

Instructor Information	
Instructor	Dr. Michelle Judice
Email	judicemw@lamarpa.edu
Phone	(409) 984-6352
Office	Student Success Center - Room: 129
Office Hours	M-W-F: 9-10 and 11:30-3:30 T: 11:30-3:30
	Please schedule and confirm an appointment before arriving.
Additional Contact Information	The BEST way to contact me is email: judicemw@lamarpa.edu
Course Information	
Description	Intensive study of and practice in the strategies and techniques for developing research-based expository and persuasive texts. Emphasis on effective and ethical rhetorical inquiry, including primary and secondary research methods; critical reading of verbal, visual, and multimedia texts; systematic evaluation, synthesis, and documentation of information sources; and critical thinking about evidence and conclusions.
Required Textbooks	<i>Textbook Purchasing Statement: A student attending Lamar State College Port Arthur is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from the college-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.</i> Students will be given links in Blackboard to short stories (prose) and poetry. In-person classes may include a handout packet, as well as written formatting instructions. Need wide-ruled paper, binder/folder, and BLACK ink pens. NO textbook necessary. MUST HAVE access to a computer that has Word on it (caution: several Chrome books are not compatible with Blackboard)
Additional Materials/Resources	• Consistent access to a <i>computer</i> (<u>not just a cellphone</u>) with the <i>internet</i>. • Sufficient familiarity with <i>Blackboard</i>-- everything we do will be through this platform! • General understanding of <i>Microsoft Office</i> (through your MyLSCPA), especially <i>Word</i> and <i>Outlook</i>.
Corequisites/Prerequisites	PASSED English 1301. Basic skills competency in reading and writing required.">PASSED English 1301. Basic skills competency in reading and writing required.">PASSED English 1301. Basic skills competency in reading and writing required.
Learning Outcomes	Upon successful completion of this course, students will: 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 (e.g., APA, CMS, MLA, etc.)
Core Objectives	* Communication Skills: Students will demonstrate effective written, oral and visual communication. * Critical Thinking Skills: Students will engage in creative and/or innovative thinking, and/or inquiry, analysis, evaluation, synthesis of information, organizing concepts and constructing solutions. * Teamwork: Students will demonstrate the ability to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal and consider different points of view. * Personal Responsibility: Students will demonstrate the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making.
Lecture Topics Outline	* Theory and Practice of Academic Writing * Standard vs Non-Standard English * Grammar * Punctuation ***** Uncovering the hidden messages and understanding that everyone views everything through different lenses

* **Research Paper:** definition, examples, instructions (MLA parenthetical citations and Works Cited)

Week 1: Introduction to Course & Classmates, Syllabus Review, Netiquette review. Diagnostic paper.

Week 2: Fiction

Week 3: Fiction, TEST

Week 4: Fiction

Week 5: Fiction, TEST

Week 6: Poetry

Week 7: Poetry, TEST

Week 8: Poetry, PACKET

Week 9: Begin Research Paper.

Week 10: Work on Research Paper.

Week 11: RESEARCH PAPER finished/submitted Due: Friday, March 6

Week 12: Drama

Week 13: Drama

Week 14: Drama

Week 15: Final review. FINAL

** schedule subject to change

May 6, 2026 - 10:0 AM Through May 6, 2026 - 11:0 AM

90 - 100 = A 80 - 89 = B 70 - 79 = C 60 - 69 = D Below 59 = F

Assignments (writing responses and quizzes over assigned texts), attendance, AND participation: 80%

Research Paper: 20%

This IS a composition class (the second half of freshman English) so students WILL be required to write A LOT.

Course Policies

I will not discuss your grades over the phone or by email. If you want to discuss your grades, you must come talk to me in person, either after class or we can schedule a time to sit and talk in my office.

Rudeness, to me or to another student, will not be tolerated. WE are each coming with baggage and we do not know what others are dealing with in life. I know it sounds cliché but be kind. I believe in and will work hard to include diversity, equity, and inclusion in our class (look up these words if need be!). Our society, your future workplace, is made up of people from all backgrounds, much like college classes. Professional success depends on us being able to work side-by-side with colleagues who are quite different, in various ways, from ourselves.

Some in this class were in Honors English while others were not. Some graduated high school two months ago and others twenty years ago. For some in this class, English comes easily but others struggle with it; some love writing and some hate it.

My policy is to help everyone in this class, no matter what their writing ability level is.

Please be considerate and patient if we are reviewing a concept you have already mastered because the person behind/beside/in front of you might be struggling with it.

We will have fun in this class. I enjoy (absolutely adore) my students. At the end of every semester, students write, on the evaluations of the class, how much they enjoyed it (much to their surprise!) While I am quite blunt and tough (the students write) I am extremely fair and helpful.

Research has shown a cause and effect relationship between attendance and college success. Students with more than two-three absences from the course will receive an academic penalty. PLEASE be sure to talk to me, or email me, and let me know what is happening; I want to help you through the course and totally understand that unplanned events happen.

