

Course Syllabus
ENGL1301: Composition I
Section: 155 (ONLINE)
Lubbock Center

Instructor: Ms. Lesley Shelton, Assistant Professor
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Office Phone: 806-716-2178

SPRING 2022 OFFICE HOURS

ALL face-to-face Office Hours are held in Room 125H.
Zoom meetings available by appointment.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:30-9:00 a.m.	8:30-9:30 a.m.	8:30-9:00 a.m.	8:30-9:30 a.m.	8:30-9:30 a.m.
2:30-3:00 p.m.	12:30-2:00 p.m.	2:30-3:00 p.m.	12:30-2:00 p.m.	

Office hours will be conducted in my office (LC125H), as well as via ZOOM. Each meeting type has its advantages: Walk-in meetings are convenient in the moment if you are in the building and provide a face-to-face experience but may require social-distancing and masks for safety. ZOOM meetings require no physical contact while providing screen-sharing tools and can be recorded to review again later. If you would like to meet via ZOOM during office hours, please call 806-716-2178 for the ZOOM room to be opened.

Meetings are available to students on a first come-first served basis during scheduled office hours. The office hours schedule above shows the times I am available.

If you are unable to attend regularly scheduled office hours, please send me an email explaining your availability conflicts, and I will do my best to accommodate you. These are usually conducted via Zoom. Send me an email with your date and time preferences to schedule the meeting.

PREFERRED METHODS OF COMMUNICATION

Face-to-Face:

You are always welcome to come to my office during scheduled office hours if that is convenient for you. However, online students often prefer phone or email communication.

Phone / Voicemail:

If you are calling with questions during scheduled office hours (and I am not already helping another student), a quick phone call can resolve many issues. My office phone number is 806-716-2178. Voicemail can also be very effective when used properly. If you must leave a voicemail, be sure to speak clearly. Leave your **full name, course and section number, and clearly state what information you need** from me.

Include your SPC email address so that I may reply via email if I cannot return your call. Remember that I cannot call you back unless I happen to be in my office; this means I will NOT be returning any calls after office hours or on weekends. Voicemail messages that do not provide complete information will not be answered, so **be prepared before you place the call**. Oftentimes, an email is a preferred way to document your concerns.

Email:

Email correspondence can be very effective when used properly. Please follow the proper format for business email correspondence (appropriate subject line, salutation, complete sentences in the body, closing, and signature). You can find a good description of the expectations for professional communication here: [How to Write a Professional Email](#).

Every email you send to me for this class **MUST contain the course and section number for your class in the subject line**; if this information is missing, the email will be returned to you, no exceptions. Emails sent through Blackboard email will automatically include the course and section number. Allow 1-2 business days for a reply. If you need to reach me right away, you may call or stop by my office during office hours, or talk to me during class. **Do not use Blackboard Messages. I do not check it and I will not see the message.**

IMPORTANT: Check your official SPC email (Outlook 365) regularly. All email correspondence from me will automatically be sent to your SPC email address. If you fail to check your email, you may miss important and often time-sensitive messages. If you have trouble with your email login, contact IT Support and get it fixed right away! This is your lifeline to the school!

ENGL1301 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.

ENGL 1301 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 the successful completion of this course, students will:

- Demonstrate knowledge of individual and collaborative writing processes.
- Write essays that exhibit logic, unity, development, and coherence.
- Develop ideas with appropriate support and attribution.
- Write in a style appropriate to audience and purpose.
- Read, reflect, and respond critically to a variety of texts.
- Use American English, with an emphasis on correct grammar, voice, parallelism, punctuation, spelling, and mechanics in language appropriate for academic essays.
- Write a minimum of six 500-word essays.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

Textbook:

Wyrick: Steps to Writing Well with Additional Readings + MindTap

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 **tfewell4texasbookcompany@gmail.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: tfewell@texasbook.com / **Phone:** 806-716-2399 / Levelland

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

Blackboard and Internet Access:

Blackboard is a website host for our class, where you access the e-book & quizzes, view and access homework, view and print supplemental materials, turn in your assignments, check your grades, view the syllabus, and email me. Should it become necessary, you may also attend online-synchronous class meetings.

