South Plains College
ENGL 1302: Composition II

Instructor: Mackinzee Escamilla

Office: TA-123A, Levelland Campus

Email: 'Messages' tool inside our Blackboard course

Office Hours:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:30 – 11:30 a.m.	9:30 – 11:30 a.m.	9:30 – 11:00 a.m.	9:30 – 11:00 a.m.	8:00 - 9:00 a.m.

To make an appointment to meet in MS Teams, visit https://bit.ly/mescamillaspc.

Department: English and Philosophy

Discipline: English

Course Number: English 1302

Course Title: Composition II

Available Formats: conventional, internet, ITV

Campuses: Levelland, Reese, Plainview, Extension Centers, High Schools

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

Textbooks

Kirzsner, L.G., & Mandell, S.R. (2023). *Portable literature: Reading, reacting, writing*. Cengage Publishing.

This book was paid for with your tuition, so you do not need to purchase it separately.

Course Syllabus and Organization

- This syllabus is available on the **Syllabus** page in our Blackboard course.
- The course is organized into sixteen weeks. Each week has its own folder on the **Course Content** page in our Blackboard course.
- Each course week runs from 12:30 a.m. on Saturday to midnight the following Friday. Dates for each week will be listed very specifically and clearly in Blackboard.
- Weekly assignments are always due at midnight on Friday.
- I will submit early alert reports on anyone not making progress because of attendance, missed assignments, or low grades every Friday morning.

Core Curriculum Requirement

This course satisfies the Communication Foundational Component Area.

Core Curriculum Objectives

- **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.
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.

Grade Calculation

- Quizzes and assignments (average of all) – 10%
- Attendance – 5%
- Daily writing (average of all) – 5%
- Reading, annotation, and discussion of fiction (average of all) – 10%
- Research Project
    - Character Analysis Section – 10%
    - Literary Analysis Section – 10%
    - Author Biography Section – 10%
    - Critical Reception Section – 10%
    - Genre/Movement Section – 10%
- Research Paper Final Draft -- 10%
- Research Paper Presentation – 10%

Student Responsibilities

Students are expected to:
1. Be responsible for the learning process, including preparation for class, such as reading and homework; participation in class discussions, including asking relevant questions; getting assignments and/or notes if absent; and accepting responsibility for not understanding an assignment or failing an assignment
2. Be responsible for having an appropriate attitude and using appropriate language in academic environments; not use condescending, inflammatory, threatening, or profane rhetoric, whether verbally or in written form, in academic environments
3. Have respectful behavior toward instructor and classmates in order to contribute to the atmosphere necessary for learning
4. Be responsible for courteous actions to others, especially by putting away cell phones and other distractions while in class
5. Be responsible for writing down all grades and applying them to the grading scale used for the class, which is shown in the course's policy statement/syllabus
6. Submit all assignments in accordance with due dates, formats, and requirements
7. Avoid all forms of cheating and plagiarism on all assignments, including improper collaboration
8. Ask questions when something is unclear
9. Be advised – I do not accept late work for any reason

Attendance and Participation Policy

Regular, consistent attendance is required for this course. Any activity missed, regardless of cause, reduces the opportunity for learning and may adversely affect a student's achievement.

I will take role at the beginning of each class meeting. If you are present when I take role and stay for the entire time, you will receive full points for that day. If you are late, leave early, are

on your phone, or do not participate in group activities, you will receive zero points for that day. There will be no negotiating.

There are several main things to remember about attendance for this course:

1. **I do not drop students for non-attendance**. It is your responsibility to initiate the drop process if you decide not to complete the course. Students who stop attending but don't complete the coursework will receive an F at the end of the semester.
2. Late work is not accepted for any reason.

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

Assignment Submission

I cannot accept any assignment via email, for any reason. 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 .gdoc, .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.**

Papers will be submitted in Blackboard. They must be named according to the instructions in order for them to be graded. I will not make allowances for the late policy because of misplaced files or files with non-standard file names.

