

South Plains College  
Spring 2025 Syllabus: ENGL 1302

**Instructor:** Dr. Jamie Wormsbaker

**Department:** English and Philosophy

**Discipline:** English

**Course Number:** English 1302

**Course Title:** Composition II

**Office Location:** Lubbock Downtown Center Office # 2028

**Office Hours—Spring 2025**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	T/TH	Friday
11:00 am- 1:00 pm	10:00-11:00 am	11:00 am- 1:00 pm	10:00-11:00 am	9:00 am- 11:00 am and by appointment

**Office Phone:** 806-716-2481

**Email:** [jwormsbaker@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:jwormsbaker@southplainscollege.edu)

- I try to answer emails within 24 hours Monday-Thursday and Friday morning.
- Required for emails: Type your name, course, and subject in the subject box of your email to me (example: *Jane Doe – ENGL 1302 - Question about Week 2*).

**Word of Welcome**

WELCOME to your English course! The fact that you are signed up for this college class suggests that you are motivated and capable. I will hold high expectations for each of you, but I will also offer you any help you might need along the way. I want each of you to succeed and feel good about what you have produced in this class. Let's work together to make this class an extraordinary opportunity for you to grow as readers and writers. You can expect a rigorous (but fun) class this semester.

**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

**Required Textbooks (print or ebook):** You are not required to buy a separate textbook for this course. All of our readings will be free to you through a platform called Persuall, which I will teach you how to use in class.

#### Technology Requirements:

1. **SPC username and password:** email [helpdesk@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:helpdesk@southplainscollege.edu) or call the SPC Help Desk at 806-716-2600 for help with your username/password
2. **SPC student email access:**
  - **SPC Student Email Account:** If you haven't already, you must go ahead and activate your SPC student email account. Not only will you need access to your SPC email account to receive TURNITIN digital paper submission receipts for our class, but you must use it to communicate with me.
    - Your SPC Email address is:  
**[yourSPCusername@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:yourSPCusername@southplainscollege.edu)** (ex. [jsmith1234@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:jsmith1234@southplainscollege.edu)).
    - Your student email password is the same as your Blackboard password. If you need help, call the SPC Help Desk at 806-716-2600.
    - To access your SPC email account, log in to [MySPC here](#)
    - You can also set up access to your SPC email account through mobile phone mail apps, such as default smartphone Mail app or the Outlook app.
    - Check with the SPC Help Desk for assistance: 806-716-2600.
3. **Regular access to a computer and reliable internet service:**
  - Open computer labs are available free to students with an SPC I.D. on all SPC campuses (Levelland, Reese, Lubbock, Plainview).
  - Computer or internet connection problems may occur for you at some point this semester. **Understand that 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! Line up three friends TODAY who would be willing to loan you a laptop if yours suddenly crashes.
  - Free WiFi is available in all SPC campus buildings, some SPC parking lots, most coffee shops, etc.

4. **Blackboard:** grades, assignments, quizzes, videos, and many other resources for this class are accessed through the Blackboard learning management system. Use your SPC credentials to log in here: <https://southplainscollege.blackboard.com>
5. **Google Documents:** You are required to have a Gmail account in order to use Google Docs to create papers for this course. We will be using Google Docs as a way to track your essay document history if AI Usage is a concern.
6. **Microsoft Office:** As a member of the SPC community, you have free access to Office 365. Office 365 provides free online access to Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft PowerPoint, and 1TB of free online storage with Microsoft OneDrive. You can use Office 365 online or download for free and install to your PC, Mac, or mobile device. Once a document has been created via Google Docs, we will download the document as a Microsoft Word document in order to submit the writing to Turnitin.
  - o To access Office 365 for free as an SPC student, go to <https://www.office.com> and sign in with the following credentials: SPCusername@southplainscollege.edu and your SPC password.
  - o You can then click the link for the individual application you want to use online, or click the install office link towards the top right to install the application to your computer.
7. **Adobe Reader:** Available to download free from this website: <http://www.adobe.com/products/reader.html>

**Computer Help:** need help with your computer, laptop, email address, username/password?

- [helpdesk@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:helpdesk@southplainscollege.edu)
- 806-716-2600

#### Blackboard Help:

1. **Get Help by Email:** [blackboard@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:blackboard@southplainscollege.edu)
  - o 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.
  - o The blackboard@southplainscollege.edu account is monitored from 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m., Monday – Sunday.
  - o You can expect a response within 24 hours by email; however, the average response time is less than one hour.
2. **Get Help by Phone:** 806-716-2180 (available between 8 AM and 4 PM Monday through Friday, except on holidays)
3. **Get Help Online:** click on the Help link listed in the Blackboard course menu.

