

University of New Mexico-Valencia Campus
English 2120-501 (Fall 2019)
Dr. Heather Wood
Course Syllabus

English 2120-501
Intermediate Composition
CRN: 64625 (8-Week Course)
Online Course-Blackboard Learn
Dates: 10/14/2019-12/7/2019
Technical Support: (505) 277-5757
[Click here](#) for link to REMIND
Software for Online Office Hours

Dr. Heather Wood
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10A- 1P, and by appointment.
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W 10A-1P

Course Description

Welcome to English 2120-Intermediate Composition. This course builds upon and refines the writing skills acquired in previous writing courses, with a focus on nonfiction prose. Research, composition, exposition and presentation abilities will be practiced and developed. Through analysis and revision, students will develop strategies to improve the versatility and impact of their writing. Course topics and emphases may vary by section, but this course surveys American Women Writers who have gained prominence in the literary world from 1850 to the present. This is a fully online course focused on the works of renowned female authors like Sandra Cisneros, Ana Castillo, Julia Alvarez, Joy Harjo, Leslie Marmon Silko, and others. Poems, stories, and non-fiction essays will be shared and supplemented with audio, video and PowerPoint presentations to fully bring their writings to life. Students will write short analyses of these authors throughout the semester, examining how their works express intersections of race, class, and gender in American society through the 20th Century. Prerequisite: English 110 with a B or better, or English 120 with C or better.

Student Learning Outcomes

Throughout the semester in English 2120, students will progress toward the following student learning outcomes.

1. Students will use a variety of writing styles and sets of conventions to compose documents for academic, business, technical, scientific, popular publishing or professional settings.
2. Students will analyze the subjects, purposes, audiences, and constraints that influence and determine document creation.
3. Students will develop research strategies for writing, gathering information from primary and secondary sources.
4. Students will use appropriate documentation and document design in writing.
5. Students will describe and evaluate rhetorical choices.

Required Texts and Materials

- Baym, Nina, and Robert S. Levine, eds. *The Norton Anthology of American Literature*. Shorter Eighth Edition. New York: W.W. Norton and Company, 2013. Print. ISBN 978-0-393-91887-8
- Access to the Internet, Blackboard Learn, and Microsoft Office Suite
- UNM NET-ID
- Flash Drive

Instructor Information

Instructor Biography: Dr. Heather Wood is Associate Professor of English at the University of New Mexico-Valencia Campus. She has been teaching undergraduate English for fifteen years, motivating her students with a true passion for the written word. Dr. Wood has taught all levels of college writing including Developmental English, English as a Second Language and Accelerated Composition in hybrid, face-to-face, and online formats. She now specializes in Multi-Cultural Women's Writing and Technical Writing. Her pedagogy embraces a commitment to Service Learning, Social Justice, and Equity/Inclusion. Dr. Wood holds multiple certifications in online instruction from Quality Matters and is well-versed in the latest technologies to deliver educational content online.

Attendance Policy

Regular logins to our course Blackboard page are necessary for success in the course. Assignments open on Monday mornings and close on Sunday nights. Sunday night at midnight is the deadline to turn in the week's assignments. Assignments must be turned in on the Blackboard page in the appropriate assignment area. You can e-mail me at any time through the Blackboard Mail function or through Remind.com for assistance with course-related questions. All inquiries will receive a prompt response. I can also help you via telephone or in person during office hours. If you like, we can set up an appointment outside of office hours that accommodates your schedule. My contact information is listed at the top of the syllabus and under the faculty profile page on Blackboard Learn.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is the practice of appropriating someone else's work or ideas and passing it off as one's own. Copying information from the internet is one of the most common forms of plagiarism and is strictly forbidden in college writing. Plagiarism can also include such activities as copying another student's paper, downloading and turning in papers from the Internet, or copying passages from outside sources without proper documentation. Any of these forms of plagiarism is unacceptable. All outside sources will be tracked by internal electronic source trackers on Blackboard Learn. All research must be properly cited, or the offending paper will receive a failing grade. Students who plagiarize may also receive an "F" in the course and may be reported to the judicial affairs office for disciplinary action by the University.

