

SPRING, 2020 COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE TITLE: Composition I ENGL 1301- 206
INSTRUCTOR: Joseph Fly E-MAIL: jfly@southplainscollege.edu
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OFFICE HOURS: MW & TR: 8:30 – 9:30 & 2:15 – 3:00 Fri. 8:30 – 11:00

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.

II. SPECIFIC COURSE/INSTRUCTOR REQUIREMENTS:

- A. Required Course Materials:
- ✓ *College Writing Skills with Readings* 9th edition – John Langan
 - ✓ Scantrons! (blue, DataLink 1200)
- B. COURSE ATTENDANCE: “Punctual and regular class attendance is required of all students attending South Plains College. There are no excused absences. Students are responsible for all classwork covered during absences. Any student who misses four consecutive days, or **six (6) days** total, will be dropped from the class. Anytime absences become excessive, and, in the instructor’s opinion, minimum course objectives cannot be met, students may be dropped.” (*SPC General Catalog*) However, students whose absenteeism becomes excessive should not count on the instructor to initiate the drop process. Three (3) tardies equal one absence. Tardies may be counted as absences if they are prolonged or excessive. Since extensive class time is devoted to in-class assignments, students not working on class assignments may be counted absent.
- 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. Paper 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:

- 4 Essays @ 10% each 40%
- The work book 20%
- The Mid-term exam 10%
- 10 Daily grades @ 1% each 10%
- Final Exam 20%

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. ASSIGNMENTS/MAKE-UP TEST POLICY: All writing assignments must be completed and turned in no later than the assigned due date.
- Major tests should be made up as soon as reasonably possible.
 - Daily grades cannot be made up.
 - Late essays are not accepted. (*LWINA*)

G. STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Attend class and be aware of announcements made in class.
2. Inform instructor of late arrival immediately after class.
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 (iPods, cell phones, etc.) in ‘mute’ or ‘off’ mode, and out of sight.
TEXTING DURING 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.

- H. ADA 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 Special 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 Special Services Coordinator. For more information, visit the Special Services Office in Bldg 8, or call 885-3048, ext. 4675.”

<https://myspc.southplainscollege.edu/ICS/Students/FYI/>

III. COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of English 1301, the student should have written a minimum of five, 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.

Core 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.

ENGLISH 1301 SPRING, 2020

SYLLABUS

DATE	ASSIGNMENT	PAGES
Tue. Jan. 14th	Introduction to the course Workbook Preview Composition Terms Format	ppt
Thur. Jan. 16th	Description Description essay assignment sheet Syllabus Quiz	182
Tue. Jan. 21st	Unity, Support, Coherence, Sentence Skills “Take this Fish and Look at It”	online
Thur. Jan. 23rd	The Writing Process “Lou’s Place”	ppt 193
Tue. Jan. 28th	The First and Second Steps Topic Sentence Exercise Punctuating Titles	50
Thur. Jan. 30th	The Third Step The Fourth Step Description Essay Due Narration “The Lottery” -Jackson	83 110 203 online
Tue. Feb. 4th	Types of Introductions Common Thesis Errors Topic Sentence Exercise “I Became Her Target”	ppt ppt 643
Thur. Feb. 6th	The Four Steps in Essay Writing - review The Four Bases for evaluating an Essay “Yellow Ribbon”	144 214
Tue. Feb. 11th	Compare / Contrast Compare / Contrast essay assignment Specific Examples Exercise	281

ENGLISH 1301 FALL, 2019

Thur. Feb. 13th	CASQ Parts of speech “Mayor of Rust”	ppt ppt 728
Tue. Feb. 18th	Review for the mid-term exam “The Gift of the Magi” – O. Henry	online
Thur. Feb. 20th	Cause and Effect Process “B24” - Doyle	260 242 online
Tue. Feb. 25th	Definition Division – Classification The Importance of Structure “Barney” - Will Stanton	304 325 online
Thur. Feb. 27th	Hyphenated Words Subject-Verb agreement Mid-term exam review Compare / Contrast Essay Due	ppt 484
Tue. Mar. 3rd	Mid-term exam	
Thur. Mar. 16th	Argumentation Importance of the persuasive thesis “The Bet” -Anton Chekov	343 ppt online
Tue. Mar. 10th	Argumentation Fallacies Proofreading practice “Three Passions”	343 ppt 632
Thur. Mar. 12th	Writing as a Process of Discovery Developing Your Own Writing Style “The Cactus” - O. Henry	 Online
March 16th – 22nd	Spring Break! No classes	
Tue. Mar. 24th	Exemplification Parts of speech “The Star” – Arthur C. Clarke	222 ppt Online
Thur. Mar. 26th	Workbook catch up day	

