

COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE TITLE:	Composition I	ENGL 1301- 604
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 co-requisite course in that the two courses are paired together. Punctual and regular class attendance for both classes 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 @ 200 pts each	600 points
• The Mid-term exam	100 points
• Discussion Posts @ 10 pts each	100 points
• <u>Final Exam</u>	<u>200 points</u>
TOTAL POSSIBLE:	1000 points

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

progress/repeat = PR (The PR grade will reflect satisfactory attendance, class participation, attitude, and effort throughout the semester. Effort in the class is considered to be completion of each assignment and documented use of on-going assistance from the instructor and the Student Assistance Center. Absences cannot exceed the equivalent of one week of class.)

- 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/INA)

- 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.

ENGLISH 1301 SPRING, 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

Mon. Jan. 12th

Introduction to the course	
Composition Terms	ppt
Format	handout
Types of Essays	
Types of Paragraphs	

Monday, Jan. 19th is a school holiday

Week 2

Mon. Jan. 26th

Description	
Portfolio 1 assignment sheet	
An Introduction to Writing	
Types of Introductions	ppt
Common Thesis Errors	ppt
Reading assignment 1	

Week 3

Mon. Feb. 2nd

The Writing Process
The First and Second Steps
The Third and Fourth Steps
Reading assignment 2

Week 4

Mon. Feb. 9th

Narration
Topic Sentence Exercise
The Four Steps in Essay Writing - review
The Four Bases for evaluating an Essay
Reading assignment 3

Week 5

Mon. Feb. 16th

Parts of speech	ppt
Compare / Contrast	
Portfolio 2 assignment sheet	
CASQ	ppt
Portfolio 1 is due	

Week 6

Mon. Feb. 16th

Cause and Effect
Process
Parts of speech
Reading assignment 4

ppt

Week 7

Mon. Feb. 23rd

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

Week 8

Mon. March 2nd

Mid-term exam

Week 9

Mon. March 9th

Argumentation
Importance of the persuasive thesis
Fallacies
“The Importance of Teaching Failure”
Portfolio 3 assignment sheet
Portfolio 2 is due

ppt

ppt

March 16th -22nd Spring Break – no classes!

Week 10

Mon. March 23rd

Writing as a Process of Discovery
Developing Your Own Writing Style
Exemplification
“My Library”
Reading assignment 6

ppt

Week 11

Mon. March 30th

Topic sentence exercise
“The Quiet Struggle of College Students...”
“College Lectures, Is Anyone Listening?”
Argumentation review
Reading assignment 7

Week 12

Mon. April 6th

Writing a Summary
Slang, clichés, jargon & idioms
Commonly Confused Words
Proofreading practice
Reading assignment 8

ppt

Week 13

Mon. April 13th

Sentence Fragments
Verbs
Proofreading exercise
Reading assignment 9

Week 14

Mon. April 20th

Pronouns
Adjectives and Adverbs
Punctuating Titles
Portfolio 3 is due

Week 15

Mon. April 27th

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

Finals

Mon. May 4th

Final Exams