

## **ENGL 3000: Professional Considerations for English Majors**

Fall 2009 Section A01 TR 4-5:15 LA 102

Please access the longer version of the course syllabus (including the course calendar) on the class web site at:

**<http://research.uvsc.edu/Albrecht-Crane/2790/main.html>**

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### **Required Text (available at the UVU bookstore)**

Tim Lemire, *I'm an English Major--Now What?* Cincinnati: Writer's Digest Books, 2006. ISBN 3531310992.

### **Course Description**

This course introduces students to the English major at UVU. It discusses various career and educational choices applicable to a student who majors in English. It also guides students regarding self-assessment and areas of interest within English studies. The course is structured around lectures, discussions, guest speakers, and student involvement.

### **Course Goals**

At the end of this course students should be able to:

1. Discuss the differences between creative writing, technical writing, literary studies, and English education emphases
2. Identify various career tracks available to students with an English major
3. Analyze their own areas of interest in the field of English studies
4. Communicate with local professionals who use English studies in their careers
5. Begin preparing for a professional or academic career as an English major

### **Course Requirements**

#### Attendance:

Attendance is required. If you miss class, talk to a classmate or two and get their notes, then talk to me if you have specific questions about what we covered. Excessive absences (more than two) will lower your grade. Missing more than three classes will result in your failure of the class. Attendance will be taken at the start of every class period, and late arrivals and early departures will count against you.

#### Participation:

Our class sessions will be structured almost exclusively around discussions. The participation grade will be based on the following elements: (1) you arrive on time; (2) you participate actively in class discussion; (3) you have read assigned readings; and (4) you exhibit a respectful and positive attitude towards your peers and the class in general.

Required Writing:

*A. Career Research Paper*

This paper (4-5 pages), due at the end of class, will focus on an ideal career path a student wants to pursue. Outside sources and one industry interview must be part of the research included in this paper. Papers must use MLA documentation style correctly. See web syllabus for more details about this paper.

*B. Reading Responses*

A 350-500 word essay (about 1-1.5 pages), due on the days indicated on the course schedule. The essay will be a brief summary and--primarily--a response to the week's reading. Consider using the paper to pose questions you have about the week's reading and to gauge your interest in the professional and academic paths you might take following graduation. Reading responses cannot be made up in case of an absence.

Class Grading:

You must complete all class assignments in order to receive a passing grade. The course grade will be determined based on the following components:

Participation	20%
Reading Responses	30%
Career Research Paper	45%
Final Exam	5%

Deadlines:

Writing assignments are due in class at the start of the period on the date indicated on the weekly schedule. Generally, I do not accept late work unless a student faces a real emergency and has made every effort to contact me ahead of time. In the event that I accept late work, I reserve the right to reduce its grade in relation to its lateness—with the minimum penalty of one full letter grade for each day the paper is late.

**Additional Class Concerns**

Course Calendar:

Students are responsible for reading and keeping up with the weekly course calendar that's available on the class web page. Please be aware that this schedule is tentative and that it might be changed as we go along. It is your responsibility to make note of such changes when they are announced in class.

Class Etiquette:

In order to provide maximum benefits in this discussion-based course, I ask that you not use laptop computers or cell phones at any time during class—this includes texting!

Students with Disabilities:

If you have any disability that may impair your ability to successfully complete this course, please contact the UVU Accessibility Services Department (WB 146, [www.uvu.edu/asd/](http://www.uvu.edu/asd/); 863-8747). Academic accommodations are granted for all students who have qualified documented disabilities. Services are coordinated with the student and instructor by the Accessibility Services Department.

Academic Dishonesty:

The Statement from the UVU "Students' Rights and Responsibilities Code" reads: "Each student is expected to maintain academic ethics and avoid dishonesty in all its forms," including cheating, plagiarism, or falsifying information and data. The consequences for academic dishonesty are grave. The penalty for a first offense in an *F* for the assignment; a second offense means that a student *fails* the course and will be reported to the Department Chair and to Student Advising.