Be aware – any assignment that doesn't meet the minimum length requirement by ½ will be given a zero, and you will not be allowed to make it up. Assignments that meet the length requirement by ½ but still don't meet the length requirement will receive significant grade deductions.

Please understand: File management is a skill that, as a college student, you should be very comfortable with. I cannot accept late work from students who didn't understand how to upload files. When you submit a file in Blackboard, you should receive a receipt at your SPC email address. Look for this email after you submit each assignment to ensure the file is in the proper place. This is extremely important.

As a 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 able to submit the assignment late.

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

Why Microsoft Word

Many students wonder why I'm so adamant about using Microsoft Word for this course when there are many other word processing programs available. The answer is simple: Blackboard only allows me to view and grade Microsoft Word documents. It does not allow Apple Pages, Google Docs, or any other type of text files to be viewed or graded properly.

It's also a matter of formatting, which is addressed by course competency four: "[S]tudents will…[w]rite in a style appropriate to audience and purpose." Academic writers – you – are expected to follow a specific style guide, and academic audiences – me – expect to see specific formatting standards addressed. While the other programs might allow you to format your document properly, due to time constraints, I can only provide instructions for one program, and since it's the only program Blackboard will allow me to view and grade, Microsoft Word it is.

Luckily, Microsoft Word, and all programs in the Microsoft Office suite, are offered to SPC students at no cost. You can access these programs at www.office365.com using your SPC email address and password.

Why No Late Work?

I do not accept late work for any reason, whether it be five minutes late or five days late, because you forgot or because you're having technical difficulty. The reason is simple: fairness.

First is fairness to my students. This policy is applied to all students in the same way, so there can never be any question of favoritism; if I allowed late work for certain circumstances, but not for others, or for certain students, but not others, that wouldn't be fair. I don't want to make a judgement call about which circumstances or students require leniency, so the blanket policy applies to everyone – no late work for any reason.

This policy is also fair to my students' mental health and course progress. It's been my experience that students who get behind have a very hard time catching up, and having missing assignments causes anxiety and worry, which affects performance.

Submitting work on time is also fair to your classmates, as much of the work we do requires collaboration. If students don't submit work on time, it holds up the work their peers need to do to complete assignments like outline review and peer review. These assignments all build on one another, and late submissions would bring everything to a screeching halt.

Next is fairness to *myself*. My grading schedule is very strict, and there are many responsibilities associated with my job, so I cannot add keeping track of missing assignments to my already-full plate. I set due dates so that I can give you feedback in a timely manner, and if I allowed work to be submitted late, that would be unfair to my workload.

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 'Additional 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

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.

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.

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 that you can't get around, as smart as you are. ;-)

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.
4. Missing in-text citations.

Cheating violations include, but are not limited to, the following:
1. Obtaining an examination by stealing or collusion;
2. Turning in a paper written by AI;
3. Discovering the content of an examination before it is given;
4. Using an unauthorized source of information (notes, textbook, text messaging, internet) during an examination, quiz, or homework assignment;
5. Entering an office or building to obtain unfair advantage;
6. Taking an examination for another;
7. Altering grade records; or
8. Copying another's work during an examination or on a homework assignment.

AI Submissions and Procedure

I have an ethical responsibility to ensure that all students receive credit for only work that they have originally and ethically produced. Any evidence of AI through detection ratings or faculty review will be subject to further investigation.

It is your responsibility as a student to demonstrate that your work is original in order to avoid penalties or plagiarism violations. I encourage all students to keep a comprehensive draft history and track changes in Microsoft Word as a precaution. This is the easiest way to prove authorship and protect your academic integrity in the age of AI.

In many cases, work containing evidence of AI assistance will require a Zoom conference for an interview and proctored writing sample. These conferences will be recorded and reviewed by at least one other faculty member, and a determination will be made as to whether there is satisfactory evidence of authorship to earn credit.

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.

College-Required Syllabus Statements

For a list of college-required syllabus statements, visit
https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/.

Topics include:

- Intellectual exchange
- Disabilities
- Non-Discrimination
- Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations
- CARE Team
- Campus Concealed Carry