

South Plains College  
ENGL 1302  
Revised January 2026

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**Office Hours:** Daily during 2<sup>nd</sup> Period (8:52 - 9:40 am)

**Course Description:** This course is a continuation of ENGL 1301 and an intensive study of and practice in the strategies and techniques for developing researched-based expository and persuasive texts, along with being an introduction to literature. The course emphasizes effective and ethical rhetorical inquiry, including primary and secondary research methods; critical reading of a sampling of literary, verbal, visual, and multimedia texts; systematic evaluation, synthesis, and documentation of information sources; and critical thinking about evidence and conclusions. **Prerequisite:** Grade of “C” or better in ENGL 1301.

**Course Purpose:** English 1302 has a two-fold purpose: it encourages critical writing by introducing the students to research and writing from sources, and it introduces the students to the study of literature, including short stories, drama, and poetry.

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

**Textbook:**

- None – Materials will be provided on Blackboard.

**Supplies:** Access to computer with printer and Internet access.

**This course satisfies a Core Curriculum Requirement:** Yes—Communication Foundational Component Area

**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:** Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of individual and collaborative research processes.
2. Develop ideas and synthesize primary and secondary sources within focused academic arguments, including one or more research-based essays.
3. Analyze, interpret, and evaluate a variety of texts for the ethical and logical uses of evidence.
4. Apply critical thinking to the study of literature and write essays which demonstrate that critical thinking.
5. Use edited American English to write in a style that clearly communicates meaning, builds credibility, and inspires belief or action.
6. Apply the conventions of style manuals for specific academic disciplines (e.g., APA, CMS, MLA, etc.)
7. Read and view videos of works of literature; analyze the use of literary devices (plot, point of view, theme, characterization, setting, symbolism, tone, etc.); participate in class discussions of the readings; and be tested over their understanding of the readings and lectures through quizzes, examinations, and/or written assignments.

**Student Learning Outcomes Assessment:** A pre- and 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.

#### **Course Evaluation:**

Read, annotate, and discuss assignments	20%
Quizzes and assignments	10%
Deep Reading Assignment	5%
Literary Analysis Worksheet	5%
Interpretation Essay	15%
Evaluative Essay	15%
Synthesis Matrix	5%
Synthesis and Extension Essay	15%
Research Presentation	10%

#### **Essay Assessment Guidelines:**

Essays may earn grades ranging from A to F based on the instructor's grading scale. Depending on the assignment, certain criteria may be weighted more than others, and the instructor's assignment may establish additional, more specific criteria. The quality of each of the criteria determines the letter grade. Not every essay will fit a single grade's description completely. Instructors may also include process assignments and drafts in their assessment of the final grade.

#### **“A” Essay (Superior)**

To earn an “A,” a paper meets all of the criteria below:

1. The paper fulfills all the basic requirements of the assignment (for example, topic, purpose, length, format).

2. **Unity:** The paper states a clear thesis, all topic sentences strongly support the thesis, and body paragraphs are unified around their topic sentences. The essay conveys a clear purpose and is tailored to a distinctive audience.
3. **Support:** Body paragraphs contain abundant, fresh details and examples that provide specific, concrete, logical evidence. If sources are required, the paper accurately integrates and correctly documents credible source material to add insight, sophistication, and complexity to the paper's ideas.
4. **Coherence:** The organization of the paper is excellent and logical (emphatic order, chronological order, etc.), transitions are sophisticated, and the paper exhibits mastery of basic components (introduction, conclusion, and body paragraph structure).
5. **Sentence Skills:** The paper contains no major errors (fragment, fused sentence, comma splice, subject-verb agreement, pronoun reference or agreement, verb form) and is virtually free of other grammar, spelling, wrong word, punctuation, mechanical, or point of view errors. Word choice and sentence variety (simple, compound, complex) are effective and powerful.