You should visit the [Instructional Technology Help Page](#) for many resources to help you familiarize yourself with Blackboard. If you experience technology issues with Blackboard, please visit [the Blackboard Help Page](#) and complete the form. For problems with your login or password, problems accessing your SPC email account or SPC network outages and even some computer problems, [Information Services Help Desk](#) at 806 716-2600.

While it may be helpful for me to know when you experience technology problems, I am not the person to contact to resolve those issues. You should attempt to resolve your issue by going through the proper channels before you email me. Merely emailing me to tell me you had technical issues is not sufficient and will not get you an extension on any assignment.

Computer with Reliable Internet Access:

You must have access to a computer with a reliable internet connection with sufficient bandwidth to accommodate the needs of this class. While some of your assignments can be completed using a smartphone, you will need access to a laptop or desktop computer for many of your most heavily weighted assignments. If you do not have a computer with reliable, high-bandwidth internet access, you must plan time into your weekly schedule to use the SPC computer labs on one of the campuses or find a computer with reliable internet access that you can use on a regular basis. **This is required for the class.**

You must also have access to a word processing program that you can use to produce essays and other assignments that adhere to our formatting requirements. I recommend that you use Microsoft Word, although you are free to use others. You will not be exempted from fulfilling the formatting requirements even if your

chosen software or application makes formatting difficult. Some file types are not accepted through TurnItIn and Blackboard; you must produce work that can be uploaded and opened, or you will receive a zero.

Additional Supplies:

Blue/black ink pen, 1 inch three-ring binder or a folder (to keep course assignments and notes), notebook paper or a spiral notebook.

DELIVERY OF INSTRUCTION

This class is designed for online asynchronous instruction. That means that we will not meet online or in person at any designated time during the semester. All of your instruction takes place online.

Lessons will be available up to two weeks in advance of their scheduled due dates, so you may work ahead if you choose. I suggest that you schedule a regular time to complete the work for this class. Remember that each week you will have at least two assigned readings with associated quizzes, a participation exercise, and a writing assignment that you should be working on and an instructive video.

Due dates for MindTap readings are all set for Friday night; however, I don't suggest that you wait until Friday to begin your reading assignments. I recommend a schedule for assignments something like this:

Monday/Tuesday	Watch Weekly Video; complete Reading 1 and read everything in the Participation and Writing Assignments folder
Wednesday/Thursday	Reading 2 continue working on Participation and Writing Assignments
Friday	ALL Quizzes Due before 11:59pm on Fridays, Continue working on Participation and Writing Assignments
Sunday	Writing Assignments are usually due on Sundays

Participation assignments may be due on any day, but are usually due on Friday or Sunday.

This is just a suggestion. Everything is listed on the Schedule of Assignments, so I suggest you print that and keep it in your notebook. You can use it to check off your assignments as you complete and submit them.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

In online asynchronous classes, your timely completion and submission of our assignments counts as you being present in the course, so make a point to log into your Blackboard account and email at least on a weekly basis (if not daily). Any missed activity stands as non-attendance and will adversely impact your overall grade for the course.

I don't take attendance, but if you fall behind in the completion of your assignments by the due dates listed each week, I may refer you to academic counseling for excessive absences and/or missing work. However, I will not drop you from this course for failing to sign in to Blackboard or failing to turn in your work. If you quit logging in and/or turning in your work, at the end of the semester you will be awarded the grade that you have earned—just like every other student—based upon the work you have submitted. If you quit attending class and are not planning to return, I suggest you drop yourself, which will result in a W on your records. Dropping will also remove you from the class roster, and you will no longer receive class emails.

NOTE: If circumstances, such as a documented family emergency, hospitalization, or an extended illness including COVID, threaten to disrupt your education during the semester, I encourage you to reach out for help. You can contact the Dean of Students (Dr. Lynn Cleavinger's office at 806-716-2380). They can help you request accommodations from your professors and connect you with resources that may help you through difficult times. **Most importantly**, communicate with me—in advance if possible—so that we can make suitable arrangements for turning in your work. If no arrangements are made, all policies in the syllabus and due dates posted in Blackboard/MindTap will remain in effect.

