

ENGL-1301
Composition I Online
Summer I 2019

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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.

Core Curriculum Objectives

This course will address the following core curriculum competencies:

- **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 appropriately for 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.

Free Online Textbook

There is no physical textbook required for the course. Successful College Composition is the free online textbook that we will utilize this semester. Here is the link.

<https://oer.galileo.usg.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1007&context=english-textbooks>

Software Requirements

You are required to have access to the following technologies:

- High-speed Internet connection
- Web browser
- Blackboard account
- Microsoft Word (more information can be found on the 'Required Technologies' page in Blackboard)
- Skype (optional)

Communication

You can reach me in one of three ways: you can email me at wesch@southplainscollege.edu, call my office at 806-716-2446 and leave a message, or make an appointment to Skype with me.

I return emails and calls within 24 hours. However, I may not be immediately available to you should you need something, so please do not wait until the last minute to complete assignments.

Your South Plains College email is the official communication for this course. Plan to check it every day.

Attendance and Participation Policy

This is an online class. Students must be responsible for checking into Blackboard daily, for announcements/assignments and submitting work in a timely manner. I ask that you do not go over 48 hours without checking in to Blackboard during this course.

There is no on-campus attendance requirement for this course.

* Instructor's note: You must be present in your own life! When a course is structured to be completed online, you must hold yourself accountable for communication (with both your Instructor and your classmates), and for checking on and completing work.

This is key to your success in the course!

Grading Policy

Final grades will be assigned based on the following percentages:

Assignments	
Grammar Exercises (Avg. of all)	20%
Discussions (Avg. of all)	20%
Essays (Breakdown of grades below)	60% (Total)
1. Initial Drafts	20%
2. Peer Review	20%
Final Drafts	20%
Total	100%

GRADE TOTAL

A (Superior):	90-100
B (Good):	80-89
C (Acceptable):	70-79
D (Poor):	60-69
F (Unacceptable):	0-59

It is up to you to monitor your average and course progress. If at any time you feel that you need to discuss your course progress with me, it is your responsibility to contact me. You can find your current average via the 'Gradebook' link in Blackboard.

Reading Assignments and Video Lectures

Mandatory, assigned reading is required for this course; you may also be required to watch recorded video lectures. Reading and video lecture assignments can be found on the course calendar in Blackboard. It is very important for you to read and watch these to acquire additional knowledge to complete your assignments.

Essays

You will be required to submit three 500-word essays. There will be several steps to complete for each essay. You will submit an initial rough draft, participate in peer reviews, and then submit a final draft. If you do not submit an initial draft, you will not be allowed to participate in peer review, further lowering your grade. All papers must be submitted to the Turnitin link in Blackboard. Please watch the video instructions provided if you have not previously submitted your papers this way. Remember, due dates can be found on the course calendar, and specific assignment details can be found in the module folders in Blackboard.

Grammar Exercises

Throughout the Modules, you will be required to complete several online exercises. The assignments will help you review your grammar and help you think about the writing process.

You will have 3 attempts for each of these assignments and I will take the highest grade. When averaged together, these assignments are worth 20% of your final grade, so the completion of your grammar assignments is very important.

Discussions

Collaboration and communication are essential to success in both the academic and professional setting. To practice these skills and further our knowledge of the subjects we cover in this course, each student will be required to participate in weekly video discussions.

There are two parts to each module discussion assignment. The first is an **initial post**. The second part includes 2 **responses** to your peers, which will be due in the second half of each module. A 5-point deduction will be applied to initial posts not posted by the first deadline, and no response posts will be counted for credit after the second deadline.

Grading Time Frames

I grade all work as efficiently and quickly as possible. When your assignments are evaluated, you will have them back; please do not inquire as to whether your papers are graded.

Due Dates

Due dates are posted on the course calendar and are firm. Any written assignment submitted past the due date will receive an automatic deduction in points after the first 24 hours. Late assignments must be turned in within 5 days of the due date to receive partial credit. After 5 days, papers will not be accepted, and you will receive a zero for the assignment. If there are excusable circumstances which might justify an extension on the assignment, arrangements must be made with your Instructor.

Please turn your work in on time, so your overall grade does not suffer from late deductions.

*Due times are **midnight** on the date listed on the calendar.*

Although I will post reminders about assignment due dates, it is ultimately your responsibility to keep up with these dates on your syllabus calendar.

Assignment Submission

I cannot accept any assignment via email, for any reason. All files must be submitted via the assignment tool in the Blackboard modules.

As an online student, you assume the responsibility for your technology. I suggest three things:

1. Have a backup plan in place from day one, just in case your technology fails.
2. After submitting an assignment, return to the assignment submission before the due date and make sure it's been submitted properly. If it's not submitted properly by the due date, you will not receive credit for it, regardless of whether you thought the paper had submitted.