### **“B” Essay (Strong)**

To earn a “B,” a paper meets all of the criteria below:

1. The paper fulfills all the basic requirements of the assignment (for example, topic, purpose, length, format).
2. **Unity:** The paper states a clear thesis, all topic sentences directly support the thesis, and body paragraphs display unity. The essay conveys good awareness of purpose and audience.
3. **Support:** Body paragraphs are well-developed with specific details, examples, and sound logic. If sources are required, the paper accurately uses and correctly documents credible source material to supplement its ideas.
4. **Coherence:** The organization of the paper is clear and helpful, transitions are helpful, and the paper exhibits strong basic components (introduction, conclusion, and body paragraph structure).
5. **Sentence Skills:** The paper contains no more than two major errors (fragment, fused sentence, comma splice, subject-verb agreement, pronoun reference or agreement, verb form) and very few other grammar, spelling, wrong word, punctuation, mechanical, or point of view errors. Word choice and sentence variety are strong.

### **“C” Paper (Acceptable)**

To earn a “C,” a paper meets all of the criteria below:

1. The paper fulfills all the basic requirements of the assignment (for example, topic, purpose, length, format).
2. **Unity:** A thesis is stated but may lack a strong claim or be obvious or predictable; topic sentences adequately support the thesis. One error in paragraph unity may occur. The essay’s purpose and audience are adequately conveyed.
3. **Support:** Body paragraphs contain relevant details or logical reasons but need more specific examples/evidence. If sources are required, credible outside sources are usually integrated and cited correctly.
4. **Coherence:** Organization of ideas is satisfactory, transitions are logical, and the paper indicates competence in basic components (introduction, conclusion, and body paragraph structure).

5. **Sentence Skills:** The paper contains no more than four major errors (fragment, fused sentence, comma splice, subject-verb agreement, pronoun reference or agreement, verb form). Some other grammar, spelling, wrong word, punctuation, mechanical, or point of view errors are present but not distracting. Word choice and sentence variety are strong.

### **“D” Paper (Developing)**

To earn a “D,” a paper will exhibit *one or more* of the weaknesses below:

1. The paper only partially fulfills one or more of the basic requirements of the assignment (for example, topic, purpose, length, format).
2. **Unity:** The thesis may announce the topic but no claim, contain more than one idea, or be too vague, too broad, or too narrow. Topic sentences are not tied to the thesis. Two errors in paragraph unity may occur. Essay conveys little awareness of audience or purpose.
3. **Support:** Details are sparse or vague and consist of generalizations, clichés, or repetition. If applicable, sources are insufficient and/or not always integrated or cited correctly.
4. **Coherence:** Organization is attempted but disjointed or confusing; transitions are sparse. The paper indicates awareness of but not competence in basic components (introduction, conclusion, and body paragraph structure).
5. **Sentence Skills:** The paper contains no more than six major errors (fragment, fused sentence, comma splice, subject-verb agreement, pronoun reference or agreement, verb form). Several other grammar, spelling, wrong word, punctuation, mechanical, or point of view errors distract from the content. Informal word choices occur with little or no variety in sentence type and length.

### **“F” Paper (Unacceptable)**

To earn an “F,” a paper will exhibit *one or more* of the weaknesses below:

1. The paper fails to fulfill one or more of the basic requirements of the assignment (for example, topic, purpose, length, format).
2. **Unity:** The thesis is illogical, incomplete, or missing, so the essay lacks focus on one central idea. Topic sentences are missing, so body paragraphs lack unity. The essay ignores the purpose and audience.
3. **Support:** Details are illogical, irrelevant, or missing from body paragraphs. If sources are required, the paper fails to use sources, does not meet the minimum source requirements, uses source material inaccurately, uses sources that are not credible, fails to document fully or correctly, and/or includes plagiarism.
4. **Coherence:** Organization is incoherent, transitions are missing or illogical, or the paper indicates lack of competence in basic paper components (for example, lack of introduction and/or conclusion, lack of paragraphing).
5. **Sentence Skills:** Seven or more major errors (fragment, fused sentence, comma splice, subject-verb agreement, pronoun reference or agreement, verb form) occur with numerous other grammar, spelling, wrong word, punctuation, mechanical, or point of view errors. Word choice is often inaccurate, immature, or inappropriate. Multiple sentence structure/syntax errors make the paper difficult or almost impossible to read. If one type or a combination of types of errors, regardless of whether they are major or minor, seriously affects the readability of a paper, it will receive an “F.”