ENGL1301 COURSE EVALUATION

***LOW STAKES WRITING ASSIGNMENTS:* 20% Total**

Four writing assignment each worth 5% of the overall grade.

***HIGH STAKES WRITING ASSIGNMENTS:* 45% Total**

Three writing assignments each worth 15% of the overall grade.

ATTENDANCE, HOMEWORK, QUIZZES, PARTICIPATION, & EXAMS

Online Reading Quizzes in MindTap	10%
JustInTime+ exercises in Mindtap	10%
Participation Assignments	10%
Final Exam Essay	5%

Writing Assignments – *Low and High Stakes*

As you can see, the majority of your grade depends on successful completion of your writing assignments. Your writing assignments should be your number one priority in this class, as you cannot pass the class if you fail to complete and turn in your writing assignments.

Attendance

Your attendance is tracked in Blackboard and converted into an average of your total time spent in class based on whether you are present, tardy, or absent. Attendance policies are described below. The average calculated by Blackboard will count as 7% of your overall grade.

Online Homework – *MindTap*

Most of your weekly readings and homework assignments will be accessed through Blackboard in the MindTap interface. There are many resources for you in MindTap. Readings and reading quizzes & activities must be completed by the due date in the schedule (and in MindTap). Reading quizzes and Just In Time Plus (JIT+) quizzes will always be due on Friday before 11:59pm of the week assigned unless otherwise noted.

MindTap must be accessed on the internet. If you do not have a computer at home with reliable internet access, you will need to make plans to use one of the computer labs on campus, in the Technology Center or in one of the libraries to complete your online homework.

Participation – *In-Class & Online Activities*

The participation grade will be based on in-class and online activities related to your writing assignments. For example, I may ask you to bring a deliverable product to class, usually part of the writing assignment that you are working on, for group discussion and feedback. Depending on the completeness of the work you produce and the quality of your participation, you will receive a 95, 75, 55, or 0 for most assignments.

LATE WORK

I do not accept late assignments except in very rare situations; therefore, if you forget to do an assignment, do not send me an email asking if you can make it up. However, there is a built-in grace period with a late penalty for some assignments. To be successful in college, you must turn your work in on time.

Low & High Stakes Writing: These are heavily weighted assignments, accounting for 65% of your overall grade, so MindTap is set up to accept late submissions. Late submissions will receive a 10-point deduction for each day late that they are received up to five days late. After five days, you will receive a zero for the assignment. There is no guarantee that you will receive credit for work beyond the 5-day grace period; nevertheless, you should always submit your work as soon as possible, as there is no chance for receiving credit when nothing is turned in.

Online Homework: There is a 5-day grace period for the online MindTap reading quizzes and JIT+ quizzes. Late submissions will receive a 20% penalty. However, I will drop your two (2) lowest online reading quiz grades and two (2) lowest JIT+ quiz grades at the end of the semester. These accommodations are designed to give grace for an occasional missed assignment.

Participation: There is no grace period for participation assignments. **You cannot make up missed participation grades and late work will not be accepted.** However, I will drop your two (2) lowest participation grades at the end of the semester. This accommodation is designed to give grace for an occasional missed assignment.

NOTE: Some assignments (Feedback Fruits Peer Review and Discussions, for example) depend upon timely submissions and interaction with your peers. Due to the nature of these assignments, it is imperative that you turn in your work on time or you may not be able to complete the assignment. There will be no extensions or accommodations for late work for these assignments. You need to complete these tasks as assigned.

There will be no “extra credit” work available at the end of the semester. You earn your grade by the quality of work assigned during the semester that you turn in on time.

GRADING POLICY

Your grades and course average will be continuously available for you to view in our Blackboard course. Grades will be updated every couple of weeks. Check your grades regularly. Your final grade will be based upon the earned average at semester’s end, with no rounding up of grades.

