

ENGLISH 1301

FALL, 2020 COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE TITLE: Composition I ENGL 1301- 200
INSTRUCTOR: Joseph Fly E-MAIL: jfly@southplainscollege.edu
OFFICE: # 313 - B PHONE: (806) 716-4634
OFFICE HOURS: MW: 11:00 – 12:00 TTh: 8:30 – 9:30 & 1:00 – 2:00 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* 10th edition – John Langan
- B. COURSE ATTENDANCE: Due to the steps being taken to minimize the effects of the pandemic, the SPC attendance policy is in flux. For this course, an emphasis will be placed on turning in assignments, rather than physical in-person attendance. Basically, students who fail to submit assignment will be dropped from the course, once a 'D' is no longer feasible.
- 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:

- 5 Essays @ 100 pts each 500 points
- The work book 200 points
- The Mid-term exam 100 points
- Discussion Posts @ 5 pts each 100 points
- Final Exam 200 points

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. 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 essays are not accepted. (*LW/NA*)

G. STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Attend class and be aware of announcements made in class.
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 (iPods, cell phones, etc.) 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.

- 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.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS: Any student needing individual counseling for issues such as depression, anxiety, adjustment to college, stress management, and substance abuse may visit the Health and Wellness Center to chat, confidentially, with licensed mental health professionals who provide services free of charge to current SPC students. Call or visit on Levelland Campus 806-716-2529 from 8:00 am – 4:00 pm. Students wanting to set up a counseling session will have an option to be seen face-to-face or teleconference session via Doxy.me or Zoom platform. Both students and Health and Wellness employees will wear a mask during face-to-face appointments. The number of people in an office will be limited to allow for safe social distancing. Signs are posted on the front door advising students not enter if they are showing signs of illness. Students will be escorted to an appropriate office to ensure social distancing is maintained. Any student in need of food or other essentials may visit the food pantry on Levelland Campus. Students can contact Dee Dee Odorizzi (806-716-2236) for more information.

Masks will be required: It is the policy of South Plains College for the Fall 2020 semester that as a condition of on-campus enrollment, all students are required to engage in safe behaviors to avoid the spread of Covid-19 in the SPC community. Such behaviors specifically include the requirement that all students properly wear CDC-compliant face coverings while in SPC buildings including classrooms, labs, hallways and restrooms. Failure to comply with this policy may result in dismissal

from the current classroom session. If the student refuses to leave the classroom after being dismissed, the student may be referred to the appropriate Dean / Director for violations of the Student Code of Conduct.

Keys to success for this Covid – 19 semester:

- **Be flexible** – some things will probably change, and we will go with the flow, but deadlines are absolute. Any changes to the syllabus or assignments will be made well in advance and repeated.
- **Don't get behind** – the semester is short, and it will be very difficult to catch up if you let yourself fall behind. It is so much better to get on top of your assignments and stay ahead of the game.
- **Read!** — this has always been an essential skill in college, but this semester more than ever. You'll need to read each assignment carefully, re-read it, outline or summarize it, then read it again. *Everything*. I won't assign something unless you really need to know it.
- **Ask questions**— you're not expected to have all the answers, but when you don't know something, you will be expected to ask.
- **SPC Email** – I know that many students have gotten away from using email, as more effective means of communication have become popular, but you need to check your SPC email **every day**. The IS (internet services) department will help you forward your SPC email to your phone, if you'd like.
- **Stay safe - be healthy.** Yes, you have to wear a mask. Wash your hands often. If you even *think* you may have the Corona virus, or if you have been exposed to someone who has tested positive- stay home. Let me know and I'll work with to help you finish the semester.

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SYLLABUS

DATE	ASSIGNMENT	PAGES
Mon. Aug. 24th	Introduction to the course Workbook Preview Composition Terms Format	ppt
Wed. Aug. 26th	Introduction to the course Workbook Preview Composition Terms Format	ppt
Mon. Aug. 31st	Description Description essay assignment sheet An Introduction to Writing “How to Make it In College...” Punctuating Titles Types of Paragraphs	204 2 702 ppt
Wed. Sept. 2nd	The Writing Process The First and Second Steps	24-40 52
Mon. Sept. 7th	Labor Day – no classes	
Wed. Sept. 9th	The Third Step The Fourth Step Description Essay Due Narration	85 112
Mon. Sept. 14th	Types of Introductions Common Thesis Errors Topic Sentence Exercise “I Became Her Target”	ppt ppt 653
Wed. Sept. 16th	The Four Steps in Essay Writing - review The Four Bases for evaluating an Essay	147
Mon. Sept. 21st	Specific Examples Exercise “Lou’s Place”	214
Wed. Sept. 23rd	Compare / Contrast Compare / Contrast essay assignment CASQ Parts of speech	305 ppt ppt

