

**ENGL-1301
Composition I
Fall 2018**

Instructor: Wendy Esch
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Office Hours:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:00-9:30 p.m. 11:00 – 1:00 p.m.	2:30 – 3:00 p.m.	9:00-9:30 p.m. 11:00 – 1:00 p.m.	2:30-3:00 p.m.	9:00 – 11:00 a.m.

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.

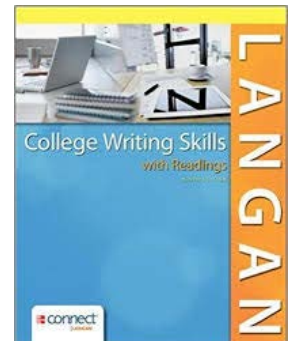
Required Supplies

The following are requirements for this course. You will need to purchase them immediately and consult them frequently as you complete coursework.

- 3-ring binder with loose leaf paper for notetaking
- Composition Notebook for journaling
- Highlighters and colored pens for revision and editing
- Writing utensils

Textbook

- Langan, John. College Writing Skills with Readings. 9th ed., McGraw-Hill, 2013.



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)

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, drop by during office hours, or make an appointment to meet in-person.

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.

Remind text alerts will also be active for this course to notify you in case of instructor absence or class location changes. We will set that up in class during the first week of the semester.

Attendance and Participation Policy

To be successful in this course, you must attend consistently and punctually and participate fully. Your attendance and participation grade is worth 5% of your final grade.

Students who are extremely late, absent, or leave early will receive 0 participation points for that day. Additionally, students who are unable to participate in discussion when called upon will receive 0 participation points for that day.

Students who accumulate four absences and are not passing the class with a 60 or higher will be dropped from the class. Two tardies will equal one absence. Leaving class early will count as a tardy.

Be advised – I will accept late work, but there will be a significant deduction associated with all late assignments. If you are absent, you are still required to complete the assigned work by the indicated due date to receive full credit.

Please notify me when you are going to be out of town for a school-sponsored event. I will let you work ahead so that you don't miss any deadlines. However, please know that no exceptions will be made to the late assignment policy.

Grading Policy

Final grades will be assigned based on the following percentages:

Essay Assignments	
Essay 1	5%
Essay 1 Work	10%
Essay 2	10%
Essay 2 Work	10%
Essay 3	20%
Essay 3 Work	10%
Grammar Exercises, Quizzes, and Daily Work	20%
Final Exam	10%
Attendance & Participation	5%
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 to meet. 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.

Announcements

Any information sent-out via announcements in emails, via REMIND, or posted as an announcement on the course website is important and is, accordingly, an extension of assignment requirements and syllabus policies. Students must read all announcements and will be held responsible for any information posted in the announcements.

Essays

You will be required to submit three full essays. There will be several steps to complete for each essay. The first step is the completion of an essay exam. The second is participation in a small group workshop. The third is the submission of a revised draft of your essay exam. If you do not take the essay exam, you won't be able to participate in small group workshops, lowering your grade further. Due dates can be found on the course calendar, and specific assignment details can be found in the module folders in Blackboard.

Grammar Exercises, Quizzes, and Daily Work

Throughout the semester, you will be required to complete several online exercises, in-class quizzes, and daily assignments. These will help you review your grammar and help you think about the writing process. When averaged together, these assignments are worth 20% of your final grade, so the completion of your daily assignments is very important.

Final Exam

A final exam will be given at the end of the course. Students will be exempt from this final if they meet the guidelines outlined here.

1. Students who have 2 or fewer absences with a grade of an "A" or "B" at the time of the final, will be EXEMPT from the final exam.
2. Students with a grade lower than "B" or 3+ absences will be required to take the final exam.

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 or not your papers are graded.

In-Class Computer, Cell Phone, Head Phones, Ear Buds, and Tablets

Creating an environment free of distractions for all students is important for the learning process. I ask you to respect your classmates and me by observing the following policies regarding electronic devices:

1. Keep cell phones on silent mode or powered off (not on vibrate mode*) and stored out of your sight during class. Cell phones may not be placed on the desks, on the computer towers, or held in your hands or lap. Texting or other use of cell phones is not allowed in class. If you use your cell phone during class, I will ask you to leave the classroom for the day, and you will be counted absent. (*Students who need to leave their phones on vibrate must visit with me to inform me of their situation.)
2. Wearing head phones and ear buds is not permitted during class.
3. Personal laptops and tablets must remain closed and powered off during class. All in-class computer work is to be done on the classroom computers. Failure to adhere to this policy will affect your attendance and participation grade. If it is a persistent issue, you will be asked to leave class.

Due Dates

Due dates are posted on the course calendar and are firm. Although late assignments will be accepted within a week of the assigned due date, assignments will receive an automatic deduction of 30 points. Therefore, the highest grade you can receive from a late paper is a 70. 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 may 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 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 incur the late deduction associated with late assignments.
4. Additionally, all files must be submitted as .docx documents (Microsoft Word). I cannot accept .gdoc, .pages, .odt, .rtf, or .txt files. If you submit anything other than a .docx file, your assignment will be considered late and incur the late deduction.

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

Style Guide

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

Academic Integrity

"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, bring me 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 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

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

Any successful learning experience requires mutual respect on the part of the student and the instructor. Neither the 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.**

Since you are college students, I expect you to conduct yourselves professionally:

1. Show respect—for yourself, your classmates, and for me.
2. **If you are late to class, tell me at the end of class that you were late, or you will remain marked absent.**
3. Bring your textbook, paper, and pen to class on a daily basis. You are not allowed to share textbooks.
4. Take care of personal needs before and after class. **Do not leave the classroom unless it is an emergency.**
If you leave the classroom before you are dismissed you will be marked absent for the day.
5. Avoid using tobacco in class.
6. Avoid profanity.
7. Disruptive/Offensive/Threatening/Abusive Behavior—You will be asked to stop or leave the classroom and may be dropped from the course.
8. Treat the computers with respect by not marking on the equipment (monitors, keyboards, etc.) and not changing the default settings. Accessing the internet, email, computer games, etc. during class is not permitted unless I have directed you to do so. Do not download programs or apps to the computers. Accessing pornographic sites is not permitted.

*Students who do not comply with the above will be dropped from the course.

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 Chris Straface, 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.