Grades are assigned according to this scale:

- A Excellent work that **exceeds expectations**; 90% to 100% on graded work.
- B Very good work that is **above average**; 80% to 89% on graded work.
- C Average work that **meets the basic goals** of the assignment; 70% to 79% on graded work.
- D Below average work that is **deficient in one or more area**; 60% to 69% on graded work.
- F Unsatisfactory work that **does not meet the minimum expectations** of the assignment, work that is incomplete or does not follow the assignment instructions, work that is found to have been plagiarized; 0 to 59% on graded work.

Essay Assessment Guidelines:

- The “A” essay is perfectly formatted, with few to no spelling, wrong word and/or grammatical errors. It also has an excellent title, strong thesis, excellent organizational strategies, good transitions, an introduction with a hook, a thoughtful conclusion, and well-supported main points in the body paragraphs. The writing is lively and intelligent; there are no sentence structure errors.
- The “B” essay at the 1301 level contains all of the above with one or two more errors.
- The “C” essay has a thesis, introduction, and conclusion, but may lack support and/or has other obvious errors.
- The “D” essay contains one or more of the following problems: lack of a clear thesis, lack of a strong organizational pattern, weak introduction and/or conclusion, formatting errors, multiple spelling and grammatical errors, and/or sentence structure issues (fragments and run-ons).
- The “F” essay does not meet the minimum expectations for a 1301-level essay assignment. Some examples of “F” essays are 1) those written on a topic that has not been approved; 2) those that do not meet the minimum word count; or 3) those that are not written in the required format.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated (see *General Catalog*, 23). You are expected to do your own work on all submitted assignments. “Offering the work of another as one’s own, without proper acknowledgment, is plagiarism” and will not be tolerated (*General Catalog*, 23). Submitting portions of or complete papers copied from the internet is plagiarism. Paraphrasing without attribution is plagiarism. Allowing someone else to write any portion of your assignment is plagiarism. Submitting a paper that you wrote for another class is self-plagiarism. Copying someone else’s work or answers on homework, quizzes, or tests is cheating. There may be other forms of plagiarism and academic dishonesty not specifically named here.

I REPORT ALL INSTANCES OF PLAGIARISM, CHEATING, AND OTHER FORMS OF ACADEMIC DISHONESTY TO THE DEAN OF STUDENTS' OFFICE. This report will become part of your permanent academic record. Depending on the nature and the severity of the incident, 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.

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.

"Failure to comply with the lawful direction of a classroom teacher relative to maintaining good order is considered misconduct on the part of the student. Repeated violations of disrupting a class will result in the student being dropped from the course" (*South Plains College Student Guide*).

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Any student needing individual counseling for issues such as depression, anxiety, adjustment to college, stress management, and substance abuse may visit the Health and Wellness Center to chat, confidentially, with licensed mental health professionals who provide services free of charge to current SPC students. Call or visit on Levelland Campus 806-716-2529 from 8:00 am – 4:00 pm. Students wanting to set up a counseling session will have an option to be seen face-to-face on any campus or via teleconference.

Any student in need of food or other essentials may visit the food pantry. Students can contact Dee Dee Odorizzi (806-716-2236) for more information.

STUDENT TUTORING

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, 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 tools option from the left-hand menu bar. Click on the Tutor.com link and you will automatically be logged in for free tutoring. You may access Tutor.com tutors during the following times:

Monday – Thursday: 8pm-8am

Friday 6pm – Monday 8am

For questions regarding tutoring, please email tutoring@southplainscollege.edu or call 806-716-2538.

SYLLABUS STATEMENTS

Each syllabus should include the following Diversity Statement, Disabilities Statement, Non-Discrimination Statement and Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations Statement appropriate to the location of the course.

Diversity Statement

In this class, I will endeavor to 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 participants to learn about others, about

the larger world, and about themselves. I will do my best not to discriminate on the basis of age, color, disability, ethnicity, gender, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status

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

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.

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 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](mailto:cgilster@southplainscollege.edu) for assistance.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

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>

Report violations to the College Police Department at 806-716-2396 or 9-1-1.

Ms. Shelton reserves the right to make reasonable changes in course policy at any time.