

Composition II: ENGL 1302 Online Summer 2024 Course Syllabus

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Office Hours: Available by appointment:

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Course Description

This course is a continuation of ENGL 1301 and an intensive study of and practice in the strategies and techniques for developing researched-based expository and persuasive texts, along with being an introduction to literature. The course emphasizes effective and ethical rhetorical inquiry, including primary and secondary research methods; critical reading of a sampling of literary, verbal, visual, and multimedia texts; systematic evaluation, synthesis, and documentation of information sources; and critical thinking about evidence and conclusions.

Prerequisite: Grade of “C” or better in ENGL 1301.

Course Purpose: English 1302 has a two-fold purpose: it encourages critical writing by introducing the students to research and writing from sources, and it introduces the students to the study of literature, including short stories, drama, and poetry.

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:

- Demonstrate knowledge of individual and collaborative research processes.
- Develop ideas and synthesize primary and secondary sources within focused academic arguments, including one or more research-based essays.
- Analyze, interpret, and evaluate a variety of texts for the ethical and logical uses of evidence.
- Apply critical thinking to the study of literature and write essays which demonstrate that critical thinking.
- Use edited American English to write in a style that clearly communicates meaning, builds credibility, and inspires belief or action.
- Apply the conventions of style manuals for specific academic disciplines (e.g., APA, CMS, MLA, etc.)
- Read and view videos of works of literature; analyze the use of literary devices (plot, point of view, theme, characterization, setting, symbolism, tone, etc.); participate in class discussions

of the readings; and be tested over their understanding of the readings and lectures through quizzes, examinations, and/or written assignments.

Textbook & Supply Requirements

TexBook Program: This course is in the SPC TexBook program, so you do not need to purchase a textbook or access code for this course.

- *What is TexBook?* The required textbook/digital content for this course is available to you in Blackboard from the first day of class. The charge for the textbook/digital content is the lowest price available from the publisher and bookstore and is included in your tuition.
- *How do I access my TexBook?* Your course material is in your Blackboard course from the first day of class. Access to your course material is provided either by VitalSource or other links inside your Blackboard course. VitalSource (and many publisher's) eBook features include the ability to hear the text read aloud, highlight, take notes, create flash cards, see word definitions, build study guides, print select pages, and download 100% of the book for offline access.
- *Help with TexBook issues and support:* check with your professor or visit: <https://support.vitalsource.com/hc/en-us/requests/new> (available 24/7 via chat, email, phone, and text)
- *Opting out of TexBook:* Participating in TexBook is not mandatory, and you can choose to opt out. However, by opting out you will lose access to the course textbook/digital content and competitive pricing, and you will need to purchase the required course material on your own. If you drop the class or opt-out before the opt-out deadline, the TexBook fee will be automatically refunded to your SPC account. The opt-out deadline for Fall and Spring is the twelfth class day. The opt-out deadline for shorter terms varies between the second and third class day.

*Please consult with your professor before deciding to opt-out. If you still feel that you should purchase the course textbook/materials on your own, send an opt-out email to pwells@texasbook.com. Include your first name, last name, student ID number, and the course you are opting out of. Once you have been opted-out, you will receive a confirmation email. If you need assistance with the process, contact the SPC Bookstore:

Email: pwells@texasbook.com / Phone: 806-716-2097

Email: agamble@texasbook.com / Phone: 806-716-4610

Required Software & Materials

You will need access to a laptop or computer for this course to complete your writing activities and class assignments. If you need a personal device to use outside of class, you can request to borrow a Chromebook from the SPC Library. For more information, see:

<https://library.southplainscollege.edu/c.php?g=1021659&p=7400614>

You are required to have access to the following technology & software:

- Blackboard
- Cengage, *Portable Literature*, 10e with MindTap (included in course)
- Microsoft Word (available through Office 365 for free to SPC students)
- Webcam or smartphone camera with audio recording (for Flipgrid)