**Student Responsibilities:** Students are expected to:

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. 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
4. Have respectful behavior toward instructor and classmates in order to contribute to the atmosphere necessary for learning
5. Be responsible for courteous actions to others, especially by putting away cell phones and other distractions while in class
6. 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
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
9. Ask questions when something is unclear.

**Attendance Policy:** This is a face-to-face course, which means that regular and active course attendance is required in order to complete the course successfully. I have a professional responsibility to ensure that any student has met the course learning outcomes in order to receive credit for English 1301. Quite simply, I cannot do this if you're not here!

As this is a dual credit course, there are no attendance requirements in addition to what is required by Floydada Collegiate Independent School District. However, if you are absent from class for any reason, you are still required to complete the assignments and be knowledgeable of any information, notes, announcements, etc. that occurred during your absence.

**This can be achieved by simply checking your email and Blackboard when you are absent.** If you miss an assignment due to your absence, it cannot be made up or turned in late without email communication on that same day. Simply put, if you are going to be absent for any reason, you need to email me. If you do not, it may result in a late penalty or no credit for missing assignments. I will accommodate extenuating circumstances at my discretion.

### **General Guidelines for Major Assignments**

All major papers should meet the guidelines of the assignment prompt and be properly formatted in MLA 9<sup>th</sup> 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/>. Points will be deducted for final drafts that do not meet basic formatting standards for a college essay.

Final drafts should be **double-spaced**, and written in a 12-pt, readable font. The title of your essay should be centered; the body of your essay should be left-aligned. Margins should be 1" on all sides. The [Purdue Owl](https://owl.psu.edu/owl/resource/563/1/) website is also extremely helpful.

All major assignments should be submitted as **Microsoft Word files (.doc or .docx)**. You

should not submit PDF, gdoc, .pages, .odt, .rtf, or .txt files. I will not accept assignments written in the “Submission Text” or “Comments” portion of a submission link. 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 confirmation and a readable preview through Blackboard after submission. If you have a problem submitting your work, please send a screenshot of your attempt via email to avoid late penalties.

*Late Assignment Policy for Major Assignments:*

All deadlines are at 11:59 p.m., with a grace period until 8 a.m. the following day before the late penalty goes into effect. Late projects receive a 10% deduction per day up to one week, and projects are not accepted more than a week after the deadline. Extensions are granted at instructor discretion and must be requested at least twelve hours ahead of a deadline.

**Note that this policy only applies to major projects. Late work is not accepted for any reason on quizzes, activities, exams, or discussions.**

*Grading Procedure:*

Essay grades are returned within two weeks; on average, you can expect them within ten days. I will provide feedback via TurnItIn. You are responsible for reading and understanding all grading feedback. You are welcome to ask questions about your grading feedback; however, I ask that you wait at least 24 hours after an assignment has been returned to do so.

### **Perusall**

You will complete activities through Perusall periodically as part of your learning media for the course. Perusall is a social annotation platform where you will complete a multi-step assignment that may include videos, reading, and other media and provide annotations in small groups with your peers as part of our ongoing writing discussion. These graded assignments are scored on the quality of annotations and overall engagement, including some or all of the criteria below:

- Contributing thoughtful questions and comments to the class discussion, spread throughout the entire reading
- Starting the reading early
- Breaking the reading into chunks (instead of trying to do it all at once)
- Reading all the way to the end of the assigned reading
- Posing thoughtful questions and comments that elicit responses from classmates
- Answering questions from others
- Upvoting thoughtful questions and helpful answers

Reading and thinking critically about literature is the foundation of this course, and these assignments are the most important part of your coursework to start with each week. You are strongly encouraged to start these early and complete them over several days in order to be successful and get the best outcomes in your learning.

