

South Plains College
Course Syllabus: ENGL 1301 and INRW 0300
Fall 2026

Instructor: Mr. Matthew Race
Office: CME 103C, Levelland Campus
Email: mrace@southplainscollege.edu
Telephone: (806) 716-2439
Office Hours:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:00 – 9:30 am 10:45 – 11:45 am	9:00 – 11:00 am	9:00 – 9:30 am 10:45 – 11:45 am	9:00 – 11:00 am	9:00 – 10:00 am

ENGL 1301 Course Description: This course is an intensive study and practice of the composition process from invention and researching to drafting, revising, and editing, both individually and collaboratively. The curriculum includes the teaching of effective rhetorical modes as well as audience, purpose, arrangement, style, and collateral readings. The instructional focus is on writing the academic essay as a vehicle for learning, communicating, and critical analysis.

Prerequisite: Students must be TSI-complete or waived in both writing and reading.

Credit: 3 **Lecture:** 3 **Lab:** 0

ENGL 1301 Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of individual and collaborative writing processes.
2. Write essays that exhibit logic, unity, development, and coherence.
3. Develop ideas with appropriate support and attribution.
4. Write in a style appropriate to audience and purpose.
5. Read, reflect, and respond critically to a variety of texts.
6. Use American English, with an emphasis on correct grammar, parallelism, punctuation, spelling, and mechanics, in language appropriate for academic essays.
7. Write a minimum of six 500-word essays.

INRW 0300 Course Description: INRW 0300 serves as a paired support course for students enrolled in ENGL 1301 who are not yet TSI-complete in reading and/or writing. The focus is on teaching students critical reading and academic writing skills to equip them for success in Composition I. Successful completion of this course fulfills TSI requirements for reading and/or writing.

INRW 0300 Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Locate explicit textual information, draw complex inferences, and describe, analyze, and evaluate the information within and across multiple texts of varying lengths.
2. Comprehend and use vocabulary effectively in oral communication, reading, and writing.
3. Identify and analyze the audience, purpose, and message across a variety of texts.
4. Describe and apply insights gained from reading and writing a variety of texts.
5. Compose a variety of texts that demonstrate reading comprehension, clear focus, logical development of ideas, and use of appropriate language that advance the writer's purpose.
6. Determine and use effective approaches and rhetorical strategies for given reading and writing situations.
7. Generate ideas and gather information relevant to the topic and purpose, incorporating the ideas and words of other writers in student writing using established strategies.
8. Evaluate relevance and quality of ideas and information in recognizing, formulating, and developing a claim.
9. Develop and use effective reading and revision strategies to strengthen the writer's ability to compose college-level writing assignments.
10. Recognize and apply the conventions of Standard English in reading and writing.

Core Curriculum: ENGL 1301 partially fulfills Communication Core 010

Core Curriculum Objectives addressed:

- **Communications skills**—to include effective written, oral and visual communication
- **Critical thinking skills**—to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
- **Teamwork**—to include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal
- **Personal Responsibility**—to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making.

Student Learning Outcomes and Core Curriculum Objectives

Assessment: Students must write a proctored diagnostic essay before access to the course material is granted in Week Two and beyond. A post-test and/or a writing assignment rubric will be used to determine the extent of improvement that the students have gained during the semester.

Textbook: do not purchase the textbook—it is in Blackboard

Langan, John, and Zoe Albright. *College Writing Skills with Readings*. 11th ed., McGraw-Hill.

This course is in the SPC TexBook program, so you do not need to purchase a textbook or access code for this course.

This course is part of your TexBook program, which means you don't need to purchase a textbook or access code for this course. TexBook is the required content (either an eBook or

online Courseware) for your course and is provided for you via the Bibliu platform from Day 1 of class.

