



# ENGLISH 101: COMPOSITION - THE TRAP REMIX

FALL 2022



## Course Description

English 101: Composition – The Trap Remix uses contemporary trap and hip hop music, lyrics, videos, and culture to introduce writing concepts and strategies that will help to increase your range of writing abilities and give you more conscious knowledge and control of the writing choices you make. Although you already know how to write, we will work to understand writing better so that you can make more knowledgeable writing choices and communicate more effectively.

By the end of this course, you should be able to:

- Analyze how language and rhetorical choices vary across texts and different institutional, historical, and/or public contexts
- Demonstrate your rhetorical flexibility within and beyond academic writing
- Revise to improve your own writing

This course fulfills the following:

KU Core Goal 2;

Learning Outcome 1 (GE21)

Upon reaching this goal, students will be able to generate, explore, organize, and convey ideas in writing, using language and other media (for example, digital texts, images, and graphs) to present those ideas clearly, confidently, and in a manner appropriate to specific communication situations.

## Required Texts and Materials

- Let's Talk... A Pocket Rhetoric by Andrea Lunsford
- Composition and Literature, 2022, Department of English, University of Kansas

## Formal Writing Assignments

You will write four formal assignments in this course:

- Essay #1: Rhetoric of a Trapper's Self-Presentation
- Essay #2: Rhetorical Analysis of a song's lyrics
- Essay #3: Rhetorical Flexibility in a 3-genre social justice campaign
- Essay #4: Revision and Reflection

## Informal Writing Assignments and Homework

In addition to the four formal writing projects, during our time in the classroom, I will ask you to read, write, and talk your way through a series of daily assignments designed to help you succeed. These assignments might include: Writing short essays, Writing in-class responses to a prompt, Experimenting with a new writing task, Responding to another student's writing, Working with peers, Participating in various revision activities, and Writing informal responses to class discussions.

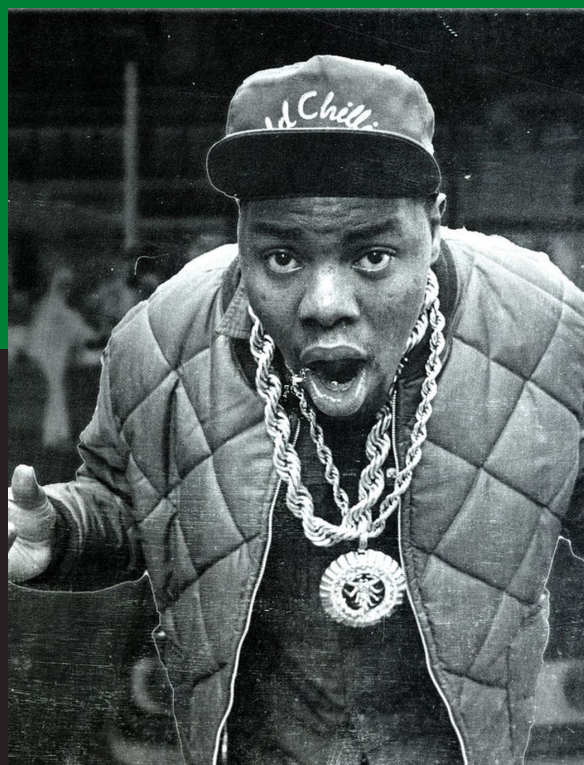
Out-of-class work (homework) will range widely as well, and may include: Responding to readings from the course textbook, Responding to a prompt, Completing a paper draft, and Reviewing and responding to someone else's draft.

This Informal Writing will be graded and will account for 15% of your final grade.

### Instructional Mode and Credit Hours:

This is an in-person course that fulfills 3 credit hours; consistent with KU policy, and the federal definition of a credit hour, this means you should expect to spend at least 9 hours a week on this course over the 15 week semester. Most weeks, 2.5 hours will be instructional time in the classroom (lectures, small group activities, and whole-class discussion) and the remaining time will involve out of class work.

# ASSIGNMENTS





# Reading Assignments

Though this is not a reading intensive course, there will be reading assignments. You are expected to complete the assigned readings prior to class. ALWAYS bring your reading assignments/texts with you to class, as we will refer to them during class discussions, in group-projects, and during in-class writing assignments.

## Grading

Your final grade for the course will be computed based on the following percentages:

Essay #1: Rhetoric of a Trapper’s Self-Presentation	20%	DUE 9/27
Essay #2: Rhetorical Analysis of a song	20%	DUE 10/27
Essay #3: Rhetorical Flexibility	25%	DUE 11/29
Essay #4: Final Project – Revision	20%	DUE 12/15
Homework/Informal Writing Assignments	15%	



In this course we will be using the +/- grading scale, approved by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to describe intermediate levels of performance between a maximum of A and a minimum of F. Intermediate grades represented by plus or minus shall be calculated as .3 units above or below the corresponding letter grade

# POLIAES

## Inclusive Classroom

In our classroom, all students are welcome regardless of race/ethnicity, gender identities, gender expressions, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, age, disabilities, religion, regional background, veteran status, citizenship status, nationality and other diverse identities that we each bring to class.

