

ENGLISH 1301

FALL, 2020 COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE TITLE: Composition I ENGL 1301- 207
INSTRUCTOR: Joseph Fly E-MAIL: jfly@southplainscollege.edu
OFFICE: # 313 - B PHONE: (806) 716-4634
OFFICE HOURS: M/W: 8:30 – 9:30 & 11:00-12:00 T/Th: 1:00 – 2:30 Fri. 8:30 – 9:30

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: Punctual and regular class attendance is required of all students attending South Plains College. Students are responsible for all class work covered during absences. Any student who misses two consecutive weeks, or has six total absences, 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*) **Six (6)** absences is the maximum allowed. 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:

• 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
• <u>Final Exam</u>	<u>100 points</u>
TOTAL POSSIBLE:	1000 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 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. 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.

Keys to success for this 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.** Wear a mask if you haven't received the vaccine. Wash your hands often. Stay home if you feel even a little sick.

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Course Calendar

DATE	ASSIGNMENT	PAGES
<u>Week 1</u>		
Tue. Aug. 31st	Introduction to the course Workbook Preview Composition Terms Format	ppt handout
Thur. Sept. 2nd	Types of Essays Textbook preview Types of Paragraphs Course Q & A	
<u>Week 2</u>		
Tue. Sept. 7th	Description Description essay assignment sheet An Introduction to Writing	204 2
Thur. Sept. 9th	“How to Make it In College...” Punctuating Titles Types of Introductions Common Thesis Errors	702 ppt ppt ppt
<u>Week 3</u>		
Tue. Sept. 14th	The Writing Process The First and Second Steps	24-40 52
Thur. Sept. 16th	The Third Step The Fourth Step Description Essay Due	85 112
<u>Week 4</u>		
Tue. Sept. 21st	Narration Narration Essay Assignment Sheet Topic Sentence Exercise “I Became Her Target”	225-235 653
Thur. Sept. 23rd	The Four Steps in Essay Writing - review The Four Bases for evaluating an Essay	 147

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Week 5

Tue. Sept. 28th	Specific Examples Exercise	
	“Lou’s Place”	214
	Parts of speech	ppt

Thur. Sept. 30th	Compare / Contrast	305
	Compare / Contrast essay assignment	
	CASQ	ppt

Week 6

Tue. Oct. 5th	“Cultivating a Resilient Sprit”	669
	“Shame”	645
	Narration Essay is Due	

Thur. Oct. 7th	Cause and Effect	283
	Process	265

Week 7

Tue. Oct. 12th	Definition	329
	Division – Classification	350
	The Importance of Structure	
	“100 Years of the Secret Garden”	688

Thur. Oct. 14th	Hyphenated Words	ppt
	Subject-Verb agreement	518
	Mid-term exam review	

Week 8

Tue. Oct. 19th	Mid-term exam	
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Thur. Oct. 21st	Argumentation	367
	Importance of the persuasive thesis	ppt
	Compare / Contrast Essay Due	

Week 9

Tue. Oct. 26th	Argumentation	367
	Fallacies	ppt
	“Self-Reliance”	640

Thur. Oct. 28th	Workbook catch up day	
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Week 10

Tue. Nov. 2nd	Writing as a Process of Discovery	12
	Developing Your Own Writing Style	ppt

Thur. Nov. 4th	Exemplification	246
	Parts of speech	ppt
	“Brainology”	718

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Week 11

Tue. Nov. 9th Proofreading Practice
 Topic sentence exercise
 “The Quiet Struggle of College Students...” 737
 “College Lectures, Is Anyone Listening?” 711

Thur. Nov. 11th Topic sentence exercise
 Argumentation review
Persuasion Essay I due!

Week 12

Tue. Nov. 16th Writing a Summary 410
 Verbs 507
 Proofreading exercise
 “Single-Sex Schools” 695

Thur. Nov. 18th Slang, clichés, jargon & idioms ppt
 Commonly Confused Words 600
 Proofreading practice

Week 13

Tue. Nov. 23rd Topic sentence exercise
 Sentence Fragments 453
 “Is Google Making Us Stupid?” 728

November 25th – 27th Thanksgiving Holiday – no classes

Week 14

Tue. Nov. 30th Pronouns 530-543
Persuasion Essay II due!

Thur. Dec. 2nd Adjectives and Adverbs 545
 “When a Classmate is a Former Inmate” 778

Week 15

Tue. Dec. 7th Information Literacy 452
 Big Three Grammar Review
Workbook is Due

Thur. Dec. 9th Writing a Research Paper 453
 Review for the final exam
 Preview ENGL 1302

12/13 – 12/16 Final Exams TBA

THE WORKBOOK 5.5

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
December 7th, 2021
- ◆ 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. If you could change the name of any city or town in America, which would it be, and what would you change it to?
4. Who is your biggest inspiration?
5. Other than income, what are the benefits of having a job? Should every able-bodied adult have a job?
6. If you were granted one magical wish, what would it be? Why?
7. If you could change one thing about how the pandemic was handled, what would it be?
8. Should prostitution be legalized? Should adultery be illegal?
9. If you could instantly teleport to any place on the planet, where would it be? (*just one place- there and back, as often as you wanted*)
10. If you could be a major, world-famous artist in just one field – painting, sculpture, music, drama, cinema, dance or architecture, which one would you choose?
11. Should the federal minimum wage be based on age, number of dependents or kept as a single flat rate?
12. If you could stop aging, physically and mentally, at which age would you want to remain?
13. Has the pandemic caused you to trust the government more or less?
14. What do you consider to be a ‘perfect’ evening?
15. If you could write a letter to any fictional character, who would it be, and what would you say?
16. What do you believe are the chief reasons for students' academic failure in college?
17. How has your life changed as the result of the pandemic?
18. What do you think are the major causes of divorce?
19. Honestly, do you believe that television has done more harm than good to most Americans? Should television be banned or restricted?
20. What do you believe are the main reasons for academic success in college?
21. What would you change about the way the US is handling the corona virus?

Each entry:
350 word minimum
800 word maximum