



**Class: ENGL 1301 Composition I**

**Instructor: Wendy Esch**

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**Zoom: By appt.** <https://southplainscollege.zoom.us/j/7683091604>

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**Office Hours:**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m		9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m	9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

**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.

**Prerequisite:** Students must be TSI-complete or waived in both writing and reading.

**Credit:** 3 **Lecture:** 3 **Lab:** 0

**This course partially satisfies a Core Curriculum Requirement:** Communications Foundational Component Area (010)

**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. Write essays that exhibit logic, unity, development, and coherence.

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 American English, with an emphasis on correct grammar, parallelism, punctuation, spelling, and mechanics, in language appropriate for academic essays.
7. Write a minimum of six 500-word essays.

**Student Learning Outcomes Assessment:** A writing assignment graded by a rubric will be used to determine the extent of improvement that the students have gained during the semester.

**Textbook:**

Langan, John. *College Writing Skills with Readings*. 11<sup>th</sup> ed., McGraw-Hill. **Note: This textbook is required for dual-credit ENGL 1301 courses:**

- ISBN for ebook in TexBook program: 9781266135910 (If this course has been placed in the TexBook program, the ebook is included in the cost of the course)

**Supplies:**

- Three-ring binder to keep class notes, PowerPoint printouts, and essay materials.

**Technology Requirements:**

1. **SPC username and password:** email [helpdesk@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:helpdesk@southplainscollege.edu) or call the SPC Help Desk at 806-716-2600 for help with your username/password
2. **SPC student email access:**
  - **SPC Student Email Account:** If you haven't already, you must go ahead and activate your SPC student email account. Not only will you need access to your SPC email account to receive TURNITIN digital paper submission receipts for our class, but you must use it to communicate with me.
    - Your SPC Email address is: **yourSPCusername@southplainscollege.edu** (ex. [jsmith1234@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:jsmith1234@southplainscollege.edu)).
    - Your student email password is the same as your Blackboard password. If you need help, call the SPC Help Desk at 806-716-2600.
    - To access your SPC email account, log in to [MySPC here](#)
    - You can also set up access to your SPC email account through mobile phone mail apps, such as default smartphone Mail app or the Outlook app.
    - Check with the SPC Help Desk for assistance: 806-716-2600.
3. **Regular access to a computer and reliable internet service:**
  - Open computer labs are available free to students with an SPC I.D. on all SPC campuses (Levelland, Reese, Lubbock, Plainview).
  - Computer or internet connection problems may occur for you at some point this semester. **Understand that it is your responsibility to find alternate computers you may use to submit your work on time.** Find your alternate resources **now**; do not wait until you suddenly need them! Line up three friends TODAY who would be willing to loan you a laptop if yours suddenly crashes.
  - Free WiFi is available in all SPC campus buildings, some SPC parking lots, most coffee shops, etc.

4. **Blackboard:** grades, assignments, quizzes, videos, and many other resources for this class are accessed through the Blackboard learning management system. Use your SPC credentials to log in here: <https://southplainscollege.blackboard.com>
5. **Office 365: Word and PowerPoint:** You are required to use Microsoft Word to create papers for this course. As a member of the SPC community, you have free access to Office 365. Office 365 provides free online access to Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft PowerPoint, and 1TB of free online storage with Microsoft OneDrive. You can use Office 365 online or download for free and install to your PC, Mac, or mobile device.
  - To access Office 365 for free as an SPC student, go to <https://www.office.com> and sign in with the following credentials:  
SPCusername@southplainscollege.edu and your SPC password.
  - You can then click the link for the individual application you want to use online, or click the install office link towards the top right to install the application to your computer.
6. **Adobe Reader:** Available to download free from this website:  
<http://www.adobe.com/products/reader.html>

**Computer Help:** need help with your computer, laptop, email address, username/password?

- [helpdesk@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:helpdesk@southplainscollege.edu)
- 806-716-2600