- **Cost of TexBook:** this required content is provided as part of a program called Inclusive Access, which means that content is provided for you at the lowest price available from the publisher. The cost for this is included in your tuition.
- **How to access your digital content via Bibliu:** you can access your material via the Bibliu link inside your Blackboard Course or directly via the Bibliu app. If you have issues with this, please contact your professor, the Bookstore Manager or Bibliu Support (see below).
- **The Bibliu platform:** you can use the Bibliu platform to enhance your learning experience, with features including highlighting, notes, and reading text aloud. For more details and support on how to use Bibliu, please visit the [BibliU support pages](#), or contact Bibliu support via the email: support@bibliu.com
- **Opting out:** you can Opt-Out of the TexBook Program, up until the Opt-Out deadline, via the banner displayed when you open the Bibliu platform. Remember that Opt-Out deadlines vary by term, and if you choose to Opt-Out you will lose access to this low price option, and will need to purchase the content through a different method. If you opt-Out, the fee will be refunded to your account.

Useful contacts:

1. Bookstore Manager: Christian Bruno - christian.bruno@bibliu.com
2. Bookstore Text Coordinator: Trish Wells - patricia.wells@bibliu.com
3. Bibliu Support: email support@bibliu.com

Supplies: Access to a computer with printer and reliable internet access; three-ring binder

Technology Requirements:

1. **SPC username and password:** email helpdesk@southplainscollege.edu or call the SPC Help Desk at 806-716-2600 for help with your username/password
2. **SPC student email access:**
3. **Regular access to a computer and reliable internet service:**
 - o Understand that it is your responsibility to find alternate computers you may use to submit your work on time.
4. **Blackboard:** grades, assignments, quizzes, videos, and many other resources for this class are accessed through the Blackboard learning management system.
5. **Microsoft 365: Word, OneDrive, PowerPoint, Teams:** As a member of the SPC community, you have free access to Microsoft 365.

Computer Help: need help with your computer, laptop, email address, or username and password?

- helpdesk@southplainscollege.edu
- 806-716-2600

Blackboard Help:

1. **Get Help by Email:** blackboard@southplainscollege.edu
 - o Be sure to include your full name, your instructor's name, the course and section you are enrolled in, and a detailed description of the problem.

- The blackboard@southplainscollege.edu account is monitored from 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m., Monday – Sunday.
 - You can expect a response within 24 hours by email; however, the average response time is less than one hour.
2. **Get Help by Phone:** 806-716-2180 (available between 8 AM and 4 PM Monday through Friday, except on holidays)
 3. **Get Help Online:** click on the Help link listed in the Blackboard course menu.

Course Organization:

- The course is organized into sixteen weeks.
- Each week has its own folder on the **Course Content** page in our Blackboard course.
- Assignments are usually (but not always) due on Sundays at 11:59 p.m.

Grade Calculation:

A final letter grade will be assigned based on this grading scale: A (90-100), B (80-89), C (70-79), D (60-69), F (59 and below).

ASSIGNMENTS	WEIGHT	GRADE	MULTIPLY	POINTS
Overall Description Essay Score: 20% Description Paragraph Rough Draft 80% Description Paragraph Final Draft	7%		X 0.07 =	
Overall Exemplification Essay Score: 15% Exemplification Essay Outline 15% Peer Review: Exemplification Rough Draft 70% Exemplification Essay Final Draft	15%		X 0.15 =	
Overall Comparison-Contrast Essay Score: 10% Comparison-Contrast Essay Outline 20% Peer Review: Comparison-Contrast Initial Draft 70% Comparison-Contrast Final Draft	15%		X 0.15 =	
Overall Argument Essay Score: 15% Argument Essay Outline 15% Peer Review: Argument Rough Draft 70% Argument Essay Final Draft	20%		X 0.20 =	
Quizzes/Assignments Average: (4 lowest scores are dropped)	20%		X 0.20 =	
Attendance	5%		X 0.05 =	
Midterm Exam:	8%		X 0.08 =	
Final Exam:	10%		X 0.10 =	
TOTAL:	100%			
TOTAL POINTS _____ + _____ EXTRA CREDIT POINTS = _____ FINAL COURSE GRADE				

Optional Extra Credit: earn up to three points to be added to the final grade. Details are in Blackboard.