I WILL be in class so you are expected to be in class also. I will be on time to class, so you are also expected to be in class when it starts. In other words, walking in late once, is all right; walking in late every time is not acceptable.

If you miss class, PLEASE ask a classmate what you missed and what is due. In fact, ask a couple classmates (yes, this means meeting people!) Email me to ask only AFTER you have checked with a classmate.

If you quit attending, I WILL NOT drop you, which means an F (no matter the grade average when attendance ceased). PLEASE come see me with a drop slip for a Q instead of the F that I will be forced to submit if you do not drop yourself. If you do not know an Advisor's name, ask me; I will give you a contact name and number.

Additional Information

You will write. A LOT. This English Composition class is a basic writing class. Composition means composing/writing, which means students do a lot of practicing this skill, just as a person would practice driving, cooking, singing, knitting, running, fishing, or working on a vehicle. The more we do, the better we become. Long story short: almost each time we meet we look at good writing and then we will practice writing to become better ourselves. PLEASE turn in assignments on time. If it is one day late ten points will deducted, two days late, twenty points, and it will not be accepted after that.

I trust you. I trust you until you show me that I can't trust you. PLEASE write your own assignments. You will not become better at writing if a friend, sibling, significant other, or Uncle Google, humans or artificial intelligence, writes it for you. If you submit work from any of these sources, I may or may not find out (but if you don't write it yourself, you do not learn anything and you do not improve so what is the point of being in the class?)

Plagiarism is unacceptable. There will be consequences for submitting, intentionally OR unintentionally, anything you did not write yourself. The first time, a plagiarized submission will be given a 0, with NO makeup. The second time, the student will be given an F. You DON'T need to cheat. You have brains in your head and I am here to help you through.

You can succeed. I assume you are enrolled in this class with the goal of passing it. My goal is to help you become better writers AND pass this class. However, you MUST want success and try as hard as I am going to try. This means not just being in class physically but also being present mentally and paying attention; it is extremely rude to be on the phone in any way while in a class. I will be so happy to see you in class and I will focus on the purpose of this class: preparing you to write in future classes and/or preparing you to write in the workplace. You CAN do this!

Please ask questions. If we are going over something and you do not understand (chances are very good you are not the only one!), please ask any questions. Sometimes I just assume you know it or think we have already covered it, so don't hesitate to ask. Helping students is what instructors are in the classroom for!

Institutional Policies

MyLSCPA

Be sure to check your campus email and Course Homepage using MyLSCPA campus web portal. You can also access your grades, transcripts, academic advisors, degree progress, and other services through [MyLSCPA](#).

Academic Honesty

Academic honesty is expected from all students, and dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated. Please consult the LSCPA policies (Academic Dishonesty section in the Student Handbook) for consequences of academic dishonesty.

ADA Considerations

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the [Disability Services Coordinator](#), Room 117, in the Student Success Center. The phone number is (409) 984-6241.

COVID 19 Information

The Lamar State College Port Arthur (LSCPA) Student Code of Conduct COVID 19 Policy requires students who have been diagnosed with COVID 19 to report their condition directly to their local health department. Students should also contact their course faculty to report their quarantine status. In addition, this policy requires all students to wear face coverings when directly exposed to COVID 19 in compliance with the criteria included in the policy. For more information please refer to the COVID 19 link on the LSCPA website.

Facility Policies

No food or tobacco products are allowed in the classroom. Only students enrolled in the course are allowed in the classroom, except by special instructor permission. Use of electronic devices is prohibited.

HB 2504

This syllabus is part of LSCPA's efforts to comply with Texas House Bill 2504.

Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse and Neglect

As per Texas law and LSCPA policy, all LSCPA employees, including faculty, are required to report allegations or disclosures of child abuse or neglect to the designated authorities, which may include a local or state law enforcement agency or the Texas Department of Family Protective Services. For more information about mandatory reporting requirements, see [LSCPA's Policy and Procedure Manual](#).

Title IX and Sexual Misconduct

LSCPA is committed to establishing and maintaining an environment that is free from all forms of sex discrimination, including sexual harassment, sexual violence, and other forms of sexual misconduct. All LSCPA employees, including faculty, have the responsibility to report disclosures of sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment, sexual assault (including rape and acquaintance rape), domestic violence, dating violence, relationship violence, or stalking, to LSCPA's Title IX Coordinator, whose role is to coordinate the college's response to sexual misconduct. For more information about Title IX protections, faculty reporting responsibilities, options for confidential reporting, and the resources available for support visit [LSCPA's Title IX website](#).

Clery Act Crime Reporting

For more information about the Clery Act and crime reporting, see the [Annual Security & Fire Safety Report](#) and the [Campus Security website](#).

Grievance / Complaint / Concern

If you have a grievance, complaint, or concern about this course that has not been resolved through discussion with the Instructor, please consult the Department Chair.

Department Information

General Education and Developmental Studies

Chair: [Dr. Steven Zani](#)
Email: zanisj@lamarpa.edu
Phone: (409) 984-6431