**Ebook Help:**

- McGraw-Hill: [https://mhedu.force.com/CXG/s/ContactUs?external\\_browser=2](https://mhedu.force.com/CXG/s/ContactUs?external_browser=2)
- TexBook Information (Inclusive Access):  
<https://www.southplainscollege.edu/texbook.php>
- TexBook Help: <https://solve.redshelf.com/hc/en-us>
- SPC Bookstore: [tfewell@texasbook.com](mailto:tfewell@texasbook.com) or [agamble@texasbook.com](mailto:agamble@texasbook.com)

**Blackboard Help:**

1. **Get Help by Email:** [blackboard@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:blackboard@southplainscollege.edu)
  - Be sure to include your full name, your instructor's name, the course and section you are enrolled in, and a detailed description of the problem.
  - The blackboard@southplainscollege.edu account is monitored from 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m., Monday – Sunday.
  - You can expect a response within 24 hours by email; however, the average response time is less than one hour.
2. **Get Help by Phone:** 806-716-2180 (available between 8 AM and 4 PM Monday through Friday, except on holidays)
3. **Get Help Online:** click on the Help link listed in the Blackboard course menu.

**FREE TUTORING:**

- Visit the Tutoring Information link to view the drop-in tutoring schedule or to learn how to book an appointment:  
<http://www.southplainscollege.edu/exploreprograms/artsandsciences/teacheredtutoring.php>
- Tutor.com is also FREE to you when SPC tutors are not available. You have three hours per week for free to utilize these after-hours tutors.

- To access Tutor.com, log into Blackboard and click on **Course Resources**. Use the Tutor.com link provided on that page.
- Tutor.com hours:
  - Monday-Thursday 8:00 PM-8:00 AM
  - Friday 6:00 PM-8:00 AM
  - Saturday-Sunday 24/7
- Tutoring Questions:
  - Email: [tutoring@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:tutoring@southplainscollege.edu)
  - Phone: 806-716-2538

**Course Syllabus and Organization:**

- This syllabus is available on the **Syllabus and Schedule** page in our Blackboard course.
- The course calendar is available on the Syllabus and Schedule tab.
- The course is organized into sixteen weeks. Each week has its own folder on the **Course Content** page in our Blackboard course.
- A weekly planner and assignment checklist is provided for each week.

**Assignment Deadlines:**

The weekly assignment deadline is Tuesday at 12:00 PM (noon) with the following exceptions, which are due Friday at 12:00 PM (noon) in the weeks they are assigned:

- Outlines
- Peer Review Workshops (each student is assigned a peer's essay draft to review)

Be advised – I will accept late work up to a week past the due date, but it will incur a deduction.

Discussion and Peer Review assignments are the exception to the late policy (since they are group work, they cannot be accepted late.)

**Course Evaluation:** A final letter grade will be assigned based on this grading scale: A (90-100), B (80-89), C (70-79), D (60-69), F (59 and below). Essay portfolio grades are usually made up of an outline, peer review workshop, and final draft.

<b>Definition Essay Portfolio Grade:</b>	<b>12%</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Outline 10%</b></li> <li>• <b>Peer Review Workshop 20%</b></li> <li>• <b>Final Draft 70%</b></li> </ul>	
<b>Comparison/Contrast Essay Portfolio Grade:</b>	<b>15%</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Outline 10%</b></li> <li>• <b>Peer Review Workshop 20%</b></li> <li>• <b>Final Draft 70%</b></li> </ul>	
<b>Cause/Effect Essay Portfolio Grade:</b>	<b>18%</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Outline 10%</b></li> <li>• <b>Peer Review Workshop 20%</b></li> <li>• <b>Final Draft 70%</b></li> </ul>	
<b>Argument Essay Portfolio Grade:</b>	<b>20%</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Works Cited 4%</b></li> <li>• <b>Outline 6%</b></li> <li>• <b>Peer Review Workshop 20%</b></li> <li>• <b>Final Draft 70%</b></li> </ul>	
<b>Quizzes/Assignments:</b>	<b>20% (4 lowest scores are dropped)</b>

