

**South Plains College**  
**Course Syllabus: ENGL 2331 (World Literature for Educators)**  
**Spring 2026**

**Instructor:** Mr. Matthew Race  
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**Email:** [mrace@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:mrace@southplainscollege.edu)  
**Telephone:** (806) 716-2439  
**Office Hours:**

| Monday   | Tuesday        | Wednesday  | Thursday       | Friday          |
|--|----------------|--|----------------|-----------------|
| 9:00 – 9:30 am<br>10:45 – 11:45 am<br>2:15 – 3:45 pm | 9:00 – 9:30 am | 9:00 – 9:30 am<br>10:45 – 11:45 am<br>2:15 – 3:45 pm | 9:00 – 9:30 am | 9:00 – 10:00 am |

- **Email me if you need to schedule a virtual meeting.**

If you need to contact me, email me using your SPC email account. Instructions for accessing it, along with the programs in the Office 365 suite, are in your syllabus. I will answer emails I receive within one business day (excluding weekends and holidays).

**Departmental Course Description and Purpose:**

This course is a survey of world literature from the ancient world to the present geared toward future teachers. Students will study works of prose, poetry, drama, and fiction to know more about history and other cultures and how to teach these stories to students. ENGL 2331 is recommended for future teachers desiring to teach English in 4–8 and 7–12 grades. Not only will the course focus on texts often taught in middle and high school English classrooms, but it will provide students the opportunity to design and present lesson plans and learning activities they can use in their future profession. However, this course is open to everyone and is a valuable study of masterpieces of literature even if teaching is not your goal.

**Course Description:**

In this class, we will read and discuss some of the literature texts from around the world that you will likely be asked to teach in a high school or middle school setting. Students will have a chance to work in groups and to present material to the class as a whole for commentary, suggestions, and helpful criticism. The idea behind the class is to give you some deep background in these texts and to learn some practical strategies for teaching them and literature in general. First-year teaching, regardless of the institution, can be incredibly hectic, and already knowing a story you may teach will give you an advantage.

**Required Texts:**

*Beowulf* (online link, free)

*Macbeth* by William Shakespeare (online link, free)

*The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* by Mark Twain (online link, free)

*Night* by Elie Wiesel ([paperback \\$7.19 on Amazon](#), this is the only book you must buy for this class)

Other texts will be distributed in Blackboard.

**Prerequisites:** English 1301 and English 1302

**Student Learning Objectives:**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will

- Identify key ideas, representative authors and works, significant historical or cultural events, and characteristic perspectives or attitudes expressed in the literature of different periods or regions; **(learn stories from different times and places)**
- Analyze literary works as expressions of individual or communal values within the social, political, cultural, or religious contexts of different literary periods; **(learn about cultures and beliefs from history by reading a story)**
- Demonstrate knowledge of the development of characteristic forms or styles of expression during different historical periods or in different regions; **(learn how stories are written differently in different times and places)**
- Articulate the aesthetic principles that guide the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities; **(explain what makes a literary story beautiful and artistic)**
- Write research-based critical papers about the assigned reading in clear and grammatically correct prose, using various critical approaches to literature; **(write good essays about the stories read)**
- Demonstrate the use of best practices in teaching literature. **(learn how to teach stories to children)**

**Course Work:**

This is a reading-intensive course focused on both the theoretical and practical aspects of teaching literature. Students will read and consider texts that examine and critique various pedagogical approaches ("pedagogy" is just a fancy word for teaching methods). Through the assigned readings and class discussions, students will consider their own views on teaching. They will be provided opportunities to create actual classroom assignments and to lead class discussions through student teaching sessions. The final exam will be in the form of a formal reflective paper on their evolving and developing teaching approaches and strategies. Regular participation in online class discussion is absolutely required.

**Course Grade:** 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).

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Discussions  | 25% |
| Teaching Journals                                    | 25% |
| Student Teaching Demonstrations<br>and Peer Feedback | 35% |
| Final Essay Exam                                     | 15% |

**Attendance:**

- Online students are required to log in to Blackboard frequently. I post announcements and send emails with important information.
- There is no on-campus attendance requirement for this course.
- Be advised—I do not accept late work unless you have contacted me prior to the due date to receive approval.
- You cannot make up assignments after the due date has passed.
- I strongly recommend that you access (“attend”) our course daily Monday through Thursday to work on the week's assignments. That way all you have to do on Fridays is turn in assignments. If you were attending a face-to-face class, you would spend an hour and fifteen minutes in class with me twice a week, and then you would have about six hours of homework to complete outside of class.
- If you have not submitted any assignments by the 12<sup>th</sup> class day, your access to the course will be blocked and the Registrar’s Office will remove you from my class roll.
- To experience more success, do not procrastinate and attempt to complete a whole week's readings and assignments the day (or night!) before they are due.