ENGLISH 1301 FALL, 2019

Tue. Mar. 31st	Proofreading Practice Types of Paragraphs Topic sentence exercise “Dad”	233
Thur. April 2nd	Topic sentence exercise Argumentation review Persuasion Essay I due!	
Tue. April 7th	Writing a Summary Verbs Proofreading exercise	375 473
Thur. April 9th	Slang, clichés, jargon & idioms Proofreading practice “The Haunted Boy” -Carson McCullers	ppt
Tue. April 14th	Topic sentence exercise “The Ones Who Walk Away From Omelas” - Ursula K. Le Guin	
Thur. April 16th	Pronouns “Shame” Persuasion Essay II due!	500 636
Tue. April 21st	Proofreading Practice Adjectives and Adverbs	507
Thur. April 23rd	Big Three Grammar Review Workbook is Due	
Tue. April 28th	Writing a Research Paper	413
Thur. April 30th	Review for the final exam Preview ENGL 1302	

Thursday, May 7th - The Final Exam! @ 8:00 am

THE WORKBOOK 5.2

All workbook entries *must* follow these guidelines:

- ◆ All entries should be double-spaced, using a 12-point, Times New Roman font with standard 1 inch margins.
- ◆ Each entry should begin with a heading that includes your name and class.
- ◆ Points will be deducted for improper formatting (*max. 10*).
- ◆ Workbook entries must contain a **minimum of 350 words** and a **maximum of 800 words**.

JOURNALS:

- ◆ All journal entries should have a distinct introduction, with the thesis underlined, separate body paragraphs and a short conclusion.
- ◆ All journal entries must follow one of the assigned topics, and submitted in the order they are assigned.
- ◆ Be sure that each entry is numbered correctly.
- ◆ All journal entries must have a heading in the upper left-hand corner:
Fly, Joseph
English 1301-206
April 23rd, 2020
- ◆ All journal entries should have a number as a part of the original title.
For example: Journal Entry # 1: My Super Power (*Don't use the topic as the title!*)

GRADING:

You must submit at least 2,000 words to make an 'F.' Anything less than 2,000 words will receive a zero (no credit). Submissions between 2,000 and 3,000 will receive an 'F'.

Workbooks in the 3,000 – 4,000 range will receive a 'D', 4,001- 5,000 = 'C',

5,001 – 6,000 = 'B' and 6,001 – 8,000 = 'A'.

3,000 + = 60 points

4,001 + = 70 points

5,001 + = 80 points

6,001 + = 90 points

8,000 = **100 points!**

JOURNAL TOPICS

1. In your experiences, what are the biggest differences between high school and college?
2. As a college student, what is the one best thing you can do for yourself?
3. Describe a random act of kindness that you have committed anonymously.
4. Will your parenting style be similar to, or different from, your parents'?
5. If you could invent an award for a commercial company, what would it be?
6. Which book has made the biggest impact on your life? Why?
7. In what ways does travelling for pleasure benefit people?
8. If you could spend a week in any hotel in the world, all expenses paid, which hotel would you choose?
9. Should prostitution be legalized? Should adultery be illegal?
10. If you could control the social media of any person in the world, who would it be, and why?
11. If you could pick one country, other than the United States, to be the only superpower in the 21st century, which would it be?
12. Should the federal minimum wage be based on age, number of dependents or kept as a single flat rate?
13. If you could create a new species by combining the traits of different existing species, what would it be like?
14. If money were not an issue, would you be an early adopter of new technology? Why, or why not?
15. When has your life changed as the result of seemingly random influence?
16. Will college change who you are, or cement it?
17. If you could personally get to know any fictional character, who would it be?
18. If the United States were completely destroyed in an unprovoked nuclear attack, would you want to destroy those who attacked us?
19. What do you consider to be a 'perfect' evening?
20. Would you have a healthy, loving pet put to sleep for \$50,000?
21. What do you believe are the chief reasons for students' academic failure in college?
22. The president of your college wants to get rid of spring break. Write a persuasive essay convincing him / her that it would be a bad idea.
23. What do you think are the major causes of divorce?
24. Honestly, do you believe that television has done more harm than good to most Americans? Should television be banned or restricted?
25. What do you believe are the main reasons for academic success in college?