Instructor Information

Instructor: Christi Gravett  
Phone: Cindy Nesmith (Dept. Secretary) – 501-812-2338  
Email: cgravett@uaptc.edu

*All emails and telephone calls will receive a response within two business days.

Chair: Logan Oliver  501-812-6060 loliver@uaptc.edu  
Dean: Christy Oberste  501-812-2869 coberste@uaptc.edu

*If your emails and telephone calls do not receive a response within two business days, the appropriate chain of command is above.

Course Information

English Composition II  
T/R 12:15-1:30

Catalog Description

3 Credit Hours (3 hours lecture per week)

This course offers further study of principles and techniques of expository and persuasive composition, analysis of texts, research methods, and critical thinking.

PREREQUISITE: Completion of English 1311 (or an equivalent course) with a grade of “C” or better, and one of the following requirements:

- A score of 19 or above on the Reading section of the ACT  
- A score of 78 or above on the ACCUPLACER Reading Comprehension Placement test  
- A score of 83 or above on the COMPASS Reading Placement  
- Completion of READ 0300 (Foundations of Literacy) with a grade of “C” or better

Course Materials


Mission Statement

University of Arkansas – Pulaski Technical College provides access to high-quality education that promotes student learning and enables individuals to develop to their fullest potential.
Institutional Learning Outcomes and General Education

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

1. Communication
2. Critical Thinking
3. Cultural Awareness
4. Information Literacy
5. Professionalism
6. Quantitative Literacy
7. Technology Literacy

For more information, please consult the following website: https://uaptc.edu/sla

Department / Program Learning Outcomes

The Languages and Communication 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

Student Learning / Course Outcomes

ACTS #ENGL 1023

The student will:

1. Respond appropriately to various rhetorical situations, purposes, and audiences
2. Use writing and reading for inquiry, learning, thinking, and communicating
3. Integrate original ideas with those of others
4. Develop flexible strategies for generating, revising, editing, and proof-reading
5. Use collaborative writing processes
6. 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 at least four major compositions that address higher-order critical thinking skills (evaluation, analysis, and synthesis), including a research paper that incorporates material from quality sources.

Policies

Report a Complaint or Concern

UA-PTC takes very seriously complaints and concerns regarding the institution. Most complaints or concerns of a specific nature should be initiated and resolved at the campus level through normal college processes whenever possible. UA - Pulaski Technical College receives and resolves complaints using a variety of methods. To report a complaint or concern, please follow the link below.

https://www.uaptc.edu/report-a-concern-complaint

UA-PTC Attendance Policy

Education at UA-PTC requires students’ active involvement in the learning process. Thus, students are expected to attend all classes and actively engage in all learning assignments and/or opportunities provided in their classes. Class attendance should be treated as mandatory by all students as attendance will be taken by all instructors during the first two weeks of class. Additionally, a written policy on student attendance that is tied to course objectives and included in a course syllabus will be provided for each course by instructors.

Departmental Attendance Policy

Regular attendance is a must if you are to succeed in this course. You are allowed five absences for a T/R class -- no questions asked. Do your best to avoid scheduling doctor appointments during class time. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of every class, so you would be wise to save these absences for when you are sick or have a true emergency, as each subsequent absence will result in your final grade being dropped by half a letter.
If you must be absent, you are responsible for emailing me to find out what you missed and what is due. The announcements section of Blackboard will also be updated on a weekly basis. These announcements will be sent directly to your UAPTC email account.

To avoid confusion, do not, under any circumstances, speak with a fellow student about missed work before speaking with me.

**To successfully complete this course, you should ideally have:**

- basic computer skills such as emailing, posting in a discussion board setting, and attaching assignments in the appropriate place
- a reliable computer
- a reliable connection to the Internet
- reliable access to Blackboard
- a mainstream word processor (Microsoft Word is best and preferred)
- access to film and video content (YouTube, Netflix, Amazon, local library, etc...)

