

Nimi Finnigan

Office Hours or Use Google Voice Number to get in touch with me. Zoom meetings are also possible

Mon/Wed (8:30-9:30 am) & (10:45-11:00 am) & (12:15-1:00 pm) & (2:15-2:30 pm)

Friday (8:30-11:30 am)

Google Voice Cellphone: (806) – 341 – 9122

Text me via the Remind App.

Email: nfinnigan@southplainscollege.edu

Course Website: Blackboard

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ENGLISH 1302

Section

201

*

Composition II

*Dear Students, Please Note: The course schedule/calendar is subject to change. The instructor will notify the class of any changes within a sufficient time frame. **It is the student's responsibility to take note of the changes in the courses in terms of both policy and calendar deadlines.***

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.

Credit: 3 Lecture: 3 Lab: 0

This course satisfies a Core Curriculum Requirement: Yes—Communication Foundational Component Area

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 research processes.
2. Develop ideas and synthesize primary and secondary sources within focused academic arguments, including one or more research-based essays.

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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, CMS, MLA, etc.)
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.

Student Learning Outcomes Assessment: A pre- and post-test and/or a writing assignment rubric will be used to determine the extent of improvement that the students have gained during the semester.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- Write short summaries, synthesis essays, and essays including a final analytical/research essay with sources
- Read short stories, poems, and essays from all areas of the humanities.
- Demonstrate understanding of grammar, logic, and rhetorical modes through examinations and other writing assignments.
- Demonstrate an understanding of MLA guidelines.

ASSESSMENT MEASURES/METHODS OF EVALUATION

Essays and writing assignments will be evaluated by means of letter grades A (90-100%), B (80-89%), C (70-79%), D (60-69%), F(<60%) (Superior, Good, Average, Poor, and Unacceptable), and will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- Use of the conventions of standard grammar;
- Use of the appropriate method of development for the assignment;
- Use of the principles of unity and coherence; and
- Use of logical, factual arguments to advance the thesis of the assignment.

COURSE MATERIALS

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

- No textbook necessary. I will provide links to all of the necessary materials.
- A Spiral-Bound Notebook
- A comprehensive dictionary or collegiate dictionary (such as *The American Heritage Dictionary* or *Merriam Webster Collegiate Dictionary*)

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- Students must have access to a working computer with internet capabilities to access PDF materials and videos on Blackboard.
- A Blackboard account as well as a working South Plains College email address are required.

DETAILED COURSE REQUIREMENTS

MODULE 1. COURSE INTRODUCTION - FOUNDATIONS

- Students will read Short Stories & watch Recorded Course Videos.
- Students will complete a variety of small paragraphs throughout the semester: summaries, synthesis, and discussion paragraphs in response to Instructor-provided questions
- Students will work together for a group presentation.
- Students will put together Flipgrid Video responses to texts
- Students will complete a short synthesis essay over the texts provided by instructor
- Students will write a Response Paper

MODULE 2. THE ORDINARINESS OF EVIL

- Students will read Short Stories & watch Recorded Course Videos.
- Students will complete a variety of small paragraphs throughout the semester: summaries, synthesis, and discussion paragraphs in response to Instructor-provided questions
- Students will work together for a group presentation
- Students will put together Flipgrid Video responses to texts
- Students will complete a short synthesis essay over the texts in this category:
 - “The Lottery” by Shirley Jackson available online for free
 - “The Ones Who Run from Omelas” by Ursula LeGuin available online for free
 - “An Indian Education” by Sherman Alexie.
 - "Escape from Spiderhead" by George Saunders. Available online for free.
- Students will write a Response Paper focused on character analysis

MODULE 3. COUPLES

- Students will read Short Stories & watch Recorded Course Videos.
- Students will complete a variety of small paragraphs throughout the semester: summaries, synthesis, and discussion paragraphs in response to Instructor-provided questions
- Students will work together for a group presentation
- Students will put together Flipgrid Video responses to texts
- Students will complete a short synthesis essay over the texts in this category:
 - “Like a Winding Sheet” by Ann Petry – link on Blackboard
 - “You Fit into Me” by Margaret Atwood available online for free
 - *A Streetcar Named Desire* by Tennessee Williams – link on Blackboard.
- Students will write a Response Paper TBA

