

South Plains College
ENGL-0301

Instructor: Mackinzee Escamilla

Office: TA-123A, Levelland Campus

Email: mescamilla@southplainscollege.edu

Office Hours:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:00 – 9:30 a.m.	8:00 – 10:00 a.m.	8:00 – 9:30 a.m.	8:00 – 10:00 a.m.	8:00 - 9:00 a.m.

To make an appointment to meet in MS Teams, <https://bit.ly/mescamillaspc> (this link is also on the Instructor Contact page in Blackboard).

ENGL-0301 (Credit: 3 Lecture: 3 Lab: 0)

Course Description: This is a course in fundamental English for students whose TSIA2 ELAR test scores and/or TSI Writing test scores are in the basic level (ABE/DL 1-3) range or who are selected to participate based on their score on another writing placement test. ENGL 0301 is designed to help students begin to develop college-writing skills and focuses on idea generation, organization, drafting, revision, and utilization of Standard English. The course provides a basic review of English grammar, focusing on spelling, punctuation, correct word choice, and various types of sentence construction, and covers major errors, such as fragments, run-on sentences, subject-verb agreement, and pronoun errors. It also provides practice in writing and revising various types of paragraphs.

Student Learning Outcomes: Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Compose a variety of paragraph-length texts that demonstrate clear focus, the logical development of ideas, and the use of appropriate language that advances the writer's purpose.
2. Determine and use effective approaches and rhetorical strategies for given writing situations.
3. 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.
4. Evaluate relevance and quality of ideas and information to formulate and develop a claim.
5. Develop and use effective revision strategies to strengthen the writer's ability to compose college-level writing assignments.
6. Edit writing to conform to the conventions of standard English.

Textbook

None

Supplies

- Access to computer with printer and Internet access

- Paper and pen for notetaking
- Colored pens and highlighters for editing

Course Evaluation

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 (average of all)	25%
Quizzes and Assignments (average of all)	25%
Writing Assignments (average of all)	25%
Midterm and Final Exams (average of both)	25%
Total	100%

Student Responsibilities

Students are expected to:

1. Use Google Docs to compose all writing assignments
2. Log in to Blackboard frequently and checking announcements and email every day
3. Complete all assigned readings in their entirety
4. Check feedback on graded writing assignments and apply that feedback to future writing assignments
5. Complete all assignments by the due date
6. Be responsible for the learning process, including preparation for class, such as reading and homework; participation in class discussions, including asking relevant questions; and accepting responsibility for not understanding an assignment or failing an assignment
7. 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
8. Have respectful behavior toward instructor and classmates in order to contribute to the atmosphere necessary for learning
9. Be responsible for courteous actions to others
10. Be responsible for checking the Blackboard gradebook often and reaching out with questions
11. Submit all assignments in accordance with due dates, formats, and requirements
12. Avoid all forms of cheating and plagiarism on all assignments, including improper collaboration

Attendance and Participation Policy

Regular, consistent attendance is required for this course. Any activity missed, regardless of cause, reduces the opportunity for learning and may adversely affect a student's achievement.

There are several main things to remember about attendance for this course:

1. **I do not drop students for non-attendance.** It is your responsibility to initiate the drop process if you decide not to complete the course. Students who stop attending but don't complete the coursework will receive an F at the end of the semester.
2. Late work is not accepted for any reason.

Be advised – I do not accept late work for any reason. You cannot make up assignments.

Why No Late Work?

I do not accept late work for any reason, whether it be five minutes late or five days late, because you forgot or because you're having technical difficulty. The reason is simple: fairness.

First is fairness to my students. This policy is applied to all students in the same way, so there can never be any question of favoritism; if I allowed late work for certain circumstances, but not for others, or for certain students, but not others, that wouldn't be fair. I don't want to make a judgement call about which circumstances or students require leniency, so the blanket policy applies to everyone – no late work for any reason.

This policy is also fair to my students' mental health and course progress. It's been my experience that students who get behind have a very hard time catching up, and having missing assignments causes anxiety and worry, which affects performance.

Submitting work on time is also fair to your classmates, as much of the work we do requires collaboration. If students don't submit work on time, it holds up the work their peers need to do to complete assignments like outline review and peer review. These assignments all build on one another, and late submissions would bring everything to a screeching halt.

