within teaching rhetoric and composition by creating an annotated bibliography.
3. Analyze their own assumptions about important writing criteria through the creation of a rubric.
4. Design a semester long first-year writing class given a syllabus template.
5. Create interesting and effective in-class activities in a lesson plan unit based on their own syllabus calendar.
6. Critique and evaluate sample student papers using a given rubric.
7. Reflect on their own ideas about teaching by writing a teaching philosophy.

Required Textbook(s) and Resources

All required materials will be supplied in the course.

Be sure to also review the weekly **Explore** sections for additional library or web resources. For access to databases, research help, and writing tips, visit the [Tiffin University Library](#). You might consider registering for one of the library's many webinars on library research, source

evaluation, copyright, and other topics, at the [Library Events - Upcoming Events](#) web page. For further assistance email a librarian, at: library@tiffin.edu.

Time Commitment

Effective time management is possibly the single most critical element to your academic success. To do well in this online class you should plan your time wisely to maximize your learning through the completion of readings, discussions, and assignments. Because of our accelerated, seven-week term, TU online courses are designed with the expectation that you dedicate a little over **six (6)** hours per credit hour to course activities and preparation **each week**. For example, for successful completion of a three-credit, seven-week online course you should reserve roughly **twenty (20) hours per week**.

To help plan your time and keep on track toward successful course completion, note the distinctive rhythm of assignment due dates:

1. All times assume Eastern Time (GMT-4).
2. Weeks begin at 12:00 a.m. ET on Monday and end at 11:55 p.m. ET on Sunday.
3. Unless otherwise noted, initial assignments or discussion posts are due by **11:55 p.m. ET on Wednesdays**.
4. Additional assignments or follow-up discussion posts are due by **11:55 p.m. ET on Saturdays, and**
5. Major assignments and reflections are typically due by **11:55 p.m. ET on Sundays**.

Learning Activities

The learning activities in this course are meant to prepare professionals with the materials they will need to apply for college teaching positions in English and do research in the area of college teaching. Assignments will range from regular research assignments to lesson plans, reflections, a syllabus, rubric, and a teaching philosophy. Discussion Forums will focus on how to teach and handle various issues that come up in a composition classroom. Participants will practice evaluating student writing, creating lesson plans, and writing syllabi. All learning activities are meant to strengthen student writing and preparation for teaching.

Grading and Points Distribution

The chart below identifies the individual contributions from each type of activity, per week.

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Total
Discussions Activity 1.1 (n/a) Activity 1.2 (50)	Discussion Activity 2.1 (50)	Discussion Activity 3.1 (50)	Discussion Activity 4.1 (50)	Discussion Activity 5.1 (50)	Discussion Activity 6.1 (50)	Discussion Activity 7.1 (50)	350
Assignment Engaged Teaching Reflection Activity 1.3 (50)	Assignment Proposal Activity 2.2 (50)	Assignment Annotated Bibliography Activity 3.2 (50)	Assignment Syllabus Activity 4.2 (100)	Assignment Lesson Plans Activity 5.2 (100)	Assignment Rubric Activity 6.2 (100)	Assignment Teaching Philosophy Activity 7.2 (120)	570
					Assignment Assessment and Feedback Activity 6.3 (80)		80
100	100	100	150	150	230	170	1000

Grading Scale

Grade	Percentage
A	90-100%
B	80-89%
C	70-79%
F	<70

Please see the [Academic Bulletin](#) for grade appeal information.

Course Schedule and Weekly Checklist

Topic	Learning Activities (Due by 11:55 p.m. ET on day designated)
Start Here	<input type="checkbox"/> MON: Activity 1.1: Look At Me! - Initial Post
Week 1: Product v. Process Engaged Teaching	<input type="checkbox"/> WED: Activity 1.1: Look At Me! - Secondary Post <input type="checkbox"/> WED: Activity 1.2 Discussion: The Writing Process - Initial Post <input type="checkbox"/> SAT: Activity 1.2 Discussion: The Writing Process - Secondary Post <input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Activity 1.3 Assignment: Engaged Teaching Reflection
Week 2: Teaching Grammar Linguistic Prejudice Translingualism	<input type="checkbox"/> WED: Activity 2.1 Discussion: Teaching Grammar or SWE - Initial Post <input type="checkbox"/> SAT: Activity 2.1 Discussion: Teaching Grammar or SWE - Secondary Post <input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Activity 2.2 Assignment: Annotated Bibliography Proposal
Week 3: Gathering sources Teaching Citation Styles	<input type="checkbox"/> WED: Activity 3.1 Discussion: Teaching Citation Systems - Initial Post <input type="checkbox"/> SAT: Activity 3.1 Discussion: Teaching Citation Systems <input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Activity 3.2 Assignment: Annotated Bibliography
Week 4: Syllabus Outcomes & Objectives	<input type="checkbox"/> WED: Activity 4.1 Discussion: Planning a Workshop - Initial Post <input type="checkbox"/> SAT: Activity 4.1 Discussion: Planning a Workshop - Secondary Post <input type="checkbox"/> SUN: 4.2 Assignment: Course Syllabus
Week 5: Objectives Lesson Plan Methods	<input type="checkbox"/> WED: Activity 5.1 Discussion: Methods - Initial Post <input type="checkbox"/> SAT: Activity 5.1 Discussion: Methods - Secondary Post <input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Activity 5.2 Assignment: Lesson Plans
Week 6: Feedback	<input type="checkbox"/> WED: Activity 6.1 Discussion: Useful Feedback - Initial Post