Your success at KU and beyond is enhanced by the innovation and creativity of thought that inclusive classrooms facilitate. The success of an inclusive classroom relies on the participation, support, and understanding of you and your peers. We encourage you to speak up and share your views, but also understand that you are doing so in a learning environment in which we all are expected to engage respectfully and with regard to the dignity of all others.

If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to raise them in class or with me directly.

## Attendance:

Our class is a learning community. As a member of our learning community, your presence matters.

Moreover, what we do in our class sessions is important for meeting the course goals and will depend on your participation in class activities.

Therefore, good attendance is expected, and poor attendance will negatively affect your grade. To attend class well means not only being physically present, but also being prepared—having read any assignments well enough to be able to talk about them and having completed any preparatory writing assignments -- and actively participating in the day's activity. There is a direct correlation between student class attendance and student success. If your goal is to earn an A or B in this course, you should make attending class a priority.

That said, I understand that life is messy and things happen. -- especially during a pandemic. If you must miss class, please contact me to let me know. You don't need to tell me why you're missing class, unless you want to -- just that you won't be there. If you must miss class, you are responsible for checking the course schedule and PowerPoint lectures on Canvas for information on anything you 'll need to do to get caught up.

Additionally, if you need to report an extended illness or serious accident, please contact Student Support and Case Management at course-adapt@ku.edu or 785-864-4060. A case manager will send email notifications to your instructor(s) on your behalf. When you are able, you will need to follow up with your professors to coordinate a temporary arrangement regarding missed instruction and coursework.



## Student Survey of Teaching

You will have multiple opportunities to provide feedback on your experience in this course. Suggestions and constructive criticism are encouraged throughout the course and may be particularly valuable early in the semester. To that end, I will use mid-semester surveys and/or reflection assignments to gather input on what is working well and what could be improved. You will also be asked to complete an end-of-semester, online Student Survey of Teaching, which could inform modifications to this course (and other courses that I teach) in the future.

## Class Participation:

### Class is WAY more dope when ya'll participate!

Student participation is expected and necessary for a well-rounded class experience. You will want to come to our class sessions having already completed any reading and/or writing assignments, and well-prepared to participate in daily class discussions and activities.

## Deadlines:

Assignments are due on the dates posted on your course schedule -- even if you are absent from class that day. However, you may request an extension as long as you do so before the due date. Turning in one of the four main writing projects late, without having made an extension request, will result in an automatic 1/3 of a letter reduction to your grade for that paper for each day the assignment is late.



## Conferences

Successful writers are usually those who collaborate with others to generate ideas, outline papers, proofread, etc. For this reason, we will supplement our in-class work with group and individual meetings to discuss your writing. I will schedule two conferences with you over the course of the semester. I also encourage you to meet with me during office hours or other times by appointment to discuss any issues relating to the course or your work. Please do not hesitate to come to me for help with anything about the course; communication is vital, and it will never hurt your situation to discuss your difficulties with me. My hope is that it will help.

Conferences will take place in my office in Wescoe: 3001 G.

Note: Missing a scheduled conference (which is different from office hours or an appointment), failing to submit your draft on time, or failing to complete the peer review form for your group members, will result in an automatic 1/3 letter reduction on your grade for the paper associated with that conference. This is intended to emphasize the importance of respecting this time commitment, your peers' time, and the writing process.



## Email Policy:

I respond to all e-mails within 24 hours. Feel free to e-mail me with any issues related to the course, assignments, or anything else.

Please check your KU email account regularly. I will send out important course information via email.

## Basic needs

Any student who faces challenges securing food or safe housing is urged to seek support from Student Affairs ([studentaffairs@ku.edu](mailto:studentaffairs@ku.edu)). Some food assistance resources may be found [here](#). Student Affairs has also compiled a list of a number of resources that may prove helpful for students in distress seeking assistance for financial, mental health, discrimination, harassment, and legal troubles [here](#).





## Academic Honesty:

Stealing and passing off as your own someone else's ideas or words or using information from another's work without crediting the source, is called "plagiarism." Some specific examples of actions that constitute plagiarism include pasting together uncredited information or ideas from the Internet or published sources, submitting an entire paper written by someone else, submitting a paper written for another class (and thus not original work), and copying another student's work (even with the student's permission). In order to avoid unintentional plagiarism and to represent your work honestly, you will need to be meticulous about giving credit to any and all sources, whether directly quoted (even a few words) or paraphrased.

