

ENGLISH 1301 FALL, 2026

COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE TITLE: Composition I ENGL 1301- 607, 608, 617
INSTRUCTOR: Joseph Fly E-MAIL: jfly@southplainscollege.edu
OFFICE: 2022 PHONE: (806) 716-4634
OFFICE HOURS: **Mon:** 3:30-5:30 **Tue:** 3:30 – 5:30 **Thur:** 3:30-5:30 **Fri.** 9:30 – 11:30

South Plains College Improves Each Student's Life

I. GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION:

- A. COURSE DESCRIPTION: ENGL 1301 (3:3:0) Composition I. This course includes a grammar review and a study of the principles of good writing, methods of paragraph and theme development, frequent essays, and collateral readings in literature and the other humanities.
- B. GOAL OF THE COURSE: The goal of this course is to help students understand and apply the standards of correctness in formal thought and the written English language. English 1301 will help students to think clearly by teaching them to write effectively through its focus on the writing process, on the use of appropriate grammar and diction, on the use of logic, and on the different methods of essay development. Students will also learn to read, and think, more critically.
- C. This is a hybrid course. One-half of the course is internet-based; the other half is class-room based.

II. SPECIFIC COURSE/INSTRUCTOR REQUIREMENTS:

- A. Required Course Materials:
- ✓ Online reading assignments, as listed
 - ✓ Three (3) scantrons – *DataLink 1200 (blue, 50 questions each)*
 - ✓ A computer, with a webcam and reliable internet access.
- B. COURSE ATTENDANCE: This is a hybrid course. It relies on both in-class instruction and out-of-class assignments. Punctual and regular class attendance is required. There are no excused absences. Students are responsible for all class work covered during absences.
- C. ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: The guidelines for academic integrity set forth in the current South Plains College catalog will be followed, but perhaps one specific category should be addressed here: plagiarism and cheating. According to the SPC catalog, "Complete honesty is required of the student in the presentation of any and all phases of course work. This applies to quizzes of whatever length as well as to final examinations, to daily reports and to term papers." Failure to comply with this policy will result in a **zero** (0) for the assignment and can result in an "F" for the course if circumstances warrant.

Except in extreme cases, disciplinary action in cases of cheating or plagiarism will be handled by and at the discretion of the instructor and, if necessary, in consultation with the departmental chairperson. Depending on the nature and the severity of the problem, individual instructors may assign penalties from zero for the assignment to an "F" in the course. Extreme cases may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from South Plains College.

- D. GRADING STANDARDS: Individual assignments have specific grading criteria, but this list outlines the basic grading standards.
- **On topic**. All papers must clearly follow the assigned topic. Papers which are off topic receive no credit (0).
 - **Mechanics**. All assignments should follow the conventions of standard, written English, with emphases on grammar, spelling, punctuation and capitalization
 - **Structure**. All papers should follow basic essay structure with an effective thesis, appropriate topic sentences, specific details and a short conclusion.
 - **Content**. Papers are evaluated on how effectively ideas are communicated.

- D. GRADING POLICY: Final course grades will be calculated using the following percentages:

• 3 Portfolios @ 100 -200 pts each	500 points
• The Mid-term exam	100 points
• 20 Discussion Posts @ 10 pts each	200 points
• <u>The Final Exam</u>	<u>200 points</u>
TOTAL POSSIBLE:	1000 points

- E. GRADING SCALE:
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|------------|--------------|
| 100-90=A | Superior |
| 89-80=B | Good |
| 79-70=C | Average |
| 69-60=D | Poor |
| below 60=F | Unacceptable |

- F. LATE WORK POLICY: All writing assignments must be completed and turned in no later than the assigned due date.
- Major tests must be taken on the date assigned.
 - Discussion posts cannot be submitted after the due date.
 - Late work is not accepted. (LW/NA)

- G. STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES
1. Attend class and be aware of announcements made in class.
 2. **Carefully read all assignments.**
 3. Complete homework early enough to seek help if needed.
 4. Be familiar with information in the syllabus, especially attendance, grading, and test policies.
 5. Take care of personal needs before and after class.
 6. Keep all electronic devices in ‘mute’ or ‘off’ mode, and out of sight.
Texting in class is especially prohibited.
 7. Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment which is conducive to learning. Inappropriate behavior, including but not limited to any form of distracting or offensive attire or behavior in the classroom shall result in being dropped from the class.
 8. All written assignments must clearly follow the assigned topic.

