

**ENGL-1302**  
**Composition II Online**  
**Spring 2020**

**Instructor:** Buffy Rattan  
**Office:** CM103-B, Levelland Campus  
**Email:** [mrattan@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:mrattan@southplainscollege.edu)  
**Telephone:** (806) 716-2434  
**Office Hours:**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
12:45 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.	10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	12:45 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.	10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

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### Course Description

This course is a continuation of English 1301 and an intensive study of and practice in the strategies and techniques for developing research-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.

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### 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 students to the study of literature, including short stories, drama, and poetry.

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### Core Curriculum Objectives Addressed

- **Communication 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

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### Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will

1. Demonstrate knowledge of individual and collaborative research processes
2. Develop ideas and synthesize primary and secondary sources within focused academic arguments, including one or more research-based essays
3. Analyze, interpret, and evaluate a variety of texts for the ethical and logical uses of evidence
4. Apply critical thinking to the study of literature and write essays which demonstrate that critical thinking
5. Use edited American English to write in a style that clearly communicates meaning, builds credibility, and inspires belief or action
6. Apply the conventions of style manuals for specific academic disciplines (e.g. APA)
7. 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

## Required Access Code

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No paper textbook is required—only an access code to Mindtap Literature 2.0. Access to Mindtap is through our Blackboard course and is included as part of your course fee.

## Software and Computer Requirements

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You are required to have access to the following technologies:

- **Computer and high-speed internet connection**—understand that computer or internet connection problems may occur for you at some point in the semester. If that occurs, **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. You can find computers and/or Wi-Fi in the following places:
  - SPC Reese Campus Student Computer Lab (806-716-4666)
  - SPC Levelland Campus Student Computer Lab (806-716-2179)
  - SPC Levelland Campus Library Computer Lab (806-716-2299) – this lab is open on Sundays also
  - Your local city library
  - Restaurants or cafes with free Wi-Fi
  - Neighbors or friends (line up at least three)
  - **Computer help:** [helpdesk@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:helpdesk@southplainscollege.edu) or 806-716-2600
- **Web browser**-- Blackboard is designed to work best with the Mozilla Firefox browser. Mac users may use either Firefox or Safari.
- **Blackboard** account
  - For help with Blackboard, 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 email account is monitored from 8:00 am to 10:00 pm Monday through Sunday. You can expect a response within 24 hours by email.
  - You may also receive help with Blackboard by phone by calling 806-716-2180 between the hours of 8:00 am and 4:00 pm Monday through Friday except holidays.
- **Office 365 Word and PowerPoint programs** (papers will only be accepted in .doc or .docx format). As a member of the SPC community you have free access to Office 365.
  - To access Office 365, go to [www.office.com](http://www.office.com) and sign in with your SPC email address and password.
  - You can then click the install office link towards the top right to install the application to your computer.
- **SPC student email account**—While we will be using Blackboard course messages for communication in this course, it is important that you activate your SPC student email account if you haven't already done so. Not only will you need to access your SPC email account to receive TurnItIn digital paper submission receipts for this class, but SPC also sends many important messages to your SPC email address. I recommend that you set up access to your SPC email account through a mobile phone app such as your default Mail app or the Outlook app.

## Communication

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The best way to reach me is through the Blackboard course messages tool or by stopping by my office during office hours.

I do my best to return Blackboard course messages within 24 hours, with the exception of Sundays and holidays. This is going to require some planning on your part; you won't be able to wait until the last minute to complete assignments.

We will use the Blackboard email tool exclusively for this course; you may access it via the “Course Messages” link within our Blackboard course.

**How to send me a message inside our Blackboard English course:**

1. Click on Course Messages under the Course Tools menu on the left side of the screen.
2. Click on the Create Message button.
3. Click on the TO button and find my name in the Select Recipients box (Sharon Race - Instructor).
4. Click on my name and then click on the right arrow to move my name to the Recipient box.
5. Scroll down to the message area.
6. Type YOUR NAME and the SUBJECT OF YOUR MESSAGE in the Subject box (example: Jane Doe - Question about "Araby").
7. Type your message in the message area. Click on the ABC button with the check mark under it to check your spelling.
8. Click the Submit button to send your message.
9. If you want to make sure a mail message has been sent successfully, check your Sent folder in Mail.