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MODULE 4. RESEARCH PROCESS & TBA THEMATIC FOCUS

- Students will read Short Stories & watch Recorded Course Videos.
- Students will complete a variety of small paragraphs throughout the semester: summaries, synthesis, and discussion paragraphs in response to Instructor-provided questions
- Students will work together for a group presentation.
- Students will put together Flipgrid Video responses to texts
- Students will turn in a final research paper: topics and arrangement to be discussed with the instructor.
- Students will put together an annotated bibliography to support their research paper

GRADE/POINT BREAKDOWN

- Synthesis 1. 16% of course grade
- Synthesis 2. 17% of course grade
- Synthesis 3. 17% of course grade
- Research Paper Process. 21% of course grade
 - Research Essay. 14%
 - Research Proposal & Annotated Bibliography. 7%
- Class Activities. 18% of course grade
 - Discussion Questions
 - Response Paragraphs
 - Presentation in Groups
 - Possible FlipGrid activities
- Response Papers/Rants/Reflection. 11% of course grade

TOTAL PERCENTAGE – 100%

A RANGE 90 – 100: Document exemplary. It exceeds assignment objectives. No revisions necessary.

B RANGE 80 – 89.9: Document is proficient. It meets assignment objectives. Minor revisions are necessary.

C RANGE 70 – 79.9: Document is marginal. It does not meet all assignment objectives. Revisions are necessary.

D RANGE 60 – 69.9: Document is unsatisfactory. It meets few of the assignment objectives. Major revisions are necessary.

BELOW 60 -> F: Document is unacceptable. It does not meet assignment objectives. Major revisions are necessary.

All of these margins are strict margins. This means that 89.9% does not get you an A. You need 90% to be in the A range. **No exceptions.**

Extra-Credit options will be offered and explained throughout the semester.

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COURSE POLICIES

SIGNING UP FOR REMIND

All students need to sign up for Remind (through Remind.com) which will send class updates/notifications directly to your phone. Instructions will be given in class on how to register for the notifications. This will keep you updated on any changes to the class schedule and/or location, reading list, and any class cancellations.

GRADING TIME FRAMES

When your assignments are evaluated, you will have them back and a grade will appear on Blackboard. **Please do not inquire as to whether or not your papers/exams are graded.** Guideline for a typical grading time frame: 14-17 days from **the date of submission if submitted on time**, but this is not always a guarantee.

LATE WORK

While I do accept late work, any **assignments submitted after the due date will not be prioritized at all for grading.** Late assignment grades may be returned to you by the end of the semester. Moreover, late work will not receive any commentary.

Please note: last day to submit late assignments is November 29th & Portfolios cannot be submitted late since they are part of the Final Exam Process.

Late Portfolios will receive a grade of zero.

FeedbackFruit Assignments submitted late will have points deducted.

Please note: Improperly Submitted Assignments do not get graded in a timely manner and will receive little to no commentary.

IMPORTANT PROTOCOL FOR MISSING ASSIGNMENT INSTRUCTIONS

Please take note that I do not go over instructions regarding missing assignments and/or missed class lessons via email. Do not inquire about what was covered in class in an email. Please come and see me during my office hours for a brief summary of assignment/lesson instructions. Also, I strongly suggest that you consult with one of your peers, and that you consult Blackboard.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

- Role is taken every day.
- Students are allowed to miss **one week** of class without penalties. This means 3 class periods for Monday/Wednesday/Friday classes and 2 class periods for Monday/Wednesday and Tuesday/Thursday classes. They do not even need to notify the instructor.
- Additional Absence: may result in an F grade if instructor is not informed of the student's situation. Reasons for absence need to be discussed with instructor, and ultimately, student's grade is at the discretion of the instructor.
- Absences due to religious observance will not affect course grade.

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- All excused absences require documentation and are still subject to instructor's approval.
- Excessive absences or tardiness will result in the student being dropped from the class.

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR

- No food is allowed whilst the class is in session. Beverages are permitted.
- The use of any electronic device is prohibited in class unless the student requires electronic media in order to perform academically. If student uses either cell phone, laptop, or other electronic media (i.e. ipod, media player, pagers) instructor reserves the right to require that the student leave the classroom. In that event, the student is automatically considered absent, thus his/her assignment is considered not turned in for that class period.

VISITING DURING OFFICE HOURS: PREFERRED METHOD OF CONTACT.

Students are encouraged to come see me in my office during the hours listed above. Those hours are reserved for answering your questions & concerns, so please do feel invited to stop in and voice any questions or concerns.

I also **prefer** meeting and visiting with students in person or via zoom instead of email. If you can't make my office hours, let's try and arrange for an appointment at another time that works for both of us.

