

ENGLISH 1301

FALL, 2025 COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE TITLE: Composition I ENGL 1301 - 608, 617
INSTRUCTOR: Joseph Fly E-MAIL: jfly@southplainscollege.edu
OFFICE: 2022 PHONE: (806) 716-4634
OFFICE HOURS: Mon: 3:30-5:30 Tue: 3:30 – 5:30 Thur: 3:30-5:30 Fri. 9:30 – 11:30

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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.
- C. This is a hybrid course. One-half of the course is internet-based; the other half is classroom based.

II. SPECIFIC COURSE/INSTRUCTOR REQUIREMENTS:

- A. Required Course Materials:
- ✓ TEXT: This semester, we will **not** be using a traditional text book, but will instead read from selections found on the internet. There is a reading links page in the syllabus folder. Copyright law provides for the "fair use" of copyright works for certain limited, educational purposes. Also, look for class handouts and power points, under the COURSE CONTENT tab for additional required readings.
 - ✓ Three (3) scantrons – DataLink 1200 (blue, 50 questions each)
 - ✓ A computer with webcam and internet access.
- B. COURSE ATTENDANCE: This is a hybrid course, with both online and in-class requirements. Punctual and regular class attendance is required. There are no excused absences. Students are responsible for all class work covered during absences.
- 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.

- 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. Papers 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.
- E. GRADING POLICY: Final course grades will be calculated using the following percentages:
- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| • 3 Portfolios @ 200 pts each | 600 points |
| • The Mid-term exam | 100 points |
| • Discussion Posts @ 10 pts each | 100 points |
| • <u>Final Exam</u> | <u>200 points</u> |
| TOTAL POSSIBLE: | 1000 points |
- F. GRADING SCALE:
- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| 100-90=A Superior | 89-80=B Good |
| 79-70=C Average | 69-60=D Poor |
| below 60=F Unacceptable | |
- G. LATE WORK POLICY: All writing assignments must be completed and turned in no later than the assigned due date.
- Major tests must be taken on the date assigned.
 - Discussion posts cannot be submitted after the due date.
 - Late work is not accepted. (LWINA)
- Discussion posts and most online assignments are due on Sundays before 11:55 pm*
- H. STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES
1. Attend each class meeting and login to Blackboard at least twice a week.
 2. **Carefully read all assignments.**
 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 in ‘mute’ or ‘off’ mode, and out of sight.
Texting in 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.

Required Syllabus Statement: <https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/>

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

III. COURSE OBJECTIVES

Intensive study of and practice in writing processes, from invention and researching to drafting, revising, and editing, both individually and collaboratively. Emphasis on effective rhetorical choices, including audience, purpose, arrangement, and style. Focus on writing the academic essay as a vehicle for learning, communicating, and critical analysis.

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

- ✓ Demonstrate knowledge of individual and collaborative writing processes.
- ✓ Develop ideas with appropriate support and attribution.
- ✓ Write in a style appropriate to audience and purpose.
- ✓ Read, reflect, and respond critically to a variety of texts.
- ✓ Use Edited American English in academic essays.

Tutoring Information 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, and view tutoring locations.

- **Brainfuse** South Plains College has partnered with Brainfuse to provide **free** online tutoring and academic resources. Brainfuse can be accessed through Blackboard under the “Assist” and “Tools” tabs. The hours for online tutoring are Monday through Thursday 8:00 PM – 8:00 AM and 6:00 PM Friday through 8:00 AM Monday.

A.I. Protocol -- English and Philosophy Department

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 to ensure academic integrity. Plagiarism in any form will automatically result in a zero (no credit) for the assignment and can result in getting dropped from the course with an F. In addition, an Academic Dishonesty Report may be filed with the Dean of Students.

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

- Using Artificial Intelligence websites or apps to generate, revise, or translate 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;
- Submitting an assignment for this course that you also submitted to another course without my express approval;
- Missing in-text citations and/or missing works cited entries.

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 Reviews so that the writing is no longer the original student's;
 9. Taking pictures of a test, test answers, or someone else's paper
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1. It is not ethical to ask AI to write a paper, and that includes apps like Grammarly and Quillbot which can do far more than just fix grammar and spelling, and they leave an AI footprint. They can fundamentally rewrite and reword a student's paper so that the student's voice, style, word choice, and tone are completely eliminated or radically changed. In addition, students who use AI forfeit the opportunity to engage in the learning process and benefit from acquiring critical thinking, writing, and revision skills.
 2. Instead of using Grammarly, Quillbot, or other paraphraser apps, students should regularly meet with free SPC writing tutors and work to strengthen their own writing and revision skills.

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.

If circumstances warrant, an Academic Dishonesty Report will be submitted to the registrar.

ENGLISH 1301 FALL, 2025

Course Calendar

The instructor reserves the right to change assignments and/ or due dates based on class needs.

DATE	ASSIGNMENT	PAGES
<i>Discussion posts are due most Sundays before 11:55 pm.</i>		<i>10 points each</i>
<u>Week 1</u> Aug. 25th – 28th	Introduction to the course Composition Terms Format Types of Essays Types of Paragraphs	ppt handout
<u>Week 2</u> Sept. 2nd – 4th	Monday, Sept 1st is a school holiday Description Portfolio 1 assignment sheet An Introduction to Writing Types of Introductions Common Thesis Errors	ppt ppt ppt
<u>Week 3</u> Sept. 8 - 11th	The Writing Process The First and Second Steps The Third and Fourth Steps Reading Assignment 1	
<u>Week 4</u> Sept. 15th – 18th	Narration Topic Sentence Exercise The Four Steps in Essay Writing - review The Four Bases for evaluating an Essay Reading Assignment 2	ppt
<u>Week 5</u> Sept. 22nd - 25th	Parts of speech Compare / Contrast Portfolio 2 assignment sheet Reading Assignment 3 Portfolio 1 is due	ppt ppt

<u>Week 6</u> Sept. 29th -Oct. 2nd	Cause and Effect Process Reading Assignment 4 Punctuating Titles	ppt
<u>Week 7</u> Oct. 6th – 9th	Definition Division – Classification The Importance of Structure Subject-Verb agreement Mid-term exam review	
<u>Week 8</u> Oct. 13th – 16th	Mid-term exam	
<u>Week 9</u> Oct. 20th – 23rd	Argumentation Importance of the persuasive thesis Fallacies Portfolio 3 assignment sheet Reading Assignment 5 Portfolio 2 is due	370 ppt ppt
<u>Week 10</u> Oct. 27th – 30th	Writing as a Process of Discovery Developing Your Own Writing Style Reading Assignment 6	ppt
<u>Week 11</u> Nov. 3rd – 8th	Topic sentence exercise Argumentation review Parts of speech Reading Assignment 7	ppt
<u>Week 12</u> Nov. 10th – 13th	Slang, clichés, jargon & idioms Proofreading practice CASQ Reading Assignment 8	ppt
<u>Week 13</u> Nov. 17th – 20st	Sentence Fragments Commonly Confused Words Reading Assignment 9	

Week 14

Nov. 24th – 25th

Pronouns

Adjectives and Adverbs

Portfolio 3 is due

Wed. Nov. 26th – Sun. Nov. 30th: Thanksgiving Holiday! No classes

Week 15

Dec. 1st – 4th

Writing a Research Paper

Review for the final exam

Preview ENGL 1302

Reading Assignment 10

Finals

Dec. 8th – 11th

Final Exams