**Student Responsibilities:** Students are expected to

1. 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
2. Be responsible for having an appropriate attitude and using appropriate language in academic environments; not use condescending, inflammatory, threatening, or profane rhetoric, whether verbally or in written form, in academic environments
3. Have respectful behavior toward the instructor and classmates in order to contribute to the atmosphere necessary for learning
4. Be responsible for courteous actions to others, especially by putting away cell phones and other distractions while in class
5. Be responsible for writing down all grades and applying them to the grading scale used for the class, which is shown in the course’s policy statement/syllabus
6. Submit all assignments in accordance with due dates, formats, and requirements

7. Avoid all forms of cheating and plagiarism on all assignments, including improper collaboration
8. Ask questions when something is unclear.

#### Style Guide:

- We will use the MLA style guide for formatting and documentation in this course. Specific rules regarding this style guide can be found in our Blackboard course. All documents you submit should be formatted using MLA standards, and all citations you write, whether in-text or on a Works Cited page, should follow MLA guidelines for citation.

#### Assignment Deadlines:

- Unless prior approval is received, **you will not receive credit for a late assignment**. Do not wait until the night before to complete assignments.

#### Technology Requirements:

1. **SPC username and password:** email [helpdesk@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:helpdesk@southplainscollege.edu) or call the SPC Help Desk at 806-716-2600 for help with your username/password
2. **SPC student email access:**
  - **SPC Student Email Account:** If you haven't already, you must go ahead and activate your SPC student email account. Not only will you need access to your SPC email account to receive TURNITIN digital paper submission receipts for our class, but **you must use it to communicate with me**. Do not use your personal email address or Blackboard course messages.
    - Your SPC Email address is: **yourSPCusername@southplainscollege.edu** (ex. [jsmith1234@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:jsmith1234@southplainscollege.edu)).
    - Your student email password is the same as your Blackboard password. If you need help, call the SPC Help Desk at 806-716-2600.
    - To access your SPC email account, log in to [MySPC here](#)
    - You can also set up access to your SPC email account through mobile phone mail apps, such as default smartphone Mail app or the Outlook app. □ Check with the SPC Help Desk for assistance: 806-716-2600.
3. **Regular access to a computer with a microphone and camera and reliable internet service:**
  - This course requires recording videos of yourself, so you will need access to a computer with a webcam and microphone.
  - Open computer labs are available free to students with an SPC I.D. on all SPC campuses (Levelland, Reese, Lubbock, Plainview).
  - Computer or internet connection problems may occur for you at some point this semester. **Understand that it is your responsibility to find alternate computers you may use to submit your work on time.** Find your alternate resources **now**; do not wait until you suddenly need them! Line up three friends TODAY who would be willing to loan you a laptop if yours suddenly crashes.
  - Free WiFi is available in all SPC campus buildings, some SPC parking lots, most coffee shops, etc.
4. **Blackboard:** grades, assignments, quizzes, videos, and many other resources for this class are accessed through the Blackboard learning management system. Use your SPC credentials to log in here: <https://southplainscollege.blackboard.com>

5. **Office 365: Word and PowerPoint:** As a member of the SPC community, you have free access to Office 365. Office 365 provides free online access to Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft PowerPoint, and 1TB of free online storage with Microsoft OneDrive. You can use Office 365 online or download for free and install to your PC, Mac, or mobile device.
  - To access Office 365 for free as an SPC student, go to <https://www.office.com> and sign in with the following credentials: SPCusername@southplainscollege.edu and your SPC password.
  - You can then click the link for the individual application you want to use online, or click the install office link towards the top right to install the application to your computer.
6. **Adobe Reader:** Available to download free from this website:  
<http://www.adobe.com/products/reader.html>

**Computer Help:** need help with your computer, laptop, email address, username/password?

- [helpdesk@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:helpdesk@southplainscollege.edu)
  - 806-716-2600 **Blackboard Help:**
1. **Get Help by Email:** [blackboard@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:blackboard@southplainscollege.edu) ○ 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.

**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 before the due date 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.

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

1. Using Artificial Intelligence websites or apps to generate or 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; or
5. Missing in-text citations.

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 Editing so that the writing is no longer the original student's;
  9. Taking pictures of a test, test answers, or someone else's paper.
- **DO NOT RECYCLE OLD PAPERS FOR THIS CLASS:** You may not submit the same or a revised version of a paper you wrote previously for this or another class. In other words, you will be expected to write new, original papers for each written assignment you complete this semester.
  - TURNITIN will generate a similarity report for each of your papers and can reveal if parts have been plagiarized or generated/revised by AI
  - I have an ethical responsibility to ensure that all students receive credit for only work that they have originally and ethically produced. It is your responsibility as a student to demonstrate that your work is original in order to avoid penalties or plagiarism violations. I encourage all students to keep a comprehensive draft history and track changes in Microsoft Word as a precaution.
  - ***If you are involved in cheating or plagiarism on exams, quizzes, papers, or assignments, you will receive a zero for the assignment or be dropped from the course with the grade of "F" or "X" at my discretion.***

## 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, 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 a free tutor and work to strengthen your own writing skills.

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

**Intelligence:** For information regarding official South Plains College policies on these topics, please visit: <https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/>.

**Note:** The instructor reserves the right to modify the course syllabus and policies, as well as notify students of any changes, at any point during the semester.