ENGL 1311: COMPOSITION I — LINC

Instructor Information
Name: Jonathan Purkiss-Jones
Office: CHARTS 450 (Main)
Telephone: 501-812-2794
Office Hours: MW (12-2) / TR (8-12) / F (8-12)
Mailbox location: Department of Fine Arts and Humanities
Email: jpurkiss@uaptc.edu
Remind Messaging: Text the message @comp1purk to the number 81010 on your smartphone.

Resources

Textbook:

Catalogue Description
Principles and techniques of expository and persuasive composition, analysis of texts with introduction to research methods, and critical thinking. 3 Credit Hours (3 hours lecture per week)

PREREQUISITES:

- Completion of DEVE 0324 (Composition Fundamentals) with a grade of "C" or better and completion of DEVE 0316 (College Reading) with a grade of "C" or better
- A score of 19 or above on the Reading and Writing sections of the ACT
- A score of 75 or above on the COMPASS Writing Placement Test and a score of 83 or above on the COMPASS Reading Placement Test
- A score of 83 or above on the AC-CUPLACER Writing Placement Test and a score of 78 or above on the AC-CUPLACER Reading Placement Test above the COMPASS Writing Placement Test and a score of 83 or above on the COMPASS Reading Placement Test
- A score of 83 or above on the AC-CUPLACER Writing Placement Test and a score of 78 or above on the AC-CUPLACER Reading Placement Test
Course Description

The student will:

- Respond appropriately to various rhetorical situations, purposes, and audiences
- Use writing and reading for inquiry, learning, thinking, and communicating
- Integrate original ideas with those of others
- Develop flexible strategies for generating, revising, editing, and proof-reading
- Use collaborative writing processes
- Demonstrate knowledge of structure, paragraphing, tone, mechanics, syntax, grammar, and documentation

Composition I focuses on communicating ideas clearly. Students practice methods of drafting, including how to create a thesis and how to support and develop that thesis in a focused, thorough, and stylistically appropriate essay that demonstrates awareness of audience and the conventions of medium and genre. The class will focus on writing strategies such as invention, arrangement, drafting, and revision, including teamwork with the instructor and/or classmates in the writing process, fluency issues such as the use of transitions, and the correction of major usage errors. The class requires students to read texts critically and to practice good scholarship through the conventions of style and documentation. Students practice integrating summary, paraphrase, and quotation into their own original compositions. Students write a minimum of fifteen pages of formal writing to be divided among assignments, including a research paper that incorporates material from quality sources.

Institutional Learning Outcomes

UA-PTC supports a college-wide institutional learning assessment program, which concerns effective instructional methods and promotes student learning achievement by assessing:

- Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Cultural Awareness
- Information Literacy
- Professionalism
- Quantitative Literacy
- Technology Literacy

For more information, please consult the following website: http://www.pulaskitech.edu/tra/mission.asp

Department Learning Outcomes

The English department, consistent with the College’s mission and the Division’s objectives, encourages the success of its students in all technical fields and academic disciplines by promoting:

1. Critical and creative thought
2. Effective argumentation with a focus on tone, purpose and audience
3. Academic Integrity
4. Independent thinking and learning
5. Written communication on a collegiate level
6. Exposure to various cultures and subcultures
7. The influence of culture on individuals and their work
8. Collaborative study and writing
Policies

The UA-PTC Catalogue rules and regulations will be enforced in this class at all times. Please consult the following website for more information: http://www.pulaskitech.edu/admission/web_catalog/. Appropriate behavior is expected for all communications, including any notes, email messages, or telephone conversations. Professional behavior is required. You are expected to be respectful of others in your classroom behavior. This includes, but is not limited to, the following:

Turn off all cell phones/pagers. In case of emergency, please see the instructor before class for arrangements to keep your cell phone on a vibrating setting.

Please do not bring visitors, especially children, to class unless you have prior authorization from instructor.

Please do not cheat or plagiarize. If you are caught cheating or plagiarizing, you will automatically be given the grade “F” for the assignment and may be assigned a failing grade for the course as well.

Please not disturb other students by carrying on private conversations, or adversely affect the learning environment in any other way. If you disturb the learning environment, you will be asked to leave and will, therefore, and be counted absent for the day. I reserve the right to define what constitutes “disturbing behavior.”