#### 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, found within the current unit we are studying on your main Blackboard page for the course.

**Supplies:** Access to computer with printer and Internet access; Large 3-Ring Binder to hold course materials, readings, and other handouts.

**This course satisfies a Core Curriculum Requirement:** 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.
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.

**Grade Calculation:**

- Weekly Assignments: (Perusall Readings, Quizzes, Homework, In-Class Writing, In-Class Graded Discussions) -- **45%**

- Synthesis Project and Presentation (Process Work: Brainstorms, Outlines, Drafts, Peer Reviews, etc.)--  
20%
  - Midterm Exam  
10%
  - Research Essay Process Work-- (Brainstorms, Outlines, Drafts, Peer Reviews, etc.)  
10%
  - Research Essay (Final Draft)--  
15%
- Total = 100%**

### Course Details

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

- TURNITIN is where papers are submitted and graded inside our Blackboard course.
- TURNITIN accepts files saved in the following formats: Microsoft Word, WordPerfect, Rich Text Format (.rtf file ending), and PDF. TURNITIN does NOT accept Microsoft Works documents. Do not submit Text documents (.txt file ending) because they will not retain the proper MLA formatting.
- 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.
- Once your paper has been graded, click on the **View/Submit** link to view my comments and marks.

#### **Attendance Policy**

In ENGL 1302 face to face courses, students are required to attend every class. Students are considered absent if they miss 30 minutes of a class or more. Students are considered late if they arrive 6 or more minutes late, so if a student shows up to a 9:30 class at 9:36am or later, they will be considered late. For every 2 late classes, a student will be given an absence. Students must attend 90% of this course to receive credit, so **a student is only allowed 3 excused absences.** *I may drop the student from both courses with an "X" if a student has more than three absences.*

#### **Late Work**

- Any assignments submitted past the due date will receive an automatic deduction

- in points (10) after the first 24 hours. After the first 24 hours, assignments may only receive partial credit (50%). Late assignments must be turned in **within** 48 hours of the due date to receive the partial credit. After 2 days, assignments will not be accepted and you will receive a zero for the assignment.
- **HOMEWORK / OUTSIDE WORK:** Please note that if there are readings or assignments due ON a certain date, on the course calendar, you need to be working on them and have them completed BEFORE class on the day they are due. For example, if you are assigned homework to complete part of an essay draft or a reading analysis and the draft/analysis is due the next time we meet, this means that we will be using the draft during class to make more progress. If you aren't prepared with the assigned work, you won't be able to participate in class that day and must take an absence.
  - 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 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 deadline.
  - You may make up a major assignment (essay/exam) only if you have contacted me prior to the deadline and do have a dire circumstance, such as a death in the family. But keep in mind that you normally have at least a week or more within to complete major assignments. Plan ahead; if you have to be out of town or at work right when assignments are due, finish them early.
  - **If you accumulate ten zeros and/or do not submit assignments for three weeks in a row, you will be dropped from the course.**

### Essay Assessment Guidelines:

Essays may earn grades ranging from A to F based on the following grading scale. Depending on the assignment, certain criteria may be weighted more than others, and each assignment may establish additional, more specific criteria. The quality of each of the criteria determines the letter grade. Not every essay will fit a single grade's description completely.

#### **"A" Essay (Superior)**

To earn an "A," a paper meets all of the criteria below:

1. The paper fulfills all the basic requirements of the assignment (for example, topic, purpose, length, format).
2. **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.
3. **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.

4. **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).
5. **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:

1. The paper fulfills all the basic requirements of the assignment (for example, topic, purpose, length, format).
2. **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.
3. **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.
4. **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).
5. **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:

1. The paper fulfills all the basic requirements of the assignment (for example, topic, purpose, length, format).
2. **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.
3. **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.
4. **Coherence:** Organization of ideas is satisfactory, transitions are logical, and the paper indicates competence in basic components (introduction, conclusion, and body paragraph structure).

5. **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:

1. The paper only partially fulfills one or more of the basic requirements of the assignment (for example, topic, purpose, length, format).
2. **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.
3. **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.
4. **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).
5. **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:

1. The paper fails to fulfill one or more of the basic requirements of the assignment (for example, topic, purpose, length, format).
2. **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.
3. **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.
4. **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).
5. **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."