<b>Daily Grade:</b>	<b>5% (participation grade; drop 2 lowest)</b>
<b>Attendance:</b>	<b>5%</b>
<b>Final Exam:</b>	<b>5%</b>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>100%</b>

*\*Up to 3 extra credit points may be earned by completing extra credit assignments. Extra Credit assignments are available on the **Additional Resources** page in our Blackboard course.*

### **Essay Assessment Guidelines:**

Essays may earn grades ranging from A to F based on the instructor's grading scale. Depending on the assignment, certain criteria may be weighted more than others, and the instructor's assignment may establish additional, more specific criteria. The quality of each of the criteria determines the letter grade. Not every essay will fit a single grade's description completely. Instructors may also include process assignments and drafts in their assessment of the final grade.

#### **"A" Essay (Superior)**

To earn an "A," a paper meets all of the criteria below:

1. The paper fulfills all the basic requirements of the assignment (for example, topic, purpose, length, format).
2. **Unity:** The paper states a clear thesis, all topic sentences strongly support the thesis, and body paragraphs are unified around their topic sentences. The essay conveys a clear purpose and is tailored to a distinctive audience.
3. **Support:** Body paragraphs contain abundant, fresh details and examples that provide specific, concrete, logical evidence. If sources are required, the paper accurately integrates and correctly documents credible source material to add insight, sophistication, and complexity to the paper's ideas.
4. **Coherence:** The organization of the paper is excellent and logical (emphatic order, chronological order, etc.), transitions are sophisticated, and the paper exhibits mastery of basic components (introduction, conclusion, and body paragraph structure).
5. **Sentence Skills:** The paper contains no major errors (fragment, fused sentence, comma splice, subject-verb agreement, pronoun reference or agreement, verb form) and is virtually free of other grammar, spelling, wrong word, punctuation, mechanical, or point of view errors. Word choice and sentence variety (simple, compound, complex) are effective and powerful.

#### **"B" Essay (Strong)**

To earn a "B," a paper meets all of the criteria below:

1. The paper fulfills all the basic requirements of the assignment (for example, topic, purpose, length, format).
2. **Unity:** The paper states a clear thesis, all topic sentences directly support the thesis, and body paragraphs display unity. The essay conveys good awareness of purpose and audience.
3. **Support:** Body paragraphs are well-developed with specific details, examples, and sound logic. If sources are required, the paper accurately uses and correctly documents credible source material to supplement its ideas.
4. **Coherence:** The organization of the paper is clear and helpful, transitions are helpful, and the paper exhibits strong basic components (introduction, conclusion, and body paragraph structure).

5. **Sentence Skills:** The paper contains no more than two major errors (fragment, fused sentence, comma splice, subject-verb agreement, pronoun reference or agreement, verb form) and very few other grammar, spelling, wrong word, punctuation, mechanical, or point of view errors. Word choice and sentence variety are strong.

### **“C” Paper (Acceptable)**

To earn a “C,” a paper meets all of the criteria below:

1. The paper fulfills all the basic requirements of the assignment (for example, topic, purpose, length, format).
2. **Unity:** A thesis is stated but may lack a strong claim or be obvious or predictable; topic sentences adequately support the thesis. One error in paragraph unity may occur. The essay’s purpose and audience are adequately conveyed.
3. **Support:** Body paragraphs contain relevant details or logical reasons but need more specific examples/evidence. If sources are required, credible outside sources are usually integrated and cited correctly.
4. **Coherence:** Organization of ideas is satisfactory, transitions are logical, and the paper indicates competence in basic components (introduction, conclusion, and body paragraph structure).
5. **Sentence Skills:** The paper contains no more than four major errors (fragment, fused sentence, comma splice, subject-verb agreement, pronoun reference or agreement, verb form). Some other grammar, spelling, wrong word, punctuation, mechanical, or point of view errors are present but not distracting. Word choice and sentence variety are strong.