I reserve the right to handle incidents of suspected cheating on a case-by-case basis as I see fit, particularly involving cases of copied homework and/or cheating on exams or quizzes.

Attendance Policy

Agencies granting financial assistance may be notified of the violation of the attendance policy by students receiving financial aid. Attendance is taken starting the first day of the semester, with the exception of students who enroll after classes have started.

Any student who misses two consecutive weeks of class may be administratively withdrawn from the class.

Any student who does not class within the first two weeks of class will be considered a “no show” according to the campus attendance policy and will be reported as such and dropped from the class.

Regular class attendance is vital to academic success, and attendance in the course is mandatory. Your participation is required and you cannot participate if you are not here. You are expected to attend each class, to be on time, and to remain until you are dismissed. If you arrive 15 or more minutes late to class, you may be considered absent. Leaving class early will also result in an absence (unless, in the case of emergency, cleared through me before class). Absences are not excused or unexcused, so use your absences wisely.

If you have to miss an excessive number of classes due to extenuating circumstances involving medical emergencies, hospitalization, and/or surgery recovery that could result in your being dropped from class for non-attendance or otherwise negatively affect your academic success in the class, you should contact me as soon as possible to alert me to the situation (or have a family member contact me) to make arrangements for assignments and other missed work and provide a time frame to re-establish regular attendance. In this event, you will be expected to also submit proper documentation to me regarding the extenuating circumstances.

I reserve the right to make decisions regarding excessive absences on a case-by-case basis. All students will be held to the same policies and requirements regarding late work, class participation, types of assignments, and grading criteria as other students, regardless of extenuating circumstances.
Information Literacy

PTC is committed to the Information Literacy Competency Standards for Higher Education as established by the Association of College and Research Libraries and endorsed by the National Forum on Information Literacy. Therefore, all courses will incorporate an information literacy component so that, by graduation, all students will be able to recognize the need for information, then locate, evaluate, synthesize, and communicate information in an ethical manner. Information literacy encompasses critical thinking, research, media, technology, health, business, and visual literacy skills to produce lifelong learners who can make informed decisions in the workplace and in their personal lives.

Course Evaluations

Students may be asked to evaluate their instructor and course near the end of the semester. These student evaluations are very important to the improvement in the quality of instruction and course materials. All results are anonymous and shared with the faculty only after the semester is over and grades have been posted.

LINC Policy

Since this LinCed course is specially designed to complement a Speech Communications course, you cannot drop this LinCed course without dropping the other. If you choose to drop this course, you will also be dropped from the LinCed Speech Communications course. You should be willing to dedicate yourself to successfully completing the coursework for both classes. Since both of these courses are a total of 6 credit hours, please be aware that dropping LinCed courses may affect financial aid requirements. Also please be aware, in this course, the instructor will be regularly sharing information pertaining to your academic performance in this course with the instructor of the linked course. Be aware that the instructor may share information about academic progress, grades, assignments, attendance, and contact information with the linked instructor.

Accommodation Policy

Services for Students with Disabilities: PTC is committed to fulfilling all federal requirements as stated in the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Accommodations are available to students who have documented disabilities. Students who request accommodations must register with the Coordinator of Disability Services in Counseling Services (501-812-2220 or www.pulaskitech.edu) prior to the semester of planned enrollment, and must provide recent documentation of medical, educational, and/or psychological records.

Students who need accommodations should inform the instructor at the beginning of the course. Accommodations will only be provided if the instructor receives a letter of approved accommodations from the Coordinator of Disability Services. Failure to provide sufficient notification may result in a delay of services.
Academic Integrity

It is expected that all students who attend UA-PTC conduct themselves in a manner appropriate for the college experience. Academic integrity is a vital component of collegiate behavior. The UA-PTC catalogue states, “The gaining of knowledge and the practice of honesty go hand-in-hand.”

The catalogue also states, “The responsibility and authority of initiating discipline arising from violations of the rules against dishonesty during the process of the course are vested in the instructor of that course.”

The complete Academic Integrity Policy can be found in the UA-PTC code of conduct.