Communication

The best way to contact me is via email at kejackson@southplainscollege.edu. I will respond to emails as quickly as possible during regular business hours (M-F, 8-5). In the evenings and on the weekends, please allow up to 48 hours for a response. As I make every effort to be current and prompt with my email, I ask that you do the same. You should check your official SPC email at least once per day, and you are responsible for all information disseminated via email about the course. To protect your privacy as a student, I ask that all emails originate from your official SPC email address. I cannot guarantee that emails from a third-party account (Gmail, Yahoo, Hotmail, etc.) will be read or responded to. I only prioritize emails that are written by an actual human student in my course. To ensure a timely reply, I advise that you do not use ChatGPT or other chat bots to write your emails to me.

In all correspondence with me (and I recommend with all your instructors), you should communicate at the level of a college student by including your course/section number, a useful subject line, a salutation, and complete sentences.

SPC Student Email Account: If you haven't already, you must go ahead and activate your SPC student email account.

- Your SPC Email address is: yourSPCusername@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 and click the Unread Messages: South Plains College O365 link at the bottom of the page.
- 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.

Attendance

This is an online, asynchronous course. There is no face-to-face component for the course. Your “attendance” is measured in course participation, including regularly accessing the course and completing assignments. Failure to participate in the course for a week or more may result in a drop from the course with an X. You should log in to Blackboard at least once every 72 hours.

This course covers the same amount of material as a regular semester of English 1302 in about one-third the time, and you should not expect to be successful in an asynchronous online course without investing a comparable amount of time to your learning and coursework as you would in the classroom. For perspective, in a face-to-face class during the five-week summer sessions, you would be in the classroom for 8 hours a week, and you would spend roughly the same number of hours outside of class meetings on readings, writing assignments, and preparing for exams.

Grading Policy

Final grades are calculated as follows:

Perusall Assignments (10)	15%
Literature Unit Exams (5)	20%
Essay Drafts & Research Process Work	20%
Research Paper Final Draft	30%
Video Notes & Quizzes	15%

Student grades may be interpreted as follows:

- A—Excellent (90-100)
- B—Good (80-89)
- C—Average (70-79)
- D—Below Average (60-69)
- F—Failure (59 and below)

General Guidelines for Major Assignments

All major papers should meet the guidelines of the assignment prompt and be properly formatted in MLA 9th edition. Points will be deducted for final drafts that do not meet basic formatting standards for a college essay. This includes:

- 12 pt. serif font (Times New Roman or Garamond recommended)
- Double-spaced
- Centered title
- Left-aligned body paragraphs
- Correctly indented paragraphs
- Correct margins
- Correctly formatted Works Cited page with hanging indents for all citations.

For a more detailed MLA reference, see: <https://www.scribbr.com/mla/formatting/>.

It is **strongly** recommended that students use Google Docs for writing all essays in the course to maintain an edit history, which may be requested for verification at any time. Completed assignments should be downloaded as a readable Microsoft Word file or PDF file to submit to Blackboard. It is your responsibility to make sure you receive submission confirmation and that your file is readable in the preview on Blackboard when turning in assignments. Any submission that is blank or corrupt is considered late until properly submitted. Essays that do not reach at least 50% of a minimum length requirement do not constitute an acceptable attempt at the assignment and receive a zero by default.

Late Assignment Policy for Major Assignments:

All deadlines are at 11:59 p.m., with an additional grace period until 8 a.m. the following day when the late penalty goes into effect. The late penalty is 5% per day up to one week after the deadline. Projects are not accepted more than a week after the deadline. Extension requests up to two days are granted for students who email by noon on the assignment's scheduled due date with a specific date the assignment will be turned in. **Note that this policy only applies to major projects. Late work is not accepted for any reason on quizzes, activities, exams, or discussions.**

In the event of technical issues, you may email **the completed assignment** to me ahead of the deadline to avoid the late penalty, but you must submit to Blackboard properly once the issue is

resolved with IT support. I cannot, under any circumstances, grade an assignment via email. All coursework **must** be submitted through Blackboard to receive a grade.