Important Note about Office Hours and/or Appointments with Instructor:

These meetings are important for both you and I, but most importantly for you. There are times when I may be running late. Please be patient. If we made an appointment, I will always honor that appointment.

If I can't make it, there will be an announcement on the course website and/or an email sent to you, or there will be an announcement posted on my door. I will also send out a notification through Remind.

EMAIL CORRESPONDENCE:

Keep in mind that this is **not** my preferred method of contact.

If you need to contact me via email, you may do so at my primary email address at South Plains Email.

- Netiquette: I expect students to use professional language and tone in all communications with me, including in emails. To this end, emails should clearly **identify who the sender is, what course they are taking, present proper grammar, include salutations**, and should be void of vernacular turn of phrases or "texting" expressions.
- Emails that do not follow proper netiquette will most likely not be answered.
- Given that I prefer face-to-face interactions, students are encouraged to come and speak to me after class.
- Students are responsible for checking their South Plains email regularly.
- **Please make sure that your email includes your full name and section number and/or class meeting times.** I teach several sections and that information will allow me identify your account more quickly.
- Please wait between 24-48 hours before expecting a response to your submitted email.

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ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND PLAGIARISM

“It is the aim of the faculty of 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, possibly suspension” (SPC General Catalog, pp. 21-22). "Complete honesty is required of the student in the presentation of any and all phases of course work. This applies to quizzes of whatever length as well as to final examinations, to daily reports and to term papers" (SPC General Catalog, p. 22). Students should consult the General Catalog on p. 23 for the college's detailed policies on plagiarism and cheating. Failure to comply with these policies will result in an F for the assignment and can result in an F for the course if circumstances warrant.

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 it.

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.

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) 806-716-2577, Reese Center (Building 8) 806-716-4675, or Plainview Center (Main Office) 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611.

STATEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATION

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-

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discrimination policies: Vice President for Student Affairs, South Plains College, 1401 College Avenue, Box 5, Levelland, TX 79336. Phone number 806-716-2360.

STATEMENT OF DIVERSITY

In this class, 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 and can be

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.

CAMPUS CONCEALED CARRY

(Rev. 7/28/2021): Texas Government Code 411.2031 et al. authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in South Plains College buildings by individuals and in accordance with Texas Government Code 411.209 (a). All holders of a valid Texas License to Carry may carry on their person a handgun that is concealed in accordance with Texas Penal Code 46.03 (a-2). 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. Individuals 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>.

TITLE IX PREGNANCY ACCOMODATIONS 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 the Director of Health and Wellness at 806-716-2362 or email cgilster@southplainscollege.edu for assistance.

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.

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SYLLABUS AS CONTRACT:

HIGHLIGHT POINTS

Blackboard. Please note that Blackboard is used for this course.

Email. You **must use your South Plains Email** account for the course. This is not accessed through Blackboard. There will be a demonstration on how to access your South Plains email on the first day of class. All electronic communication will be through your South Plains email.

Sign up for Remind @Remind.com. This is an integral tool for the course. I will send out announcements such as class cancellations, due dates, change of schedule via Remind. If you do not sign up for it, you understand that you are still responsible for the material/announcement included in the message.

Netiquette. Please send emails that are written appropriately, correctly punctuated and free of grammar errors. Respect proper conventions when sending out emails. This shows respect.

Responsibility. This is a college course. You are responsible for your actions, for the level of effort you put into the course, and for your performance.

Assignments. Paragraphs/Essays/Exams are typically graded within 14-17 days from date of submission, but this is not a guarantee. There is no need to inquire about your assignment until 14-17 days have passed from the date of on-time submission.

Grade. Make sure that you understand how you will be graded in this course and how the grading system works.

Textbook. It is your responsibility to have the proper edition of the textbook. If you choose to use another textbook, it is your responsibility to figure out how you are going to complete your assignments. **(If you are signed up for Inclusive Access, this clause about textbooks does not apply to you)**

Participation Grade. Doing additional work/more exercises than the ones assigned is encouraged and will definitely help your progress in the course; however, this does not entitle you to more participation points. The rules for participation points stand as defined in the syllabus.

Your signature at the bottom of this contract (or an email to me with the sentence at the bottom included) signifies that you have read and agree with all of the points/elements in the syllabus as well as outlined in the Highlight Points. Turning in this signed form counts as participation.

I have read and agree to abide by all of the policies outlined/discussed in the syllabus for this course.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Complete Section number or the Day & Time of class: _____