Plagiarism

It is expected that all writing that you submit in a class is your own original work, and that any sources of information that you consult are fully cited and properly integrated into your writing. Regardless of intent, any paper that contains any form of plagiarism will earn a 0% for the assignment. Most plagiarism is accidental and results from mishandling of research or inadequate citations. Examples of accidental plagiarism include:

- word-for-word copying from any source without the use of quotation marks;
- failure to completely cite all quoted, summarized, or paraphrased material from a presented source;
- improper paraphrasing (i.e., paraphrased information that retains the grammatical structure and/or vocabulary of the original source).

In the case that any student plagiarizes information with the intent of cheating on a writing assignment, the instructor may choose a more severe penalty at their discretion. Examples of blatant plagiarism include:

- submitting any amount of material from the Internet or another outside source as if it is the student’s original composition;
- copying material from a source with no attempt at using quotation marks and/or citation of the source;
- paraphrasing material from a source with no attempt at documentation of the source;
- reuse of material from previous classes without the instructor’s express permission;
- simultaneously using material from another class without the permission of both instructors involved;
- buying papers;
- letting others write part or all of a paper; and
- all other instances in which the student attempts to circumvent creating an original composition for that assignment and/or attempts to deceive the audience about the sources used when composing the assignment.

You should review the information about plagiarism in textbooks and the Academic Integrity Policy in the UA-PTC Student Handbook, as it is your responsibility to demonstrate good scholarship in your writing.

Sexual Misconduct

No person at Pulaski Technical College will, on the basis of gender, be excluded from participation in, be denied benefits of, or be subjected to sex discrimination, sexual harassment or sexual misconduct under any education program or activity. All college administrative policies and procedures regarding sex discrimination, sexual harassment, and sexual misconduct are in compliance with Title IX. Students who feel they are victims of sexual misconduct should contact the UA-PTC Title IX Deputy Coordinator for Students:

Michelle Anderson, Dean of Students
Campus Center Building Room 212
501-812-2756
manderson@pulaskitech.edu

Additional information, including the UA-PTC sexual assault policy, procedures, and resources may be found online at http://www.pulaskitech.edu/sexual_misconduct_awareness/.
In addition to the major assignments, there will also be other assignments, including rough drafts, quizzes, and planning worksheets. All assignments are due on the dates indicated on the official course schedule (unless otherwise changed by me). Failure to submit assignments on the official due dates will result in late deductions. All writing assignments must be typed. You will need to submit each writing assignment as a document file in electronic format (.DOC or .DOCX is preferred). Please be aware also that all writing assignments will be submitted to SafeAssign, a plagiarism program, to check for plagiarized passages. All essay responses will be checked for plagiarism. I will not score any paper until it has been checked. Lastly, I will not pre-grade your assignments, but I am happy to address any specific questions or concerns that you have before you submit your work for a grade. Please note that corrections or comments I may make about your paper prior to official submission for grading does not necessarily guarantee a successful final grade on the assignment. In addition to occasional homework assignments, there will also be announced reading quizzes; be sure to read all assigned readings prior to class.

There is no greater agony than bearing an untold story inside you.  
- Maya Angelou

MAJOR ASSIGNMENTS

1. The Personal Narrative (100 pts)
2. The Rhetorical Analysis (100 pts)
3. The Report (100 pts)
4. The Argument (100 pts)

Course Assignments

In addition to the major assignments, there will also be other assignments, including rough drafts, quizzes, and planning worksheets. All assignments are due on the dates indicated on the official course schedule (unless otherwise changed by me). Failure to submit assignments on the official due dates will result in late deductions.

All writing assignments must be typed. You will need to submit each writing assignment as a document file in electronic format (.DOC or .DOCX is preferred).

Please be aware also that all writing assignments will be submitted to SafeAssign, a plagiarism program, to check for plagiarized passages. All essay responses will be checked for plagiarism. I will not score any paper until it has been checked.

Lastly, I will not pre-grade your assignments, but I am happy to address any specific questions or concerns that you have before you submit your work for a grade. Please note that corrections or comments I may make about your paper prior to official submission for grading does not necessarily guarantee a successful final grade on the assignment.

In addition to occasional homework assignments, there will also be announced reading quizzes; be sure to read all assigned readings prior to class.