**Course Policies**

The UA-PTC Catalog rules and regulations will be enforced in this course at all times. Please consult the following website for more information: [https://www.uaptc.edu/catalog](https://www.uaptc.edu/catalog)

Professional behavior is required. Punctual attendance and intelligent participation are expected. Particulars as determined by the instructor are detailed in the paragraph below.

Appropriate behavior is expected for all communications, including any notes, email messages, or telephone conversations. Some guidelines for communication are included in this syllabus to help you.

You may be asked during the semester to participate in informal discussions or writing assignments. These exercises, which will occur both in class and on Blackboard, are a necessary part of your participation in the course. If class is cancelled due to illness of inclement weather, you will be expected to utilize the discussion board feature on Blackboard. Often, our class discussions may seem tangential and unnecessary, but don’t be fooled. There’s a reason for everything, so participate.

There will be absolutely no derogatory remarks regarding race, gender, religion, or sexual orientation. Although many of the topics we cover this semester may fall under the heading of controversial, please think before you speak and be considerate of those around you. Your grade this semester will not suffer over personal disagreements with ideas represented in your writing. You will lose points on an assignment, however, for not following directions closely.
Part of not following directions may involve failing to include adequate research to back up your ideas. In this English Composition I class, reasoning such as “I am entitled to my opinion” will not be tolerated. You are only entitled to opinions that are supported by good-enough arguments informed by reading experts in relevant fields.

Appropriate behavior is expected for all communications, including any notes, email messages, or telephone conversations. Please include as much relevant information as possible in your emails. This includes your name, class time, and a brief description about any attachments you may be sending. Don’t send an email instructing me to “look over” an attached assignment. Instead, alert me to any specific concerns you have with the paper, and I will work with you to address those concerns. Don’t expect a response if your email, other than an attachment, is completely blank.

Grading Policy

Letter grades will be based on the following scale:

- 90 to 100% A
- 80 to 89% B
- 70 to 79% C
- 60 to 69% D
- 0 to 59% F

Your assignments this semester will consist of four major essays, three Blackboard discussion exercises, and a revision of one essay. Two essay assignments will be researched-based and require the use of MLA 8 citation and documentation.

You will attend a one-on-one conference at the end of the semester to discuss final essay drafts. These conferences are compulsory. Failure to attend and/or meet draft guidelines by the time of your scheduled conference will affect your grade.
Students are expected to regularly participate in class discussions and complete assigned in-class exercises. Because this is a T/R class, you must to log in to Blackboard at least twice a week.

* Instructors have one week to provide feedback and post grades for all assignments unless otherwise noted by a departmental policy that has been approved by the Dean of the School.
**English faculty have two weeks to provide feedback and post grades for papers 1000 words or more.

In an online class, eligibility for Financial Aid is based on student participation. Logging into the course does not constitute participation. For purposes of roster certification, students must complete a gradable attendance artifact.

Plagiarism is unacceptable. All assignments will be submitted to SafeAssign through Blackboard. If you intentionally copy something from an internet or paper source, you will be asked to do the assignment again with a deduction of one letter grade. No points will be awarded to essays that aren’t revised within a specific period. Additional attempts to plagiarize will result in an "F" for the assignment and possible repudiation of access to the course. Unintentional plagiarism is usually obvious and will be handled on a case by case basis.

**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 catalog states, “The gaining of knowledge and the practice of honesty go hand-in-hand.”

The catalog 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 is 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.

**Accommodation Policy**

Services for Students with Disabilities: UA-PTC is committed to fulfilling all federal requirements as stated in the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and the American with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA) of 2008. Accommodations are available to students who have documented disabilities. Students who request accommodations must register with the Disability Services Office (Main Campus: 501-812-2738 or South Campus: 501-812-2862) and must provide current and relevant documentation.

Students requesting accommodations should inform the instructor at the beginning of the course or as soon as accommodations are approved. It is the student’s responsibility to provide their Accommodation Letter to the instructor. Accommodations are not retroactive and will only be provided once your instructor receives the Accommodation Letter.