### **“D” Paper (Developing)**

To earn a “D,” a paper will exhibit *one or more* of the weaknesses below:

1. The paper only partially fulfills one or more of the basic requirements of the assignment (for example, topic, purpose, length, format).
2. **Unity:** The thesis may announce the topic but no claim, contain more than one idea, or be too vague, too broad, or too narrow. Topic sentences are not tied to the thesis. Two errors in paragraph unity may occur. Essay conveys little awareness of audience or purpose.
3. **Support:** Details are sparse or vague and consist of generalizations, clichés, or repetition. If applicable, sources are insufficient and/or not always integrated or cited correctly.
4. **Coherence:** Organization is attempted but disjointed or confusing; transitions are sparse. The paper indicates awareness of but not competence in basic components (introduction, conclusion, and body paragraph structure).
5. **Sentence Skills:** The paper contains no more than six major errors (fragment, fused sentence, comma splice, subject-verb agreement, pronoun reference or agreement, verb form). Several other grammar, spelling, wrong word, punctuation, mechanical, or point of view errors distract from the content. Informal word choices occur with little or no variety in sentence type and length.

### **“F” Paper (Unacceptable)**

To earn an “F,” a paper will exhibit *one or more* of the weaknesses below:

1. The paper fails to fulfill one or more of the basic requirements of the assignment (for example, topic, purpose, length, format).
2. **Unity:** The thesis is illogical, incomplete, or missing, so the essay lacks focus on one central idea. Topic sentences are missing, so body paragraphs lack unity. The essay ignores the purpose and audience.

3. **Support:** Details are illogical, irrelevant, or missing from body paragraphs. If sources are required, the paper fails to use sources, does not meet the minimum source requirements, uses source material inaccurately, uses sources that are not credible, fails to document fully or correctly, and/or includes plagiarism.
4. **Coherence:** Organization is incoherent, transitions are missing or illogical, or the paper indicates lack of competence in basic paper components (for example, lack of introduction and/or conclusion, lack of paragraphing).
5. **Sentence Skills:** Seven or more major errors (fragment, fused sentence, comma splice, subject-verb agreement, pronoun reference or agreement, verb form) occur with numerous other grammar, spelling, wrong word, punctuation, mechanical, or point of view errors. Word choice is often inaccurate, immature, or inappropriate. Multiple sentence structure/syntax errors make the paper difficult or almost impossible to read. If one type or a combination of types of errors, regardless of whether they are major or minor, seriously affects the readability of a paper, it will receive an "F."

#### **Essay Portfolios Folder:**

1. The Essay Portfolios folder is located in Blackboard toward the top of the **Course Content**. The Essay Portfolios folder is a central location where all essay-related assignments and activities are submitted and completed:
  - Outlines
  - Outline Review
  - Initial Essay Drafts
  - Peer Review Workshops
  - Final Drafts
2. Outline Review: I will review the student's outline, focusing mainly on the thesis, topic sentences, and rephrased thesis. It is your responsibility to review the feedback and make the revisions accordingly.
3. Peer Review Workshops: these are comprehensive peer review experiences. Students review one other student's initial draft, rating it on the rubric criteria of unity, support, coherence, and sentence skills. Scale ratings are used and written comments are sometimes required.

#### **Student Responsibilities:** Students are expected to

1. Be responsible for the learning process, including preparation for class, such as reading and homework; participation in class discussions, including asking relevant questions; and accepting responsibility for not understanding an assignment or failing an assignment
2. Be responsible for using appropriate language in academic environments; not use condescending, inflammatory, threatening, or profane rhetoric, whether verbally or in written form, in academic environments
3. Have respectful behavior toward instructor and classmates in order to contribute to the online atmosphere necessary for learning
4. 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
5. Submit all assignments in accordance with due dates, formats, and requirements
6. Avoid all forms of cheating and plagiarism on all assignments, including improper collaboration
7. Ask questions when something is unclear.