Grades based on 720 points*

A = 648 or more points
B = 576 – 647 points
C = 504 – 575 points
D = 432 – 503 points
F = 431 or less points

*Rough Percentage of Final Grade

Papers 55%
Assignments/Quizzes 30%
Class Participation 10%
Rough Drafts 5%

Grades based on 720 points*

A = 648 or more points
B = 576 – 647 points
C = 504 – 575 points
D = 432 – 503 points
F = 431 or less points

*approximation of cumulative points—subject to change over the course of the semester
Class Participation

Class participation is part of your grade, and everyone is encouraged to participate in class discussions. Class participation is partly objective (based on actual classes attended) and subjective (based on the instructor’s observations of actual participation during class discussion, peer review, or other class activities, etc.). Disruptive class behavior will result in deductions to the class participation score. Participation will also help determine a borderline grade.

Late Work

All assignments and essays will be promptly collected at the beginning of class on the scheduled due date. A late assignment is any assignment that is submitted to me after class on due date. All late assignments, including essays, are typically subject to penalties for every class late. The penalties vary according to the size of and total points possible for the assignment. If you miss a quiz, you may be able to take the quiz if you missed due to “extenuating circumstances” but you must provide documentation and must take the quiz before the graded quiz is returned in class.

Blackboard

You will be using Blackboard significantly in this class. Once you activate your Portal account, you can access Blackboard by following the directions below. To find your course:

Log into the MYUA-PTC Student Portal

Click the Blackboard icon at the top

Click the title of your course to enter it (ENGL1311)

Better three hours too soon than one minute too late.

- William Shakespeare
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<tr>
<th>Monday, Jan. 15</th>
<th>Wednesday, Jan. 17</th>
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<tr>
<td>NO CLASS</td>
<td>NO CLASS (Inclement Weather)</td>
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<tr>
<th>Monday, Jan. 22</th>
<th>Wednesday, Jan. 24</th>
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| **Unit 1** - Introduction to the Course / Syllabus | **Unit 1** - The Importance of Writing / Formatting What Your Write / Blackboard Introduction  
Assigned: Diagnostic Writing Assignment |

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<th>Monday, Jan. 29</th>
<th>Wednesday, Jan. 31</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Unit 1</strong> – Assessing Rhetorical Situation – Audience and Purpose - The Writing Process – Elements of Compositions (Thesis/Development/Formatting)</td>
<td><strong>Unit 2</strong> - Elements of Composition ctd. (Organization/ Grammar and Mechanics)</td>
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<th>Monday, Feb. 5</th>
<th>Wednesday, Feb. 7</th>
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| **Unit 2** – The Personal Narrative  
Choosing a Topic / Developing Your Narrative  
Due: Diagnostic Writing Assignment  
Assigned: Personal Narrative | **Unit 2** — Assessing Audience and Purpose / Developing with Details, Descriptions, and Dialogue  
Read: “Me Talk Pretty One Day” and “Finishing School”  
Due: Unit 2 Planning Assignment—Topic |

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<th>Monday, Feb. 12</th>
<th>Wednesday, Feb. 14</th>
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<td><strong>Unit 2</strong> – Description Workshop</td>
<td><strong>Unit 2</strong> - Proofreading for Style and Clarity</td>
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<th>Monday, Feb. 19</th>
<th>Wednesday, Feb. 21</th>
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| **Unit 2** - Drafting Day  
Due: Rough Draft (must be a full typed page) | **Unit 3** - The Review  
Assigned: The Review  
Due: Personal Narrative |

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<th>Monday, Feb. 26</th>
<th>Wednesday, Feb. 28</th>
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| **Unit 3** - Organizing & Developing a Review  
Due: Unit 3 Planning Assignment 1—Topic | **Unit 3** – Proofreading for Conciseness and Tone  
Read: Unit 3 Planning Assignment 2—Outline |