3. Don't wait until the last minute to submit assignments. If you have trouble, but no one is available to help you, you will incur the late deduction associated with late assignments.
 4. Additionally, all files must be submitted as .docx documents (Microsoft Word). Other file formats such as .gdoc, .pages, .odt, .rtf, or .txt files will not work with Turnitin. If you submit anything other than a .docx file, your assignment will be considered late and incur the late deduction. **If you are writing your essay on Google Docs, you will need to download the paper to your computer in Microsoft Word format before submitting to Turnitin.**
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Please contact the Computer Help Desk at (806)716-2600 or Blackboard Help at (806) 716-2180 with any problems related to technology. Remember, you are responsible for making sure your work has been submitted properly.

Style Guide

We will use the MLA style guide for formatting and documentation in this course. Specific rules regarding this particular style guide can be found in on the 'MLA Resources' page in Blackboard. All documents you submit should be formatted using MLA standards, and all citations you write, whether in-text or on a References page, should follow MLA guidelines for citation.

Academic Integrity

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 and renders the offender liable to serious consequences and possible suspension.

Please refer to the SPC General Catalog regarding consequences for cheating and plagiarism. "Offering the work of another as one's own, without proper acknowledgment, is plagiarism" and will not be tolerated (*General Catalog* 23). Furthermore, cheating will not be tolerated (see *General Catalog* 23). You must do your own work on paragraphs and homework. Submitting portions of or complete papers downloaded from the internet, for example, is plagiarism. Allowing someone else to revise your writing is plagiarism. Submitting a paper written for another class is cheating. Depending on the nature and the severity of the problem, a student who cheats or plagiarizes may receive penalties ranging from a 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.

****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 to turn in as their own. Do not copy and paste from the Internet. All of these situations are representative of academic dishonesty and will be treated as such.****

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.

Note to Students with Disabilities

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) 806-7162577, Reese Center (Building 8) 806-716-4675, or Plainview Center (Main Office) 806-716-4302 or 806-2969611.

If you have a disability-related need for reasonable academic adjustments in this course, provide your letter of accommodation from Disability Services Office, and we can privately discuss your specific accommodations. If you need immediate accommodations or physical access, please arrange to meet with the Disability Services Office before the next class meeting.

Diversity Statement

In this course, 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 be and can be.

Special Services

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, call or visit the Special Services Office in the Student Services Building, 806-894-9611, extension 2529.

Basic Needs

Students who face challenges securing their food and believe this may affect their performance in the course are urged to contact the SPC Food Pantry (806-716-2236, PE Complex) for support. Furthermore, please notify the professor if you are comfortable doing so. Your first step will enable her to provide any resources that she may possess.

Student Code of Conduct

Since all communication will take place online, please make every effort to behave appropriately in that setting. Discussion between classmates and/or between Instructor and student should always be respectful and professional. Refrain from using offensive language or making derogatory comments. Repetitive or extreme misconduct may result in a drop from the course. Remember that we are here to learn, and we will benefit ourselves the most by maintaining a positive and mature attitude towards others.

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 Director of Health and Wellness. 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 Crystal Gilster, Director of Health and Wellness at 806-716-2362 or email cstraface@southplainscollege.edu for assistance.

Please 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. Continued enrollment by the student in the course indicates that the student agrees and will abide by all policies set forth in this syllabus by the instructor.

Tentative Class Schedule – ENGL 1301 Internet Summer 2019

This schedule serves to outline the material/subject matter we will cover in class. All major assignments will be accompanied by instructions detailing specific requirements and due dates via your instructor and/or Blackboard.

Any written assignment submitted past the due date will receive an automatic deduction in points after the first 24 hours. Late assignments must be turned in within 5 days of the due date to receive partial credit. Assignments submitted 6 days past the deadline will receive a zero for the assignment. If there are excusable circumstances which might justify an extension on the assignment, arrangements must be made with your Instructor.

Please note that if there are readings or assignments due *on* a certain date, you need to be working on them and have them completed *before* they are due on the schedule. You are responsible for all outside work and assignment submission.

All grammar assignments are to be completed by due dates as indicated by the schedule. Your Instructor will only reopen assignments based on circumstances which can be reasonably supported with documentation. This is a free online textbook, therefore, only extreme circumstances would justify assignment extensions. This is a working schedule and is subject to change during the semester. I will notify students of any modifications and will make sure all adjustments are reasonable.

Module 3 -- Comparison and Contrast Essay

June 24 – July 8

Module 3 Reading

Review Chapters 5.5, 5.6, and 5.7 for Grammar Assignments

Read Chapter 3.6 Comparison and Contrast to prepare for writing rough draft.

Review Sample Comparison/Contrast Essay Page 116-119 in your online textbook.

Assignments For This Module

Discussion Board Part 1 (Initial Post).....	Due June 30
Essay 2 Comparison/Contrast Rough Draft	Due July 3
Essay 2 Peer Editing (July 3 - 6)	Due July 6
Discussion Board Part 2 (2 Replies)	Due July 7
Module 3 Grammar Assignments (June 24 – July 8)	Due July 8
<i>Essay 3 Final Draft</i>	<i>Due July 8</i>