Always backup your electronic files. The best practice is to store digital files in at least two locations. Develop a strategy for consistently and frequently backing up your digital files, whether that is through a cloud service like Dropbox or Microsoft OneDrive, a flash drive, or another mechanism. A lost file or a crashed computer is not an excuse for late work in this class.

Grading Procedures:

Essay grades are returned within two weeks; on average, you can expect them within ten days. I will provide feedback via TurnItIn. You are responsible for reading and understanding all grading feedback. If feedback is given for a process step in a multi-component assignment, new comments are given once previous feedback has been applied. If a student does not open any feedback throughout the course, I reserve the right to refrain from further writing feedback until all previous feedback is accessed.

You are welcome to ask questions about your grading feedback; however, I ask that you wait at least 24 hours after an assignment has been returned to do so. Any disputes or requests for review of an assignment grade should be brought to my attention within a week after grades are returned and [cite the specific rubric categories of concern](#).

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. All rubrics are available in Blackboard.

Perusall (Literature Annotations)

You will complete your reading of our most major texts in the course through the Literature Annotations assignments, which are completed in Perusall. Perusall is a social annotation platform where you will complete a multi-step assignment that may include videos, reading, and other media and provide annotations with your peers as part of our ongoing literary discussion. Reading and thinking critically about literature is the foundation of this course, and these assignments are the most important part of your coursework to start with each week. You are strongly encouraged to start these early in the week for the best outcomes in learning the concepts of each week's material.

These graded assignments are scored based on Perusall's algorithm that includes a variety of tasks that fall into two basic categories: (1) quality of annotation and (2) overall engagement with the assignment. You accumulate points for a variety of interactions, but the best strategy for high scores accumulated in Perusall is:

- Start early in the week and invest time in each step of the assignment, including video components. Interact with the assignment on multiple days throughout the week.
- Leave high-quality, substantive comments throughout each component of the assignment.
- Engage with your peers by asking questions, replying to others, and liking comments.

Perusall utilizes TurnItIn similarity software and detection for non-human content. It will also detect any comments or responses that have been copied from elsewhere and pasted into a Perusall comment. Any pasted comments are removed and earn zero points the first time. A second incident and beyond will result in a zero for the assignment. If you are concerned about spell-check and grammar, use the Grammarly browser extension (or any other grammar browser extension) to check your work as you type directly into Perusall.

Unit Exams

Each week you will complete an exam that covers the week's unit and concepts. These are proctored with HonorLock, timed, and limited to one sitting. The exam opens on Wednesday each week and must be completed by Sunday at 11:59 PM. No late exams are permitted without prior arrangements.

Video Notes & Quizzes

You will complete Video Notes and Quizzes each week as part of your learning content. These must be completed by Sunday at 11:59 PM in the week they are due to receive credit. There is no late work or make-up opportunity for Video Notes & Quizzes for any reason. The lowest three scores will be dropped at the end of the term to account for any missed work due to unexpected circumstances.

Blackboard

We will also use Blackboard in this course. You may access the Blackboard login page at southplainscollege.blackboard.com. Do not—under any circumstances—give your username and/or password to anyone else or allow anyone else to log in to your Blackboard account. Doing so will be viewed as academic dishonesty and will be treated as such.

If you need technical support for Blackboard, please contact the Instructional Technology Department at blackboard@southplainscollege.edu. Include your name, student ID, the name of the course you're taking, a description of the problem you are having.

Like all other areas of this course, there are no exceptions to the late work policy, for any reason, including technical difficulties.

Student Code of Conduct

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 which 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.

Literature Disclaimer

This is a college-level literature course, and you should expect the themes in our course read to reflect this accordingly. Many of our stories contain adult situations, including (but not limited to) profanity, death, violence, sexuality, or drug use. You should be prepared to handle these things with maturity as a student enrolled in a college-level literature course. If you are sensitive to mentions of suicide, sexual abuse, or child loss, you should reach out to me early in the semester to discuss specific readings and your options.