Equal Access

In accordance with University Policy 2310 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), academic accommodations may be made for any student who notifies the instructor of the need for an accommodation. It is imperative that you take the initiative to bring such needs to the instructor's attention, as I am not legally permitted to inquire. Students who may require assistance in emergency evacuations should contact the instructor as to the most appropriate procedures to follow. Contact [Accessibility Services](#) at (505) 925-8560 to obtain an Equal Access form. This needs to be sent to the professor within the first two weeks of class.

Navigating Your Online Course

Because this class is administered fully online, it is important to have a high level of skill in operating computers. It is not recommended for students with limited computer skills to take an online course. The following tips will help students navigate the course. If you have computer problems, including log in or technical issues, please call (505) 277-5757. For issues with Blackboard Learn, tutors in the Learning Center can advise you at (505) 925-8907.

Below Are Student Success Tips for this Online Course:

- Be familiar with the syllabus. This document is located on the Blackboard Learn Course home page. Please print it out and refer to it throughout the semester when you have questions. Feel free to e-mail, call or stop by my office hours, as well, for personal attention regarding assignment requirements. If you are not free during my scheduled office hours, please call or e-mail for an appointment. I will be happy to schedule a meeting time that works for you.
- Become familiar with Blackboard Learn software. Click on each of the Course Tools to discover the navigation system of your online course. You may want to visit The Learning Center at UNM-Valencia Campus if you need additional help learning how to interact with the course.
- Keep copies of your assignments organized logically on your flash drive or desktop computer. If you do not know how to save files, please go to The Learning Center or call for assistance. It is important to name all files based on their assignment title so you can easily access and upload them. All documents must be submitted in Microsoft Word file format. Students have access to free Microsoft Office Suite through Outlook Express.
- Be proficient using the Course Messages system in Blackboard Learn. If you need to send me a message, do the following: 1) click on "Course Messages" in Course Tools, 2) then click on "Browse for Recipients," 3) choose my name, 4) type your message and 5) click "Send."
- Create a routine—here is a suggested routine to help you get started.
 1. Log on! Lessons open on Monday morning and close the following Sunday night at midnight. On Monday, log in and read the list of assignments for the week. Make sure you have all materials you need to complete the assignments, such as page numbers or links. Write down due dates and print out assignments.

2. Read the assignments actively, highlighting important ideas. Use any resources (dictionary, thesaurus, etc.) to help you acquire necessary information. Be pro-active and disciplined in your study habits.
3. Log on periodically throughout the week to check course e-mails and review new threaded discussions or blog responses. Watch for new announcements.
4. Check Discussions. If discussions are required, please take these exercises seriously. In responses, respect the opinions of others. Finally, run spell and grammar check on your postings.
5. Importantly, give yourself ample time to submit work well before the deadline. No late work is accepted in the course, so submitting your assignments well before the deadline is highly advised.

Technical Assistance

If you have questions about computer-related problems, please call (505) 277-5757, M-F, 8:00 am-12:00 noon and M-F, 1:00 pm-5:00 pm MST. Computer technicians are available to help you solve those difficult problems. If you do not know how to use one of the Blackboard tools, try one of the tutorials available on the [Blackboard Learn information page](#). In addition, tutors are available at The Learning Center to help you navigate the course. Please call for an appointment at: (505) 925-8907.

E-Mail Etiquette

E-mails that you write to the instructor during the semester should include professional language, addressed with a subject heading including the type of question you are asking. For example, "Essay 1" would be an appropriate subject heading for a question regarding the first essay. E-mails should also include a salutation. For example, "Dear Professor Wood" would be an appropriate salutation for an electronic message. Be sure to sign your first and last name and proofread your e-mail for grammatical errors. Please avoid text-speak. Learning to write professional e-mails early on is a skill you need as you progress to higher academic levels and career pursuits.