Each week, click on the **Gradebook** tab in the Blackboard course menu to view your grades and current average. If at any time you wish to discuss your course progress, contact me.

SPC Tutors

Tutoring is FREE for all currently enrolled students. Make an appointment or drop-in for help at any SPC location or online! Visit the link below to learn more about how to book an appointment, view the tutoring schedule, get to know the tutors, and view tutoring locations:

<http://www.southplainscollege.edu/exploreprograms/artsandsciences/teacheredtutoring.php>

- Email: tutoring@southplainscollege.edu
- Phone: 806-716-2538

Brainfuse Free Tutoring

Free tutoring and writing help is available through the Brainfuse tool. Log into Blackboard, click on Tools in the menu, and select the Brainfuse card. Brainfuse tutors are available nights and weekends:

- Monday-Thursday 8:00 PM-8:00 AM
- Friday 6:00 PM-8:00 AM
- Saturday-Sunday 24/7

General Guidelines for Written Assignments:

1. All major papers should meet the guidelines of the assignment prompt and be properly formatted in MLA 9th edition. You are responsible for understanding and following MLA format and asking questions when needed. Here's a quick overview: <https://www.scribbr.com/mla/formatting/>. Final drafts should be double-spaced, and written in a 12-point, readable font. The title of your essay should be centered; the body of your essay should be left-aligned. Margins should be one inch wide on all sides. A correct heading and running header are required. Points will be deducted for final drafts that do not meet basic formatting standards for a college essay.
2. **All major assignments MUST be submitted as Microsoft Word files (.doc or .docx). All other file types, including PDF, gdoc, .pages, .odt, .rtf, or .txt files, will not be graded.** Incorrectly submitted files are counted late until the appropriate file type is uploaded. Any submission that is blank or corrupt is considered late until properly submitted. Make sure you receive a successful submission confirmation from TURNITIN. Essays submitted with less than half the required word count earn a zero by default.

Student Responsibilities:

1. Be on time and regularly attend class
2. Be responsible for the learning process, including preparation for class, such as reading and homework; participation in class discussions, including asking relevant questions; getting assignments and/or notes if absent; and accepting responsibility for not understanding an assignment or failing an assignment
3. Have a cooperative attitude and use appropriate language in academic environments; avoid condescending, inflammatory, threatening, or profane rhetoric, whether verbally or in written form
4. Behave respectfully toward instructor and classmates to contribute to the atmosphere necessary for learning
5. Be courteous to others, especially by putting away cell phones and other distractions while in class
6. Write down all grades and apply them to the grading scale used for the class, which is shown in the syllabus
7. Submit all assignments in accordance with due dates, formats, and requirements
8. Avoid all forms of cheating and plagiarism on all assignments, including improper collaboration and unauthorized AI usage
9. Ask questions when something is unclear

Attendance: To be successful in this course, you must work in the Blackboard course regularly and participate fully. Students who enroll in a course but have not logged into the Blackboard class by the official census date will be administratively dropped by the Admissions Office. **It is your responsibility to drop the course if you stop completing assignments.**

Late Work Policy*

Note that this late policy applies to **major assignments only (final essay drafts, Midterm Exam—with limits). Late work is not accepted for any reason on all other assignments, such as essay outlines, rough drafts, peer reviews, quizzes, discussions, or activities.*

1. If you submit after the deadline without a prior authorization for an extension, 20% is automatically deducted from your grade, and this penalty increases by 10% each day until submission. Major assignments will not be accepted more than one week after the deadline.
2. If technical difficulties prevent you from submitting a major assignment, email me and attach the assignment or document the issue including a timestamp. This may help avoid late penalties in the event of technical difficulties, but you're expected to upload the final draft appropriately after technical issues are resolved. I will not grade assignments sent via email.

