

English 1301.441, 442, 152
Basic Policy Statement and Syllabus
Fall 2017

Instructor: Patti Thompson
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Office Hours: RC307B
MW 10:00 – 12:00 TT 12:15 – 1:00 F 9:00 – 11:00

Course Description: This course is an intensive study and practice of the composition process from invention and researching to drafting, revising, and editing, both individually and collaboratively. The curriculum includes the teaching of effective rhetorical modes as well as audience, purpose, arrangement, style, and collateral readings. The instructional focus is on writing the academic essay as a vehicle for learning, communicating, and critical analysis.

Prerequisites:

- Students must be TSI-compliant in both writing and reading.
- International students who do not have a TOEFL score of 550 must enroll in ENGL 0301 or 0302 or ESOL 0301 or 0302.

Texts

Langan, John. *College Writing Skills with Readings*. 9th ed., McGraw-Hill, 2013

ISBN -9780078036279 Buy used or rent. Students will also purchase the Connect Composition Essentials when first going in to the Connect portion of the course.

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 writing processes.
2. Exhibit logic, unity, development, and coherence to create essays.
3. Develop ideas with appropriate support and attribution.
4. Write in a style appropriate to audience and purpose.
5. Read, reflect, and respond critically to a variety of texts.
6. Use edited American English, with an emphasis on correct grammar, punctuation, spelling, and mechanics, in academic essays.
7. Write a minimum of six 500-word essays.

Grading Breakdown

Drafts	(5 @ 10 pts /each)	50
Paragraph		50
Descriptive Essay		100
Narrative Essay		100
Summary Essay		100
Compare & Contrast Essay		100
Persuasive Essay		100
Grammar	(4 quizzes @25pts/each)	100
Connect Assignments	(10 @ 20 pts/each)	200
Final Exam		100
Total		1000

Essay Assessment Guidelines:

- The “A” essay is perfectly formatted, with three or fewer spelling/wrong word and/or grammatical errors. It also has an excellent title, strong thesis, good transitions, an introduction with a hook, a thoughtful conclusion, and well-supported main points in the body paragraphs. The writing is lively and intelligent; there are no sentence structure errors.
- The “B” essay at the 1301 level contains all of the above with one or two more errors.
- The “C” essay has a thesis, introduction, and conclusion, but lacks support and has multiple errors.
- The “D” essay contains one or more of the following problems: lack of a strong thesis, lack of a strong organizational pattern, weak introduction and/or conclusion, formatting errors, multiple spelling and grammatical errors, and/or sentence structure issues (fragments and run-ons).
- The “F” essay does not meet the minimum requirements for a 1301-level essay assignment. Some examples of “F” essays are 1) those written on a topic that has not been approved; 2) those that do not meet the minimum word count; or 3) those that are not written in the required format.

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.

Absence/Performance Policy

Punctual and regular class attendance is required of all students attending this course through their high school, South Plains College, and the State of Texas. Students are responsible for all class work covered during absences from class. Papers are due on scheduled dates, regardless of a student's absence. "Whenever absences become excessive and, in the instructor's opinion, minimum course objectives cannot be met due to absences, the student should be withdrawn from the course" (SPC General Catalog pg. 20). After four absences students could be withdrawn from the course. If something major is happening in your life, please let me know as soon as possible.

Assignments must be turned in on time; after the deadline, a late assignment will accumulate a penalty of 10% deduction for day late, up to 3 days. No assignments will be accepted or graded after 3 days. Missing assignments count as zeroes. Students missing grammar quizzes will not be able to make up those tests.

Classroom Decorum

No student has the right to disrupt a class in any way and thus interfere with the education of the other students. Disruptive behavior is not restricted to behavioral problems; it can include noise from cell phones, watches, inappropriate attire/appearance. Using a laptop during class will be necessary, but not when instruction is occurring. Nothing is more frustrating for me than to have to repeat myself 4 times because students are talking, texting, surfing the net, or taking a mental vacation. I do not like giving instructions more than once, so expect problems if you ask me to repeat information. If the class takes place in a computer lab, students should not bring food into the class.

Plagiarism

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

Students must turn in drafts of their papers, a major part of the participation grade. This ensures that a student is producing work alone.

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

- 1) Turning in a paper which has been purchased, borrowed, or downloaded from another student, an online term paper site, or a mail order term paper mill;
- 2) Cutting and pasting together information from books, articles, other papers, or online sites without providing proper documentation;
- 3) Using direct quotations (three or more words) from a source without showing them to be direct quotations; or
- 4) Giving a footnote only at the end of a paragraph, even if the paragraph is completely paraphrased from one source.

Cheating

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; or
- 7) Copying another's work during an examination or on a homework assignment.
- 8) Having someone else write a paper for a grade.