Academic Support

Free tutoring is available at the Writing Center in the Learning Resources Center (L Building) on the UNM Valencia Campus. Please call 925-8907 for an appointment. The professor is also available to help you with individual writing issues at any time throughout the course

Assignment Policy

All formal writing assignments must follow Modern Language Association format and be typewritten and double-spaced using 12 PT-Times New Roman font. Please use an MLA formatted header. Microsoft Word documents with the file extensions .doc and .docx are the required formats. Other document types do not properly upload. You can find the MLA guidelines under the Writing Support Links tab on our Blackboard Learn course page.

Required Work and Grading

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- | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| • Weekly Discussion Posts | (4 @ 20 Points Each) | 80 pts (8%) |
| • Weekly Writing Assignments | (8 @ 100 Points Each) | 800 pts (80%) |
| • Final Reflection Paper | (1 @ 120 Points Each) | 120 pts (12%) |

There are 1000 points possible in the course. Grades will be determined on a traditional percentage basis, with the appropriate plus or minus sign: 100-90% = A (1000-900 points); 89-80% = B (899-800 points); 79-73% = C (799-700 points); 69-60% = D (699-600); and below = F.

Grading: Rubrics are used to determine whether students meet the learning outcomes of the assignment. Rubrics score areas of student performance that correspond to the learning outcomes above: Rhetorical Analysis, Evaluation of Information, Composition, Presentation, and Reflection.

Score	Grade
93-100	A
90-92	A-
87-89	B+
83-86	B
80-82	B-
77-79	C+
73-76	C
70-72	C-
67-69	D+
63-66	D
60-62	D-
0-59	F

Assessment of Student Work

Student work is assessed based on the Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) listed at the beginning of the syllabus. Assignment rubrics are utilized, which correspond to the SLOs. These describe whether student work meets the assignment requirements. The activities in the course teach students the skills needed to master the learning outcomes of the course. As mentioned above, rubrics will be made available to students and will appear on the weekly Blackboard page. In general, an “A” is given when work is of superior quality, a “B” is assigned for solid work, a “C” for acceptable work, a “D” for work that does not meet the assignment requirements in one or more ways, and an “F” for work that fully fails to meet the requirements of the assignment. Feedback in the form of rubrics and/or in-text comments will be provided to students so that they can see areas of potential improvement on their assignments.

Late Policy

All work must be turned in by the due date in this course. No late homework, essays, assignments, or quizzes will be accepted, unless in the case of a medical emergency or religious holiday. These must be documented.

Student Privacy

Student privacy is strongly protected by professors at the UNM-Valencia Campus. In fact, a federal statute called FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act) strictly prohibits the instructor or administrators from talking to anyone but the student about his/her progress. In sum, parents, relatives, or friends will not be allowed access to information about student performance. There are no exceptions to this policy.

Incompletes: (I) Grade

Incompletes are reserved for extreme circumstances and are rarely granted at UNM-VC. An "I" is assigned if students have completed all of the coursework, but due to some unforeseen emergency (the instructor may ask for documentation concerning the emergency), are unable to complete the Final Essay and Evaluation. Students must complete the work by the end of the following semester, or the University automatically converts the "I" to an "F."

Classroom Behavior

Though this is an online course, the rules below still govern all behavior at UNM campuses. Please be aware of the UNM Student Handbook policies listed below.

- 1) Students must treat one another and the instructor with respect. Derogatory remarks or name-calling is prohibited.
- 2) Students should not interrupt classroom lectures or discussion with non-related comments.
- 3) Students may discuss complaints about the course with their instructor; however, the students must do so in the proper environment, such as the instructor's office during office hours. Constant complaining in class may result in the student being asked to leave for the day's lesson; continued complaining after the first warning may result in the student being dropped from the course.
- 4) Students should not yell or curse at other students or at the teacher. Class time is a professional learning environment. Obscene language will not be tolerated.
- 5) Sexual harassment will not be tolerated.
- 6) Behavior that threatens the safety of any class member, including the instructor, will not be tolerated. The offending student will be asked to leave for the day and may be dropped from the course. Security will be called. Intoxication, physical assault and or battery, violence, stalking, or threats fall into this category.
- 7) Students must not threaten the instructor concerning their grades. This type of behavior is considered harassment and/or verbal assault. Security will be called.
- 8) If you ever feel unsafe on campus, please call security at (505) 925-8570.
- 9) No food or drink is allowed in class.