Required Syllabus Statement: <https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/>

- Intellectual Exchange Statement
- Disabilities Statement
- Non-Discrimination Statement
- Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations Statement CARE (Campus Assessment, Response, and Evaluation) Team
- Campus Concealed Carry Statement
- COVID-19
- Artificial Intelligence Statement

III. COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of English 1301, the student should have written a minimum of six, 500-word essays that reflect the ability:

- ✓ To understand writing as a process: that is, writing conceived as a connected and interactive process which includes pre-writing, writing and revision;
- ✓ To apply the principles of writing as a process and the analysis of audience and purpose to writing assignments;
- ✓ To write an essay that follows the principles of unity and coherence and that is appropriately developed to prove a thesis by means of narration, description, illustration, definition, process analysis, cause and effect, comparison / contrast, classification and division, argumentation, and / or persuasion;
- ✓ To write an essay which follows the conventions of standard written English, the criteria for standard written English being those described in the current required handbook;
- ✓ To understand and apply basic principles of critical thinking in the development of exposition and argument.

Tutoring Information 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, and view tutoring locations.

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

A.I. Protocol -- English and Philosophy Department

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 in any form will automatically result in a zero (no credit) 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:

- Using Artificial Intelligence websites or apps to generate, revise, or translate all or part of a paper or other assignment;
- Turning in a paper that has been purchased, borrowed, or downloaded from another writer or from an online site;
- Cutting and pasting together information from books, articles, other papers, or online sites without providing proper documentation;
- Using direct quotations (three or more words) from a source without showing them to be direct quotations and citing them;
- Submitting an assignment for this course that you also submitted to another course without my express approval;
- 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
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1. It is not ethical to ask AI to write a paper, and that includes apps like Grammarly and Quillbot which can do far more than just fix grammar and spelling, and they leave an AI footprint. They can fundamentally rewrite and reword a student's paper so that the student's voice, style, word choice, and tone are completely eliminated or radically changed. In addition, students who use AI forfeit the opportunity to engage in the learning process and benefit from acquiring critical thinking, writing, and revision skills.
 2. Instead of using Grammarly, Quillbot, or other paraphraser apps, students should regularly meet with free SPC writing tutors and work to strengthen their own writing and revision 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.

ENGLISH 1301 FALL, 2026

Course Calendar

The instructor reserves the right to change assignments and/ or due dates based on class needs.

DATE	ASSIGNMENT	PAGES
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<i>Most discussion posts are due Sundays before 11:55 pm.</i>		<i>10 points each</i>
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Week 1

Aug. 24th – 27th	Introduction to the course Composition Terms Format Types of Essays	ppt handout
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Week 2

Aug. 31st – Sept. 3rd	Description Portfolio 1 assignment sheet An Introduction to Writing Types of Introductions Common Thesis Errors Reading assignment 1	ppt ppt
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Monday, Sept. 7th is a school holiday

Week 3

Sept. 8th – 10th	Narration The Writing Process The First and Second Steps The Third and Fourth Steps Reading assignment 2
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Week 4

Sept 14th – 17th	Topic Sentence Exercise The Four Steps in Essay Writing - review The Four Bases for evaluating an Essay Reading assignment 3
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Week 5

Sept. 21st – 24th	Parts of speech Compare / Contrast Portfolio 2 assignment sheet CASQ Portfolio 1 is due	ppt ppt
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Week 6

Sept. 28th – Oct. 1st Cause and Effect
Process
Parts of speech ppt
Reading assignment 4

Week 7

Oct. 5th – 8th Definition
Division – Classification
The Importance of Structure
Subject-Verb agreement
Mid-term exam review
Reading assignment 5

Week 8

Oct. 12th – 15th **Mid-term exam**

Week 9

Oct. 19th – 22nd Argumentation
Importance of the persuasive thesis ppt
Fallacies ppt
“The Importance of Teaching Failure”
Portfolio 3 assignment sheet
Portfolio 2 is due

Week 10

Oct. 26th – 29th Writing as a Process of Discovery
Developing Your Own Writing Style ppt
Exemplification
Reading assignment 6

Week 11

Nov. 2nd – 5th Topic sentence exercise
Argumentation review
Reading assignment 7

Week 12

Nov. 9th – 12th Writing a Summary
Slang, clichés, jargon & idioms ppt
Commonly Confused Words
Proofreading practice
Reading assignment 8

Week 13

Nov. 16th - 19th

Sentence Fragments
Verbs
Proofreading exercise
Reading assignment 9

Week 14

Nov. 23rd – 24th

Pronouns
Adjectives and Adverbs
Punctuating Titles
Portfolio 3 is due

November 25th – 29th: Thanksgiving! No classes

Week 15

Nov. 30th – Dec. 3rd

Writing a Research Paper
Review for the final exam
Preview ENGL 1302
Reading assignment 10

Finals

Tuesday, Dec. 8th

Final Exams