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

It is the aim of the faculty at South Plains College to foster a spirit of complete honesty and a high standard of integrity. The attempt of any student to present as his or her own any work which he or she has not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a most serious offense. Students are expected to do their own work on all projects, quizzes, assignments, and papers. Failure to comply with this policy may result in an F for the assignment and/or an F for the course if circumstances warrant.

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

- Using Artificial Intelligence websites or apps to generate 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; or
- Missing in-text citations.

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

- Obtaining an examination by stealing or collusion;
- Discovering the content of an examination before it is given;
- Using an unauthorized source of information (notes, textbook, texting, internet, Quizlet, etc.) during an examination, quiz, or homework assignment;
- Entering an office or building to obtain unfair advantage;
- Taking an examination for another;
- Altering grade records;
- Copying another's work during an examination or on a homework assignment;
- Rewriting another student's work in Peer Editing so that the writing is no longer the original student's;
- Taking pictures of a test, test answers, or someone else's paper.

There is zero tolerance for academic dishonesty in this course. Plagiarism or academic dishonesty of any kind will automatically result in a 0 for the assignment. Assignments that earn a zero for plagiarism cannot be made-up under any circumstances and will be reported to South Plains College. Do not attempt to submit an assignment for this course that you also submitted to another course without my express approval. Do not, under any circumstances, turn in another student's work as your own. Do not, under any circumstances, give your work to anyone else for any reason.

Artificial Intelligence Statement & Procedure

I have an ethical responsibility to ensure that all students receive credit for only work that they have originally and authentically produced, and the learning outcomes of English 1302 rely on your own reading, writing, and thinking. It is simply not possible or ethical to meet these outcomes with the use of generative AI in our course. Accordingly, you're expected to refrain from all usage of

generative AI in the production of your work. This includes (but is not limited to) using AI for any of the following:

- To generate words, phrases, or sentences use in an assignment
- To produce ideas, claims, or interpretations in substitute of original thinking
- To outline, organize, or otherwise direct the composition of your own work
- To spin, elevate, enhance, or rewrite your work

As a student writer in the age of AI, it is your responsibility to uphold high standards of integrity in your work and maintain complete ownership of the ideas and language therein. Any work containing indications of AI involvement or other ethical violations must go through verification to receive credit. Google Docs, which tracks the editing history of your work in detail, is the best way to protect your integrity in the event that any concerns are raised. Students should be prepared to share the Google Docs file with editing history for any essay assignment upon request for review. Assignments under integrity review may also be subject to an instructor conference, verbal review, or additional proctored writing sample to be eligible for credit. If authorship cannot be confirmed after exhausting all methods available, the assignment is in violation of the integrity policy and earns a zero.

Students have the right to decline to verify their work. If a request for verification is not answered within one week, it will be assumed that the student has exercised their right to decline an opportunity to claim authorship of their work. In doing so, the assignment will be assigned a zero per the integrity standards of the course.

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, get to know the tutors, and view tutoring locations.
<http://www.southplainscollege.edu/exploreprograms/artsandsciences/teacheredtutoring.php>

Tutor.com

You also have 180 FREE minutes of tutoring with tutor.com each week, and your hours reset every Monday morning. Log into Blackboard, click on the tutor.com link on the left-hand tool bar and grab a session with a tutor. You can access tutor.com tutors during the following times:
Monday – Thursday: 8pm-8am
6pm Friday – 8am Monday morning

Disclaimer

Because we will use Blackboard to conduct a portion of this class, please note that the materials you may be accessing in chat rooms, bulletin boards, or unofficial web pages are not officially sponsored by South Plains College. The United States Constitution rights of free speech apply to all members of our community regardless of the medium used. We disclaim all liability for data, information or opinions expressed in these forums.

For information regarding Intellectual Exchange, Disabilities, Non-Discrimination, Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations, CARE (Campus Assessment, Response, and Evaluation) Team, and Campus Concealed Carry, use the following link: [Syllabus Statements \(southplainscollege.edu\)](https://southplainscollege.edu).