### **Blackboard**

We will also use Blackboard in this course. You may access the Blackboard login page at [southplainscollege.blackboard.com](http://southplainscollege.blackboard.com). Do not—under any circumstances—give your username and/or password to anyone else or allow anyone else to log in to your Blackboard account. Doing so will be viewed as academic dishonesty and will be treated as

such.

If you need technical support for Blackboard, please contact the Instructional Technology Department at [blackboard@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:blackboard@southplainscollege.edu). Include your name, student ID, the name of the course you're taking, a description of the problem you are having. Like all other areas of this course, there are no exceptions to the late work policy, for any reason, including technical difficulties.

### **Student Code of Conduct**

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 which 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.

### **Academic Integrity and Plagiarism**

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. Students are expected to do their own work on all projects, quizzes, assignments, and papers. Failure to comply with this policy may result in an F for the assignment and/or an F for the course if circumstances warrant.

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

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

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

- Obtaining an examination by stealing or collusion;
- Discovering the content of an examination before it is given;
- Using an unauthorized source of information (notes, textbook, texting, internet, Quizlet, etc.) during an examination, quiz, or homework assignment;
- Entering an office or building to obtain unfair advantage;
- Taking an examination for another;
- Altering grade records;
- Copying another's work during an examination or on a homework assignment;
- Rewriting another student's work in Peer Editing so that the writing is no longer the original student's;
- Taking pictures of a test, test answers, or someone else's paper.

**There is zero tolerance for academic dishonesty in this course. Plagiarism or academic dishonesty of any kind will automatically result in a 0 for the assignment and can, in many cases, result in getting dropped from the course with an F. Assignments that earn a zero for plagiarism cannot be made-up under any circumstances and will be reported to South Plains College.**

### **Artificial Intelligence Statement & Procedure for Academic Integrity**

I have an ethical responsibility to ensure that all students receive credit for only work that they have originally and ethically produced, and the learning outcomes of English 1301 rely on your own original reading, writing, and thinking. It is simply not possible or ethical to use generative AI and accomplish these goals in our course. Accordingly, you're expected to refrain from all usage of generative AI in the production of your work. This includes (but is not limited to) using AI for any of the following:

- To generate words, phrases, or sentences to use in an assignment
- To generate ideas, claims, or interpretations in substitute of original thinking
- To outline, organize, or otherwise direct the composition of your own work
- To spin, elevate, enhance, or rewrite your own originally produced work

Our course uses an extensive set of tools to analyze machine language mechanics against original language. This includes the use of the most reliable AI detection platforms currently available, linguistic data, comparative writer analytics, and LLM output testing. Any work containing indications of AI involvement must be verified as original to receive credit through verbal review. Verbal review includes an in-person or virtual conference and/or proctored writing sample. If authorship cannot be verified after exhausting all of these methods, the work is not ethically produced or eligible for credit, and it receives a zero. As a student writer in the age of AI, it is your responsibility to protect the integrity of your work and ensure complete ownership of the ideas and language therein.

Students have the right to decline a verbal review. If a request for verbal review is not answered within a week, it will be assumed that the student has chosen the option to decline. In doing so, the assignment is considered a first violation of the integrity standards of the course and assigned a zero.

### **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>

### **Tutor.com**

You also have 180 FREE minutes of tutoring with tutor.com each week, and your hours reset every Monday morning. Log into Blackboard, click on the tutor.com link on the left-hand tool bar and grab a session with a tutor. You can access tutor.com tutors during the following times: Monday – Thursday: 8pm-8am

**Disclaimer**

Because we will use Blackboard to conduct a portion of this class, please note that the materials you may be accessing in chat rooms, bulletin boards, or unofficial web pages are not officially sponsored by South Plains College. The United States Constitution rights of free speech apply to all members of our community regardless of the medium used. We disclaim all liability for data, information or opinions expressed in these forums.

**For information regarding Intellectual Exchange, Disabilities, Non-Discrimination, Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations, CARE (Campus Assessment, Response, and Evaluation) Team, and Campus Concealed Carry, use the following link:**

**<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.