**Student Responsibilities:** Students are expected to:

1. Be on time and regularly attend class
2. 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
3. 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
4. Have respectful behavior toward the instructor and classmates in order to contribute to the atmosphere necessary for learning
5. Be responsible for courteous actions to others, especially by putting away cell phones and other distractions while in class
6. 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
7. Submit all assignments in accordance with due dates, formats, and requirements
8. Avoid all forms of cheating and plagiarism on all assignments, including improper collaboration
9. Ask questions when something is unclear.

**Plagiarism and Cheating:** Students are expected to do their own work on all projects, quizzes, assignments, and papers. Failure to comply with this policy may result in an F for the assignment and/or an F for the course if circumstances warrant.

English Department Plagiarism and Cheating Policy:

**There is zero tolerance for academic dishonesty in this course. Do not under any circumstances use words you didn't write in an essay or assignment without proper documentation. If you're not sure about proper documentation, you must reach out via email or office hours to ensure academic integrity. Plagiarism will automatically result in an F for the assignment and can result in getting dropped from the course with an F. In addition, an Academic Dishonesty Report may be filed with the Dean of Students.**

Plagiarism violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Using Artificial Intelligence websites or apps to generate and/or revise all or part of a paper or other assignment;

- Turning in a paper that has been purchased, borrowed, or downloaded from another writer or from an online site;
- Cutting and pasting together information from books, articles, other papers, or online sites without providing proper documentation;
- Using direct quotations (three or more words) from a source without showing them to be direct quotations and citing them;
- Submitting an assignment for this course that you also submitted to another course without my express approval;
- Missing in-text citations and/or missing works cited entries.

Cheating violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Obtaining an examination by stealing or collusion;
- Discovering the content of an examination before it is given;
- Using an unauthorized source of information (notes, textbook, texting, internet, Quizlet, etc.) during an examination, quiz, or homework assignment;
- Entering an office or building to obtain unfair advantage;
- Taking an examination for another;
- Altering grade records;
- Copying another's work during an examination or on a homework assignment;
- Rewriting another student's work in Peer Reviews so that the writing is no longer the original student's;
- Taking pictures of a test, test answers, or someone else's paper

#### **Procedure for AI Usage on Papers and Assignments:**

FIRST OCCURRENCE: In-person meeting with instructor where you will be asked to prove your writing and revision process.

- Opportunity to redo the assignment for partial credit if submitted by an agreed-upon deadline (with a 20-point deduction).
- Further confirmed AI usage in the course may result in the student being dropped from the course with an F for plagiarism. An Academic Dishonesty Report may be filed with the Dean of Students if circumstances warrant.
- The student should avoid using Grammarly, Quillbot, and other AI sources for writing or revision
- Instead, the student should seek regular free tutoring help from the SPC Writing Center and via Tutor.com in Blackboard

SECOND OCCURRENCE:

1. Zero for the assignment

2. Advise Early Alert to inform the student.
3. No opportunity to redo the assignment will be offered. The zero stands.

THIRD OCCURRENCE:

1. Zero for the assignment
2. If circumstances warrant, an Academic Dishonesty Report.
3. Administrative Drop Report for the student with Plagiarism as the reason. An X or F may be assigned at the instructor's discretion.

**SPC's Common Syllabus Policies:** Please see the following syllabus statements common to all South Plains College classes <https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/>

**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.

**Diversity Statement:** 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.

**Disabilities 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.

**WITHDRAWAL POLICY:** The last day to withdraw/drop with a grade of "W" is **April 27<sup>th</sup>**. It is the student's responsibility to withdraw from this course. Otherwise, students will be assigned their earned letter grade at the end of the course. Course averages will be updated twice each week, and guidance will be provided throughout the term to help students decide whether they need to drop the class or not. For more information regarding drops/withdrawals, please visit <https://www.southplainscollege.edu/admission-aid/apply/schedulechanges.php>.

**COVID-19:** For information and resources about COVID-19, please visit <https://www.southplainscollege.edu/emergency/covid19-faq.php>.

For information regarding official South Plains College statements about diversity, disabilities, non-discrimination, Title V Pregnancy Accommodations, and Campus Concealed Carry, please visit: <https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/>.

**Campus Concealed Carry Statement** (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>

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.