**Attendance Policy:** I recommend that you access our course at least three times a week to work on the week's assignments. To experience more success, do not procrastinate and attempt to complete a whole week's assignments the day (or night!) before they are due.

You should log in to Blackboard frequently and check your Course Messages, Announcements, and SPC email daily. I will post announcements and send emails regularly.

If you have not submitted any assignments by the twelfth-class day, your access to the course will be blocked and the Registrar's Office will remove you from my class roster.

Be advised – I will accept late work (with the exception of discussions and peer reviews since they are group assignments) but it will incur a deduction.

**Dropping our class:** Before you withdraw from our class, please contact me or talk to your advisor. There may be a way for you to get back on track.

- Check the SPC Academic Calendar here to find out the last day to drop a course for this semester: <http://www.southplainscollege.edu/academiccalendar/index.php>
- To drop this class, fill out and submit this form online: [https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=ZrGRbWrP6UWElqAmJdCCqVjMnZs6h15Nrs0pqCo\\_sEIUODEXTUFXS0J0ODhJOTIYM0NEV1kzRk9GMSQIQCN0PWcu](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=ZrGRbWrP6UWElqAmJdCCqVjMnZs6h15Nrs0pqCo_sEIUODEXTUFXS0J0ODhJOTIYM0NEV1kzRk9GMSQIQCN0PWcu)
- You are not required to obtain an instructor signature to drop. There will be no charge for drops for the fall or spring semesters.
- For additional information regarding schedule changes, drops and withdrawals, [click here](#).

**Withdrawing from all SPC classes:** If you wish to withdraw from all courses, initiate that process with the Advising Office. Schedule an appointment with an advisor by visiting <http://www.southplainscollege.edu/admission-aid/advising/spcadvisors.php> or by calling 806-716-2366.

**Plagiarism and Cheating:** 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.

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

1. Turning in a paper that 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 and citing them; or
4. Missing in-text citations.

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;
7. Copying another's work during an examination or on a homework assignment;
8. Rewriting another student's work in Peer Editing so that the writing is no longer the original student's;
9. Taking pictures of a test, test answers, or someone else's paper.

**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.

#### **4.1.1.1. Diversity Statement**

In this class, the teacher will establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group difference and encourages engagement and interaction. Understanding and respecting multiple experiences and perspectives will serve to challenge and stimulate all of us to learn about others, about the larger world and about ourselves. By promoting diversity and intellectual exchange, we will not only mirror society as it is, but also model society as it should and can be.

#### **4.1.1.2. Disabilities 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, Lubbock Centers (located at the Lubbock Downtown Center) 806-716-4675, or Plainview Center (Main Office) 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611.

#### **4.1.1.3 Non-Discrimination Statement**

South Plains College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Vice President for Student Affairs, South Plains College, 1401 College Avenue, Box 5, Levelland, TX 79336. Phone number 806-716-2360.

#### **4.1.1.4 Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations Statement**

If you are pregnant, or have given birth within six months, Under Title IX you have a right to reasonable accommodations to help continue your education. To [activate](#) accommodations you must submit a Title IX pregnancy accommodations request, along with specific medical documentation, to the Health and Wellness Center. Once approved, notification will be sent to the student and instructors. It is the student's responsibility to work with the instructor to arrange accommodations. Contact the Health and Wellness Center at 806-716-2529 or [email dburleson@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:dburleson@southplainscollege.edu) for assistance.

#### **4.1.1.5 OPTIONAL STATEMENT - Campus [Concealed Carry](#) Statement**

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. For a list of locations and Frequently Asked Questions, please refer to the Campus Carry page at: <http://www.southplainscollege.edu/campuscarry.php>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all South Plains College campuses. Report violations to the College Police Department at 806-716-2396 or 9-1-1.

Note: The instructor reserves the right to modify the course syllabus and policies, as well as notify students of any changes, at any point during the semester.