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**Attendance Policy**

Online students are required to log in to Blackboard **frequently**, with no more than 72 hours (3 days) in between log-ins. There is no on-campus attendance requirement for this course.

Be advised—I do not accept late work for any reason.

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**Grading Policy**

Final grades will be assigned based on the following percentages:

<b>Short Story and Literary Term Quizzes</b>	25%
<b>Drama Test</b>	5%
<b>Poetry Test</b>	5%
<b>Quotations and Paraphrase Quiz</b>	4%
<b>APA Format and Documentation Quiz</b>	4%
<b>Plagiarism Quizzes (1 and 2)</b>	4%
<b>APA References Format Quiz</b>	4%
<b>Mindtap Research and Grammar Skills Assignments</b>	14%
<b>Short Essay Assignment</b>	5%
<b>Article Summary Paper</b>	5%
<b>Character Analysis Essay</b>	7%
<b>Research Paper Outline</b>	3%
<b>Research Paper</b>	15%

\*OPTIONAL EXTRA CREDIT: Earn up to 3 extra points to be added to your final average by completing extra-credit assignments.

It is up to you to monitor your average and course progress. Click on the My Grades link in the Course Tools menu to view your grades and current average. I recommend that you do this weekly throughout the semester. If at any time you feel that you need to discuss your course progress with me, it is your responsibility to make contact.

## Semester Calendar and Weekly Assignments

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- **Calendar & Assignments** is the entry page for ENGL 1302 and is available as a link in the Course Content menu as well. The course material is released in weekly segments (ex. Week 1, Week 2), and each week runs from Tuesday 8:00 A.M. to Tuesday 8:00 A.M. of the following week.
- It is very important that you keep up with which week of the semester we are in so you will know when that week's assignments are due. So, for example, let's say that Week 2 begins on Tuesday, January 20; all assignments for Week 2 would be due by 8 A.M. on Tuesday of the following week, January 27.
- Weekly Assignments are normally posted by Tuesday of each week and detail the readings, discussion forums, exercises, quizzes, tests, and papers to be completed. Due dates are normally 8:00 A.M. on Tuesday of the following week.
- *I recommend you print out the weekly assignment sheets and keep them in a **three-ring binder**, along with all the other handouts you will be getting in this course. Use the assignment sheet as a checklist for the week. To print a Blackboard page, use the Print option in your internet browser.*

## Methods of Evaluation

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- Your work will be evaluated by means of this scoring system: A (90-100); B (80-89); C (70-79); D (60-69); F (59 and below).
- Blackboard quizzes and parts of the major exams are graded electronically and your grades will be available when I release them.
- Papers can take from one to two weeks to be graded; I will usually notify you through an Announcement when I have finished grading those written assignments. **MAJOR ERRORS are grade killers!** The major errors are fused sentences, comma splices, fragments, subject-verb agreement errors, pronoun-antecedent agreement errors, pronoun reference errors, three spelling/wrong word errors. Here's how major errors can affect your papers: if your paper has great content and contains no major errors, it could earn an A. Great content with one or two major errors would earn a B; great content with three or four major errors earns a C; five or six major errors drops it to a D; seven or more major errors receives a failing grade. In other words, don't let MAJOR ERRORS prevent your papers from earning the scores that your great content deserves! The absence of major errors, on the other hand, does not guarantee a good grade; content, organization, development, etc. must also be exemplary.

**"A" Essay (Superior)** To earn an "A," a paper meets all of the criteria below:

- The paper fulfills all the basic requirements of the assignment (for example, topic, purpose, length, format).
- **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.
- **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.

- **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).
- **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:

- The paper fulfills all the basic requirements of the assignment (for example, topic, purpose, length, format).
- **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.
- **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.
- **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).
- **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:

- The paper fulfills all the basic requirements of the assignment (for example, topic, purpose, length, format).
- **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.
- **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.
- **Coherence:** Organization of ideas is satisfactory, transitions are logical, and the paper indicates competence in basic components (introduction, conclusion, and body paragraph structure).
- **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:

- The paper only partially fulfills one or more of the basic requirements of the assignment (for example, topic, purpose, length, format).
- **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.
- **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.