Title IX Statement

In an effort to meet obligations under Title IX, UNM faculty, Teaching Assistants, and Graduate Assistants are considered "responsible employees" by the [Department of Education](#). This designation requires that any report of gender discrimination which includes sexual harassment, sexual misconduct and sexual violence made to a faculty member, TA, or GA must be reported to the Title IX Coordinator at the Office of Equal Opportunity (oeo.unm.edu). [Click here](#) for more information on the campus policy regarding sexual misconduct.

Course Calendar

****Below is the assignment calendar for English 2120. Specific assignment instructions as well as additional readings, and/or audio/video tutorials will be provided on Blackboard Learn.**

NA=Norton Anthology of American Literature

Week 1 (October 14-20)

Introduction to English 2120

Readings: Virginia Woolf, Chapter One of *A Room of One's Own* (Available Under Author Links)

Assignments: Assignment 1, Discussion Post 1, Student Contract, Print Out & Read Syllabus, Watch YouTube Video and Video Tutorial

Due: Student Contract, Assignment 1, Discussion Post 1

Week 2 (October 21-27)

Introduction to the Writings of Ana Castillo

Readings: Various Readings on Ana Castillo (Available Under Author Links)--Ana Castillo Biographical Information, Poem "Women Don't Riot," Poem "While I Was Gone," Bibliography, Interview, and Ana Castillo Professional Website

Assignments: Weekly Writing Assignment 2

Due: Assignment 2

Week 3 (October 28-November 3)

Analysis of the Writings of Ana Castillo (Con't)

Readings: Article "Teaching Chicana/o Literature in Community College with Ana Castillo's *So Far From God*," by Danizete Martinez (Available Under Author Links); "While I Was Gone" --poem by Ana Castillo (Available Under Author Links)

Assignments: Assignment 3, Watch Video Below, Discussion Post 2, View [YouTube Video on Chicano Art](#), Watch [Second Chicano Art Video](#) starring Cheech Marin, Watch Audio Tutorial Below

Due: Assignment 3 and Discussion Post 2

Week 4 (November 4-10)

History of Women's Rights and Global Gender Equality

Readings: Article "Declaration of Sentiments & Resolutions" by Elizabeth Cady Stanton *et. al.* & "Remarks at the UN Commission on the Status of Women" by Hillary Rodham Clinton (Available Under Author Links)

Assignments: Assignment 4, Discussion Post 3

Due: Assignment 4, Discussion Post 3

Week 5 (November 11-17)

Introduction to the Writings of Sandra Cisneros

Readings: Selections by Sandra Cisneros (*NA* PP. 1587-1595); [Sandra Cisneros Website and Biographical Information](#)

Assignments: Assignment 5

Due: Assignment 5

Week 6 (November 18-24)

Introduction to the Writings of Leslie Marmon Silko

Readings: Selections by Leslie Marmon Silko (*NA* PP. 1543-1550); [Leslie Marmon Silko Page](#) on the Poetry Foundation Website

Assignments: Assignment 6, Discussion Post 4

Due: Assignment 6, Discussion Post 4

Week 7 (November 25-December 1)

Introduction to the Writings of Julia Alvarez

Readings: Excerpt from "Yo!" by Julia Alvarez (*NA* PP. 1569-1577); Please review the [Julia Alvarez Page](#) on the Poetry Foundation Site, [Julia Alvarez.com](#), and the [New York Times Review of "Yo!"](#)

Assignments: Assignment 7

Due: Assignment 7

Week 8 (December 2-7)

Introduction to the Writings of Willa Cather, Final Self Reflection Paper

Readings: The [prologue and Book One of "Death Comes for the Archbishop"](#); [New York Times Travel Article on "Death Comes for the Archbishop"](#), and [biography of Willa Cather](#)

Assignments: Assignment 8, Final Self Reflection Paper

Due: Assignment 8, Final Self Reflection Paper, Extra Credit Opportunity

Note** Additional Weekly Readings and Multi-Media May Be Added on Blackboard Learn
(Please Check Assignment List Online Every Monday for Final Assignment List)