Dropping the Class: The last day to withdraw/drop from a course this semester is listed on the academic calendar [here](#). It is the student's responsibility to withdraw from this course. Otherwise, students will be assigned their earned letter grade at the end of the course. Course grades are continually available in Blackboard each week. For more information regarding drops/withdrawals, please visit <https://www.southplainscollege.edu/admission-aid/apply/schedulechanges.php>.

Plagiarism and Cheating:

There is zero tolerance for academic dishonesty in this course. Do not under any circumstances use words you didn't write in an essay or assignment without proper documentation. If you're not sure about proper documentation, you must reach out via email or office hours to ensure academic integrity. Plagiarism will automatically result in an F for the assignment and can result in getting dropped from the course with an F. In addition, an Academic Dishonesty Report may be filed with the Dean of Students.

Plagiarism violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Using Artificial Intelligence websites or apps (such as Grammarly, Quillbot, Editor, and other paraphraser) to generate or heavily revise all or part of a paper or other assignment;
2. Turning in a paper that has been purchased, borrowed, or downloaded from another writer or from an online site;
3. Cutting and pasting together information from books, articles, other papers, or online sites without providing proper documentation;
4. Using direct quotations (three or more words) from a source without showing them to be direct quotations and citing them;
5. Submitting an assignment for this course that you also submitted to another course without my express approval;
6. Missing in-text citations and/or missing works cited entries.

Cheating violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Obtaining an examination by stealing or collusion;
2. Discovering the content of an examination before it is given;
3. Using an unauthorized source of information (notes, textbook, texting, internet, Quizlet, etc.) during an examination, quiz, or homework assignment;
4. Entering an office or building to obtain unfair advantage;

5. Taking an examination for another;
6. Altering grade records;
7. Copying another's work during an examination or on a homework assignment;
8. Rewriting another student's work in Peer Reviews so that the writing is no longer the original student's;
9. Taking pictures of a test, test answers, or someone else's paper.

Artificial Intelligence Usage:

AI writing apps like Grammarly and Quillbot have become popular, but they now go beyond fixing grammar and spelling and can change wording, sentence structure, and diction level. They also leave an AI "footprint," which can be detected, not to mention alter your writing so it doesn't read like your voice at all.

Do not use AI apps to create your essays or assignments, and do not use Grammarly, Quillbot, Microsoft Editor, and other AI paraphrasers to change your words, diction level, or sentence structure. If you do, you may earn a zero and be dropped from the course for plagiarism/cheating. If you struggle with wording and grammar, meet weekly with our academic coach or a free tutor and work to strengthen your own writing skills.

Fabrication & Ethical Research Disclaimer

Students are responsible for every word, quote, citation, paraphrase, and claim included in their submitted work. Fabrication and/or falsification of cited material in an assignment—regardless of whether it was caused by AI misuse or a student's own negligence—constitutes a violation of the academic integrity policy. This can include, but is not limited to:

- Citing non-existent sources in a Works Cited or References list
- Misrepresenting or inventing information, words, or ideas and citing them from a text, source, or author
- Inventing quotes from a text, source, or author that are not actually present in the source
- Attributing an idea or quote to the incorrect text, source, author, or publication
- Providing inaccurate publication information, links, page numbers, or bibliographic details in a way that misrepresents the source
- Submitting citations to sources that the student cannot produce or access for verification purposes

Students are expected to maintain access to all cited material used in the production of their work and must be able to provide full-text copies, active links, PDFs, screenshots, database records, notes, annotations, or other reasonable forms of authentication upon request. Failure to authenticate cited material may result in penalties up to and including a zero for the assignment.

Intellectual Exchange Statement, Disabilities, Non-discrimination, Title V Pregnancy Accommodations, CARE (Campus Assessment, Response, and Evaluation) Team, Campus Concealed Carry:

For information regarding official South Plains College policies on these topics, please visit:

<https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/>.