Assessment Rubrics	<input type="checkbox"/> SAT: Activity 6.1 Discussion: Useful Feedback - Secondary Post <input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Activity 6.2 Assignment: Rubric <input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Activity 6.3 Assignment: Assessment & Feedback
Week 7: Metacognition Teaching Philosophies	<input type="checkbox"/> WED: Activity 7.1 Discussion: Rethinking the Syllabus - Initial Post <input type="checkbox"/> SAT: Activity 7.1 Discussion: Rethinking the Syllabus - Secondary Post <input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Activity 7.2 Assignment: Teaching Philosophy

Tips for Success

Successful online learning requires a good deal of self-discipline and self-direction. As seekers of the truth, we should be willing to challenge and review one another's academic work in a spirit of respectful comradery and constructiveness. Your course is a place for you to stretch and grow as you benefit from the expertise, knowledge, experience and diverse perspectives of your instructor and peers. Constructive feedback will challenge you to stretch your own thinking, thereby expanding your knowledge, understanding and application.

To get the most out of your learning experience, you should actively engage (participate) in **ALL** course activities. Course elements are arranged chronologically. To complete a week, simply work your way "down the page" through all of the course materials and activities.

Your Instructor Will Expect You to:

- Thoroughly review orientation materials (Start Here) within the first 48 hours of the term.
- Monitor your TU email account **daily** for important updates and announcements.
- Take ownership of your learning experience and act in a proactive, self-directed manner. That means:
 - Fully participate in all learning activities.
 - Complete assignments as described in rubrics or other instructions.
 - Submit all work on time and in the specified format (e.g. APA format for citations). Late assignments will be accepted at the discretion of your instructor. Penalties may apply.
 - Utilize and incorporate instructor-provided feedback to improve your work.
 - Ask questions so you can better understand course material or assignments.
 - Use the highest standards of intellectual honesty and integrity. For more information, see the TU Library guide: [Digital Literacy: Netiquette and Internet Safety](#).

- Treat others respectfully and demonstrate "netiquette" (online politeness and respectfulness) at all times. TU celebrates cultural uniqueness and expects all students to be considerate and thoughtful throughout their learning experiences.

You Should Expect Your Instructors to:

- Post an introductory announcement/email at the beginning of each week to provide updates and help you prepare for the week's activities.
- Maintain an active and engaged presence in all course activities and throughout the course.
- Respond to your emailed questions within 48 hours, if not sooner.
- Clearly communicate any absences or expected non-participation due to extenuating circumstances. For example, "I will be traveling to attend a funeral this week and may not be able to respond to questions or participate in forums for a couple of days."
- When grading your work:
 - clearly indicate their grading approach (what they like to see in submitted work as well as what types of errors they tend to penalize more harshly),
 - thoroughly review and evaluate your submissions in a timely manner (in less than 5 days for most assignments), and
 - provide constructive feedback that indicates the strengths and weaknesses of your work and provides suggestions on how you can improve your performance on future assignments.
- Advocate for your success as a learner and help guide you toward successful completion of the course activities and most importantly, attainment of the course learning outcomes.

Accommodations

The **Office for Disability Services** supports the institutional commitment to diversity by providing educational opportunities for qualified individuals with disabilities through accessible programs and services in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990.

If you need reasonable accommodations due to a documented disability, contact the Office for Equity, Access, & Opportunity 419.448.3021 or via email at disabilityservices@tiffin.edu.

Additional Resources & Support

For technical support, either email moodlesupport@tiffin.edu or call the 24/7 Technical Support Call Center at 855-664-1200.

If you need to consult an academic advisor refer to TU's [Meet the Team](#) page.

For information about TU's peer tutoring program see the Murphy Center's [Tutoring Policies and Procedures](#) page. Veterans and active military can seek assistance from TU's [Veteran and Military Services Web Page](#).

Comments or Concerns

TU's online programs are designed to be student *driven*: to empower you with a voice and stake in your learning. Our courses feature multiple and varied ways that you can share feedback, and we invite you to become an active voice and help drive our improvement efforts. In addition to providing in-course feedback, we encourage you to submit questions or comments directly to the online team at online@tiffin.edu.