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.

Disability Statement: Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services Office. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office at Levelland (Student Health & Wellness Office) 806-716-2577, Reese Center (Building 8) 806-716-4675, or Plainview Center (Main Office) 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611.

Discrimination Policy: The instructor will do his or her best not to discriminate on the basis of age, color, disability, ethnic background, gender, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status.

Diversity Policy: In this class, the instructor will endeavor to establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group differences and encourages engagement and interaction. Understanding and respecting multiple experiences and perspectives will serve to challenge and stimulate all participants to learn about others, about the larger world, and about themselves.

Campus Concealed Carry: Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in South Plains College buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and South Plains College policy, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

Semester Schedule

Week 1 Aug. 28 – Sept. 3

8/28 Welcome; Course Introduction; Syllabus overview, Connect; Writing Process ppt;

8/30 Paragraph Development – sample personal paragraph, Introduction Discussion Board

Week 2 Sept. 4 - 10

9/4 Labor Day Holiday

9/6 Chapter 1 Intro to Writing 3 – 18; Chapter 23 Subject and Verbs 441 – 446; Chapter Comma 554 - 563

9/8 Connect Assignment

Week 3 Sept. 11 - 17

9/11 Draft of Paragraph Due, Peer Revision, Chapter 25 Run on 460 - 472

9/12 Final of Paragraph due to Bb by midnight

9/13 Description ppt. Descriptive Paper Assignment, Chapter 8 Description 182 – 202

9/15 Connect Assignment

Week 4 Sept. 18 - 24

9/18 Descriptive Analysis pgs. 192 – 197;

9/19 Draft Due to Bb

9/20 Peer Revision Charting at least 2 other essays; Grammar Quiz #1 Comma Splices and Fused/Run on Sentences

9/22 Connect Assignment

9/24 Final of Descriptive essay due to Bb by midnight

Week 5 Sept. 25 – Oct. 1

9/25 Narrative Writing, ppt, Assignment, Chapter 9 Narration 203 – 221, brainstorm topics

9/27 Narrative analysis pgs. 214 – 217; Chapter 27 Subject-Verb Agreement 484 – 489; Chapter 29 Pronoun Antecedent Agreement 494 – 499;

9/29 Connect Assignment

10/1 Draft of Narrative due to Bb by 11:59

Week 6 Oct. 2 - 8

10/2 Peer Revision of at least 2 essays in class – Read aloud

10/4 Chomp Chomp Grammar Review; Final essay due by midnight to Bb

10/6 Connect Assignment; Grammar Quiz #2 Subject-Verb-Pronoun Agreement

10/8 Final of Narrative due to Bb by midnight

Week 7 Oct. 9 – 15

10/09 Writing a Summary, Read pgs. 375 -386, Assignment

10/12 Chapter 32 Misplaced Modifiers 513 - 516, Chapter 33 Dangling Modifiers 517 – 522

10/14 Connect Assignment

Week 8 Oct. 17 - 21

10/16 Draft Due Peer Revision, Chapter 41 Spelling Improvement 570 – 574, Chapter 42 Commonly Confused Words 575 - 584

10/18 Chapter 37 Apostrophe 539 – 545, Chapter 447 – 459 Fragment

10/21 Final Version of Classification essay due to Bb by midnight

Week 9 Oct. 24 - 28

10/24 Chapter 13 Comparison and/or Contrast 381 – 303, ppt,

10/26 Read pgs 293 – 298 analysis, Grammar Quiz #3 Apostrophe and Fragment

10/28 Connect Assignment

Week 10 Oct. 31 – Nov. 4

10/31 C & C organization overview, brainstorm list of topics

11/2 Parallelism handout; Peer Revision of C & C essay – minimum of 2

Week 11 Nov. 7 - 11

11/7 Final of C & C essay due by midnight

11/9 Chapter 16 Argument 343 – 364, Argument ppt, assignment

Brainstorm

11/11 Connect Assignment

Week 12 Nov. 14 - 18

11/14 How to use SPC online library database

11/16 Argumentation analysis 356 – 359, student examples

Week 13 Nov. 21 - 22

11/21 Draft of Argumentation Paper Due Peer Revision of at least 2 other papers

11/22 Connect Assignment

Thanksgiving Break Nov. 23 - 27

Week 14 Nov. 28 – Dec. 2

11/28 Editing for Mechanics Final Version of Argumentative Paper Due

11/30 Chapter 40 Other Punctuation Marks 564

12/2 Connect Assignment

Week 15 Dec. 5 - 9

12/5 Discussions 1 – 3 Due

12/7 Discussion 4 – 6 Due

Week 16 Dec. 11 – 14

Final Exam Dec. 11th 8 am – 10:00 am

Again, dates may be changed due to unforeseen circumstances.