**Student Code of Conduct**

All students are expected to abide by the UA-PTC Student Code of Conduct. For the full Student Code of Conduct, access the most current version of the UA-PTC Academic Catalog. [https://www.uaptc.edu/docs/default-source/course-catalog/2018-19-academic-catalog.pdf?sfvrsn=998b87d7_2](https://www.uaptc.edu/docs/default-source/course-catalog/2018-19-academic-catalog.pdf?sfvrsn=998b87d7_2)

**Sexual Misconduct**

No person at UA-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, Director of Student Life and Leadership
Campus Center Building Room 216
501-812-2756
manderson@uaptc.edu

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.

Information Literacy

UA-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.

Tentative Course Schedule

The word minimum for each formal essay will be listed clearly in the directions for each assignment. Additional reading for each chapter may be found under the weekly lecture notes section of Blackboard.

Week One: Aug. 16th - Course Introduction

Week Two: 21st / 23rd - READING AND WRITING ABOUT STORIES
Focus: PLOT
Reading: Ch.1, pgs. 57-66; The Lottery (Blackboard)

Week Three: 28th / 30th
Discussion Questions Due (Discussions Area)

Focus: CHARACTER
Reading: Ch.3, pgs. 130-138; A Good Man Is Hard to Find, pg. 412; Cathedral, pg. 33
Week Four: Sept. 4th / 6th
**Discussion Questions Due** (Discussion Area)

Focus: SETTING
Watching: Marjane Satrapi’s *Persepolis* (I will provide you with both a link to watch the film online and a PDF of the entire graphic novel. You may also purchase or rent the film in order to complete the corresponding assignment.)

Week Five: 11th / 13th
**Short Essay 1 Due (Setting)**

Focus: POINT OF VIEW
Reading: Ch. 4, pgs. 164-166; *Greasy Lake* (Blackboard)

Week Six: 18th / 20th
**Discussion Questions Due** (Discussion Area)

Focus: LANGUAGE
Reading: Ch. 5, pgs. 213-218; *Sonny’s Blues*, pg.66; *Araby*, pg. 330

Week Seven: 25th / 27th
Discuss Formal Essay 1

Focus: Cultural Context
Reading: *The Yellow Wallpaper*, pg. 316; *Brokeback Mountain* (Blackboard)

Week Eight: Oct. 2nd / 4th
**Formal Essay 1 Due (Cultural Context)**

Week Nine: 9th / 11th - READING AND WRITING ABOUT POETRY
How to Read a Poem; Vocabulary Handout

Week Ten: 16th / 18th
Focus: VOICE & PERSPECTIVE IN POETRY
Reading: Ch. 7, pg. 509; Ai Ogawa’s *The Kid* (Blackboard)

Week Eleven: 23rd / 25th
Focus: THEMES IN POETRY (Parents & War)
Reading: Carver’s *Photograph of My Father in His Twenty-Second Year*, Dunn’s *The Routine Things Around the House*, Komunyaka’s *Facing It* (Blackboard)

Week Twelve: 30th / Nov. 1st
Discuss Formal Essay 2 (Poetry)

Focus: THEMES IN POETRY (Gender)
Reading: Ch.9, pg. 546; Voigt’s *Poetry & Gender*, Selected Poems by Giovanni, Glück’s *The Untrustworthy Speaker* (Blackboard)
Week Thirteen: 6th / 8th
   Poetry Discussion Part 1 (Discussion Board)
   Reading: Quoting Poetry (Blackboard)

Week Fourteen: 13th / 15th
   Short Essay 2 Due (Poetry - Discussion Board)

Week Fifteen: 20th / 22nd – Fall Break

Week Sixteen: 27th / 29th
   Formal Essay 2 Due (Poetry)
   Peer Review

Week Seventeen: 4th / 6th
   Final Conferences

Finals Week: Dec. 8th – 14th
   A revision of one of the formal essays will be due during finals week.

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 Christi Gravett’s English Composition II class at 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

________________________________________________________________________
UA-PTC Email address

________________________________________________________________________
Telephone