Next is fairness to *myself*. My grading schedule is very strict, and there are many responsibilities associated with my job, so I cannot add keeping track of missing assignments to my already-full plate. I set due dates so that I can give you feedback in a timely manner, and if I allowed work to be submitted late, that would be unfair to my workload.

Assignment Submission

I cannot accept any assignment via email, for any reason. It is your responsibility to make sure the assignment submitted properly *before* the due date. No documents will be accepted after the submission deadline has passed, for any reason.

Be aware – any assignment that doesn't meet the minimum length requirement by ½ will be given a zero, and you will not be allowed to make it up. Assignments that meet the length requirement by ½ but still don't meet the length requirement will receive significant grade deductions.

Please understand: File management is a skill that, as a college student, you should be very comfortable with. I cannot accept late work from students who didn't understand how to upload files. When you submit a file in Blackboard, you should receive a receipt at your SPC

email address. Look for this email after you submit each assignment to ensure the file is in the proper place. This is extremely important.

As a college student, you assume the responsibility for your technology. I suggest three things:

1. Have a backup plan in place from day one, just in case your technology fails.
2. After submitting an assignment, return to the assignment submission before the due date and make sure it's been submitted properly. If it's not submitted properly by the due date, you will not receive credit for it, regardless of whether or not you thought the paper had submitted.
3. Don't wait until the last minute to submit assignments. If you have trouble, but no one is available to help you, you will still not be able to submit the assignment late.

You are responsible for making sure your work has been submitted properly.

Google Doc Requirement

All major written assignments must be written from start to finish in Google Docs to preserve a detailed draft and edit history. When submitting a writing assignment for the course, you should download the completed assignment from Google Docs as a Microsoft Word file (.doc, .docx) or PDF (.pdf) for submission to Blackboard or Turnitin. Incorrect file types are considered late until the appropriate file is uploaded. It is your responsibility to make sure you receive submission confirmation and that your file is readable in the preview on Blackboard when turning in assignments. Any submission that is blank or corrupt is considered late until properly submitted.

For each assignment, you will complete the Academic Integrity Disclosure in Blackboard where you will also provide a link to the Google Doc with editor permissions. In the event of academic integrity concerns, failure to submit both the Academic Integrity Disclosure and provide editor access to the Google Doc will result in a minimum deduction of 20%.

Academic Integrity

It is the aim of the faculty at South Plains College to foster a spirit of complete honesty and a high standard of integrity. The attempt of any student to present as his or her own any work which he or she has not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a most serious offense and renders the offender liable to serious consequences and possible suspension. Please refer to the SPC General Catalog regarding consequences for cheating and plagiarism.

****Do not, under any circumstances, turn in another student's work as your own. Do not, under any circumstances, give your work to anyone else to turn in as their own. Do not copy and paste from the Internet. All of these situations are representative of academic dishonesty and will be treated as such.****

I have zero tolerance for cheaters. If I suspect you of cheating, I will drop you without discussion. Please trust me when I say I have ways of determining whether or not you've cheated that you can't get around, as smart as you are. ;-)

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

1. Turning in a paper that has been purchased, borrowed, or downloaded from another student, an online term paper site, or a mail order term paper mill;
2. Using AI to write part or all of your paper or discussions;
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, text messaging, internet) 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.

AI Submissions and Procedure

I have an ethical responsibility to ensure that all students receive credit for only work that they have originally and ethically produced. Any evidence of AI through detection ratings or faculty review will be subject to further investigation.

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. This is the easiest way to prove authorship and protect your academic integrity in the age of AI.

In many cases, work containing evidence of AI assistance will require a Zoom conference for an interview and proctored writing sample. These conferences will be recorded and reviewed by at least one other faculty member, and a determination will be made as to whether there is satisfactory evidence of authorship to earn credit.

Student Code of Conduct Policy

Any successful learning experience requires mutual respect on the part of the student and the instructor. Neither instructor nor student should be subject to others' behavior that is rude, disruptive, intimidating, aggressive, or demeaning. Student conduct that disrupts the learning process or is deemed disrespectful or threatening shall not be tolerated and may lead to disciplinary action and/or removal from class.

College-Required Syllabus Statements

For a list of college-required syllabus statements, visit
<https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/>.

Topics include:

- Intellectual exchange
- Disabilities
- Non-Discrimination
- Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations
- CARE Team
- Campus Concealed Carry