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Mon. Sept. 28th	“Cultivating a Resilient Sprit” “Shame” Narration Essay is Due	669 645
Wed. Sept. 30th	Cause and Effect Process	283 265
Mon. Oct. 5th	Definition Division – Classification The Importance of Structure “100 Years of the Secret Garden”	329 350 688
Wed. Oct. 7th	Hyphenated Words Subject-Verb agreement Mid-term exam review	ppt 518
Mon. Oct. 12th	Mid-term exam	
Wed. Oct. 14th	Argumentation Importance of the persuasive thesis Compare / Contrast Essay Due	367 ppt
Mon. Oct. 19th	Argumentation Fallacies “Self-Reliance”	367 ppt 640
Wed. Oct. 21st	Writing as a Process of Discovery Developing Your Own Writing Style	12 ppt
Mon. Oct. 26th	Exemplification Parts of speech “Brainology”	246 ppt 718
Wed. Oct. 28th	Workbook catch up day	

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Mon. Nov. 2nd	Proofreading Practice Topic sentence exercise “The Quiet Struggle of College Students...” 737 “College Lectures, Is Anyone Listening?” 711	
Wed. Nov. 4th	Topic sentence exercise Argumentation review Persuasion Essay I due!	
Mon. Nov. 9th	Writing a Summary Verbs Proofreading exercise “Single-Sex Schools”	410 507 695
Wed. Nov. 11th	Slang, clichés, jargon & idioms Commonly Confused Words Proofreading practice	ppt 600
Mon. Nov. 16th	Topic sentence exercise Sentence Fragments “Is Google Making Us Stupid?”	453 728
Wed. Nov. 18th	Pronouns Persuasion Essay II due!	530-543
Mon. Nov. 23rd	Adjectives and Adverbs “When a Classmate is a Former Inmate”	545 778
November 25th – 27th	Thanksgiving Holiday – no classes	
Mon. Nov. 30th	Information Literacy Big Three Grammar Review Workbook is Due	452
Wed. Dec. 2nd	Writing a Research Paper Review for the final exam Preview ENGL 1302	453
Monday, Dec. 10th	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
Nov. 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 5,000 and 6,000 will receive an 'F'.
Workbooks in the 5,001 – 6,000 range will receive a 'D'; 6,001- 7,000 = 'C';
7,001 – 8,000 = 'B'; and 8,001 – 9,000 = 'A'. (*the numeric equivalent of these letter grades*)

Out of 200 possible points:

5000 words = 120 points

6000 words = 140 points

7000 words = 160 points

8000 words = 180 points

9,000 + words = **200 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. Will college change who you are, or cement it?
4. Will your parenting style be similar to, or different from, your parents'?
5. If you could ensure that your children have the same experience you had as a child, what would it be?
6. If you were granted one wish, what would it be? Why?
7. Do you believe most people are taking the coronavirus seriously enough? Why, or why not?
8. Should prostitution be legalized? Should adultery be illegal?
9. If you could control the social media of any person in the world, who would it be, and why?
10. If you could pick one country, other than the United States, to be the only superpower in the 21st century, which would it be?
11. Should the federal minimum wage be based on age, number of dependents or kept as a single flat rate?
12. How has your life changed as the result of the pandemic?
13. If you could stop aging, physically and mentally, at which age would you want to remain?
14. Has the pandemic caused you to trust the government more or less?
15. What do you consider to be a 'perfect' evening?
16. Would you have a healthy, loving pet put to sleep for \$50,000?
17. What do you believe are the chief reasons for students' academic failure in college?
18. 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.
19. What do you think are the major causes of divorce?
20. Honestly, do you believe that television has done more harm than good to most Americans? Should television be banned or restricted?
21. What do you believe are the main reasons for academic success in college?
22. What would you change about the way the US is handling the corona virus?

Each entry: 350 word minimum 800 word maximum