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<tr>
<th>Monday, Mar. 5</th>
<th>Wednesday, Mar. 7</th>
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| **Unit 3** – Drafting Day / Peer Review of The Review  
Due: Rough Draft (must be full typed page) / Peer-Review Worksheet | **Unit 4** - The Report / Choosing a Research Topic / Evaluating Sources  
Assigned: The Report  
Due: The Review |
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<tr>
<th>Monday, Mar. 12</th>
<th>Wednesday, Mar. 14</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Unit 4</strong> - Finding Sources</td>
<td><strong>Unit 4</strong> - Finding Sources ctd.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Due</strong>: Unit 4 Planning Assignment 1 - Topic</td>
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<th>Monday, Mar. 19</th>
<th>Wednesday, Mar. 21</th>
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<th>Monday, Mar. 26</th>
<th>Wednesday, Mar. 28</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Unit 4</strong> – Organizing Your Report</td>
<td><strong>Unit 4</strong> - Incorporating Sources In-Text / Citing Sources</td>
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<td><strong>Due</strong>: Unit 4 Planning Assignment 2 – Research Tracker</td>
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<th>Monday, Apr. 2</th>
<th>Wednesday, Apr. 4</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Unit 4</strong> - Citing Sources ctd. / Avoiding Plagiarism</td>
<td><strong>Unit 4</strong> - Drafting Day</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Due</strong>: Unit 4 Planning Assignment 3 - In-text Citations</td>
<td><strong>Due</strong>: Rough Draft (must be full typed page)</td>
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<tr>
<th>Monday, Apr. 9</th>
<th>Wednesday, Apr. 11</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Unit 5</strong> - The Argument</td>
<td><strong>Unit 5</strong> - Developing Your Argument/ Supporting Your Claim</td>
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<tr>
<td>Establishing a Claim / Organizing Your Argument</td>
<td><strong>Due</strong>: Unit 5 Planning Assignment 1 – Topic Sheet</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Assigned</strong>: Argument</td>
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<td><strong>Due</strong>: Report</td>
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<th>Monday, Apr. 16</th>
<th>Wednesday, Apr. 18</th>
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<tr>
<td>Identifying Rhetorical Appeals</td>
<td>Addressing a Counter- Argument</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Read</strong>: “Letter from a Birmingham Jail”</td>
<td><strong>Due</strong>: Unit 5 Planning Assignment 2 — Rhetorical Appeals</td>
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<tr>
<th>Monday, Apr. 23</th>
<th>Wednesday, Apr. 25</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Unit 5</strong> - Developing Your Argument and Avoiding Logical Fallacies</td>
<td><strong>Unit 5</strong> - Citing Sources / Works Cited Citations</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Due</strong>: Unit 5 Planning Assignment 3 – Research Tracker</td>
<td><strong>Due</strong>: Unit 5 Planning Assignment 4 – In-text Citations</td>
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<th>Monday, Apr. 30</th>
<th>Wednesday, May 2</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Unit 5</strong> - Drafting Day</td>
<td><strong>Assigned</strong>: The Final Reflection</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Due</strong>: Rough Draft (must be full typed page) and Unit 5 Planning Assignment 5 - Works Cited Citations</td>
<td><strong>Due</strong>: Argument Paper</td>
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**FINAL - Due**: All Revisions and Final Reflection due by Thursday, May 10, by midnight on Blackboard.  
**Disclaimer**: This schedule is a guide for the semester. The instructor reserves the right to amend the schedule as necessary.
Course Agreement Form

Read, complete, and return to instructor:

I have read the course syllabus for Jonathan Purkiss’ Composition I class at UA-Pulaski Technical College, and I understand its content. I also understand the rules for the class, and I will follow and abide by these rules, including those relating to attendance, assignments, grading criteria, plagiarism, and behavior.

Semester __________________

Date _________________

Print name ______________________________________

Signature _______________________________________

Email address ______________________________________

(please use your UA-PTC email address)

Telephone _______________________________________

Note: By providing me with an e-mail address and telephone number, you are granting me permission to contact you regarding classroom policies, assignments and essays and permitting me to communicate with you about your academic performance in the class. Please be aware that e-mail and telephone communication may not be entirely private. By requesting information through these means, you are taking responsibility for your own privacy.

Note: By signing this form, you are stating that you understand the policy regarding LinCed courses. If you drop this course or are dropped from this course, you will also be dropped from the LinCed Speech Communications course.

Likewise, if you drop or are dropped from the LinCed Speech course, you will also be dropped from this course. You should be willing to dedicate yourself to successfully completing the coursework for both classes. By signing this form, you understand that since both of these courses are a total of 6 credit hours, dropping both LinCed courses may affect your financial aid requirements.

By signing this form, you are also authorizing the instructor for this course to share information pertaining to your academic performance in this course with the instructor of the linked Speech course. Be aware that the instructor may share information about academic progress, grades, assignments, attendance, and contact information with the linked instructor.