Because one of the goals of this course is to help you improve your writing, plagiarism hurts you as much as it does anyone. If you plagiarize another's work, you will not be receiving the needed feedback to improve your own writing. There will be a zero-tolerance policy for any type of plagiarism in this class. All incidents of plagiarism will be penalized, reported, and kept on file in the English Department, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and the University Provost's Office.

## Student Academic Creations:

Since one of the aims of this course is to teach students to write for specific audiences, ungraded student-authored work may be shared with other class members during the semester in which you are enrolled in the class. Please do not submit materials on sensitive subjects that you would not want your classmates to see or read, unless you inform the instructor in advance that you do not want your work shared with others.

Other uses of student-authored work are subject to the University's Policy on Intellectual Property and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act. If your instructor desires to use your work outside of this class (e.g. as a sample for another class or future classes), you will be asked to fill out and sign a written form authorizing such use.

"Aint nobody dope as me!"



## Writing Help:

For help with your writing, I strongly encourage you to contact the KU Writing Center. At the Writing Center you can talk about your writing with trained tutors or consult reference materials in a comfortable working environment. You may ask for feedback on your papers, advice and tips on writing (for all your courses), or for guidance on special writing tasks. Please check the [website](#) for current locations and hours.

The Writing Center welcomes both drop-ins and appointments, and there is no charge for their services. For more information, please call (785) 864-2399 or send an e-mail to <writing@ku.edu>. The website is loaded with helpful information about writing of all sorts, so even if you consider yourself a good writer, check it out!

## Immigration status

KU is committed to supporting the success of all of its students, regardless of immigration status or citizenship. The Office of Multicultural Affairs offers a variety of support services for undocumented students, DACA students, and students from mixed-status families; please visit their website here.

## Accessibility

The Student Access Center coordinates accommodations and services for all KU students who are eligible. If you have a disability for which you wish to request accommodations and have not contacted the SAC, please do so as soon as possible: 785-864-4064; email [access@ku.edu](mailto:access@ku.edu). Information about their services, including an application for testing, can be found at the SAC [website](#).

## Counseling and other psychological needs

KU's Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) can help students with issues related to adjusting to college and other psychological, interpersonal, and family problems. Individual and group sessions are available, and visits are confidential. Information about CAPS, including a resource library, can be found here: <https://caps.ku.edu/>

Please also take the opportunity to program the National Suicide Prevention Hotline number into your phone. It may be a lifeline for a friend or classmate in crisis: 1-800-273-8255.





### Offices supporting diverse learners:

Office of Multicultural Affairs  
oma@ku.edu

Emily Taylor Center  
emilytaylorcenter@ku.edu

Center for Sexuality & Gender Diversity  
sgd@ku.edu

Center for Educational Opportunity Programs- Trio  
ceop@ku.edu

### Drop Policy:

I'm here to help you succeed. If you find yourself struggling in this class, please come talk to me so that we can create a plan of action that may enable you to complete the course.

If you decide to drop this class, please refer to this [website](#).

### Statement on religious observances (USRR 1.4.3 & USRR 2.1.4)

According to university regulations, in cases of conflicts between regularly scheduled class activities and mandated religious observances, the student is responsible for initiating discussion with the instructor to reach a mutually acceptable solution. Please speak with me privately if scheduled examinations/activities conflict with mandated religious observances, so that a make-up examination/activity may be scheduled for you at a mutually acceptable time.

### Statement on Title IX

Sexual harassment and violence. Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender are Civil Rights offenses subject to the same kinds of accountability and support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, etc. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, and you wish to speak in confidence to a trained counselor, contact the Sexual Trauma and Abuse Center (785-843-8985 or [support@stacarecenter.org](mailto:support@stacarecenter.org)). You may also wish to contact Lawrence Memorial Hospital Emergency Room (785-505-6162). If you want to pursue disciplinary action or criminal charges against the perpetrator, you may contact the Office of Institutional Opportunity and Access (785-864-6414; instructions on how to file a complaint can be found at <http://ioa.ku/>); and the KU Police (785-864-5900) or the Lawrence Police (785-832-7509). For the protection of students who experience harassment or violence, instructors are mandated reporters; if you report harassment or violence to an instructor, the instructor must report it to both a supervisor and the police.

### Academic Success

In addition to any policies and resources noted above, the [KU Academic Success Student Resources](#) website provides links to KU Policies and Resources pertaining to academic misconduct, grading policies, harassment and discrimination, diversity and inclusion, mandatory reporting, equal opportunity and affirmative action, and student rights and responsibilities. Please visit the site to familiarize yourself with these policies and resources. If you have questions or concerns about any of these policies, statements, or resources, please let me know, or contact Student Affairs directly.