- **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).
- **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:

- The paper fails to fulfill one or more of the basic requirements of the assignment (for example, topic, purpose, length, format).
- **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.
- **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.
- **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).
- **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.”

**TURNITIN (where you submit papers in our Blackboard course):**

- TURNITIN is where papers are submitted and graded inside our Blackboard course.
- Submit your papers using Microsoft Word only.
- Many students make the mistake of uploading a paper and thinking they are done. There is a second step, which is to confirm submission. If the second step isn't confirmed, the paper will not be submitted, and there will be no digital receipt.
- After you submit a paper to TURNITIN, you must immediately check your South Plains College e-mail account, including your junk, bulk, or deleted folders (it is sometimes filtered as spam) for the digital receipt email. If you do not see a digital receipt, then your submission was **not** likely received by TURNITIN, and you will need to resubmit your paper immediately.
- Without a digital receipt, you cannot prove that you submitted your paper before the deadline, and **I don't accept late papers.**
- Once your paper has been graded, click on the **View/Submit** link to view my comments and marks.

**Late Work**

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You do not receive credit for a late assignment, nor should you ask to take a quiz or exam or submit a paper after the deadline because you have had or do have computer problems. Do not wait until the night before to complete weekly assignments.

- Have alternate computer locations already lined up to use in case you have trouble with your own computer. Our Blackboard course is set up to prevent submission of late assignments, so be sure you complete and submit assignments before the 8:00 AM deadline each Tuesday.
  - **Pretend that the weekly deadline is Monday at midnight instead of Tuesday morning.**
- Plan ahead; if you have to be out of town or at work right when assignments are due, finish them early.

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## Research Paper

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You will be required to complete a multi-part research project over the course of the semester. Details for these assignments can be found in Blackboard. Late work will not be accepted for any reason.

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## Discussions

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Collaboration and communication are essential to success in both academic and professional settings., To practice these skills and further our knowledge of the subjects we cover in this course, each student will be required to participate in class discussions. Be respectful and courteous in all your online communications. Treat others in communication as you wish to be treated. Students who display rude or confrontational behavior will be permanently blocked from the course.

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## Due Dates

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Due dates are posted in Blackboard, and are firm. I do not grant extensions or allow late work for any reason. Work submitted after the due date will not be evaluated and will receive a grade of 0.

**Due times are 8:00 AM on the date listed on the calendar.**

As an online college 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 or not 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 still not be able to submit the assignment late.

You are responsible for making sure your work has been submitted properly.

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## Assignment Submission

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I cannot accept any assignment via email, for any reason. All files must be submitted via the assignment link in the Blackboard modules. It is your responsibility to make sure the assignment submitted properly *before* the due date. No documents will be accepted after the submission deadline has passed, for any reason.

Additionally, all files must be submitted as .docx documents (Microsoft Word). I cannot accept .pdf, .pages, .odt, .rtf, or .txt files. If you submit anything other than a .docx file, you will be given a 0 for that assignment and will not be allowed to make it up.

Quizzes will be submitted using the Blackboard Quiz tool, and papers will be submitted using the TurnItIn link in the course module in Blackboard.

## Style Guide

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We will use the APA style guide for formatting and documentation in this course. All documents you submit should be formatted using APA standards, and all citations you write, whether in-text or on a References page, should follow APA guidelines for citation.

## Academic Integrity

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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.

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. Giving an in-text citation only at the end of a paragraph.

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; or
7. Copying another's work during an examination or on a homework assignment.

**\*\*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. Both situations are representative of academic dishonesty and will be treated as such.\*\***

I have zero tolerance for cheaters. If I suspect you of cheating, I will drop you without discussion. Please trust me when I say I have ways of determining whether or not you've cheated.

## Disclaimer

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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.

## **Diversity Statement**

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In this course, the teacher will establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group differences 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**

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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.

## **Student Code of Conduct**

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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.**