

**Syllabus and Policy Statement  
English 1301: Composition  
Fall 2018**

**Instructor:** Denise Sherrod

**Office hours:** MWF 3:30-4:00 or by appointment.

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**Text:** Langan, John. *College Writing Skills with Readings*. 9<sup>th</sup> ed. New York: McGraw-Hill, 2014.

**Novels:** See KPA reading list.

**Supplemental reading:** Handouts and exercises provided throughout the course.

**Course Description:** English 1301 is a **writing and research** course designed to help the student learn to produce effective academic essays, using various formats; and research projects based on literary academic discourse, inquiry, and evaluation of published materials which support the student's proposed thesis. English 1301 is designed to help students think, read, and write well, employing the standards of formal written language. **There will be a lot of writing.**

**Course Objectives:** At the end of the course, *successful* students will be able to:

- appreciate the value of reading from literary texts for purposes of inquiry, learning, thinking, and discussing academic questions;
- understand that writing is a nonlinear process of discovery, drafting, and revision; and gain awareness of audience and purpose;
- use the library or other research sources to gather concrete evidence; to analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information from a variety of texts; and to draw logical conclusions to support assertions;
- produce between 20 and 25 pages of portfolio-quality writing, working primarily from argumentation; and to incorporate at least three sources for each major paper, **using quotations, in-text citations, and works cited pages;**
- employ the conventions of academic writing to autonomously identify and correct most errors in writing.

**Attendance Requirements:** Attendance is required at all sessions. There are no excused absences except in extreme circumstances (severe illness, family death). Any student who must miss a class should notify the instructor ahead of time. The student is responsible for any missed work. Any student who is more than ten minutes late will be counted absent. Any student who misses more than six class sessions will be advised to drop the course or to set up alternative credit recovery sessions. *All local school holidays and state testing days will be observed; however, absences for school extra-curricular activities must be discussed with the instructor, and all work must be submitted before the absence occurs.*

**Disruptive Behavior:** Disruptive behavior or any form of disrespect toward the instructor or peers will not be tolerated. You will be ejected from the classroom and will be counted absent for that session. Cell phone use or texting during class instruction are considered disruptive behaviors. I will confiscate your phone, and it will cost you money to get it back.

**Plagiarism and Cheating:** Academic dishonesty is a serious matter. All submitted work is expected to be the result of the student's own thought, research, and self-expression. Plagiarism involves claiming work of others as one's own or borrowing words or ideas from others without acknowledging the source or giving credit. Submitted work that is plagiarized will earn a grade of F, which may result in failure of or expulsion from the course.

**Students with Disabilities:** Any student with physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities who needs special accommodations should notify the KPA administration so that the appropriate arrangements can be made.

**Statement of Nondiscrimination:** This instructor will not discriminate on the basis of color, age, gender, ethnicity, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status; nor will the instructor allow any form of discrimination from class members toward another student or students in 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.*

-South Plains General Catalog

**Grading Policy: All assignments are due on posted dates.** Late papers will be penalized 30 points for each late day. Letter grades on written work will be evaluated as A-superior; B-above average; C-average; D-poor; F-unacceptable. **Please note:** In college writing, C is considered an average paper. It may not have anything "wrong" with it; it simply does not go beyond average in form and/or content. **In other words, in order to earn an "A," your paper must be pretty impressive.** All letter grades will be converted to numerical grades at the end of the course.

Students should keep all returned, graded work for self-monitoring of progress and estimation of final grade outcome.

- Major essays, tests, & projects 45%
- Intermediate grades (quizzes, shorter essays discussions) 35%
- Basic grades (exercises, questions) 20%
- Final 10% of semester grade

**Paper Format Policy:** All papers must conform to MLA (Modern Language Association), 8<sup>th</sup> edition. All major writing assignments must be typed, double-spaced, in Times New Roman, 12-point format.

### English 1301, Fall 2018 Calendar

This is a tentative calendar for the course. Specific dates may need to be adjusted and are subject to change. Each week there will be extensive reading of professional writing examples and study of research and documentation methods.

Essays will be assigned on Mondays. Writing labs will be on Wednesdays of the next week. **Rough drafts will be submitted for editing by email only and are due on the Tuesday prior to a writing lab.** Final copies of essays will be due on the Monday following the writing lab.

#### Week 1: Aug. 20-Aug.24

Comp: MLA review/overview of changes. *College Writing Skills (CWS)*: Ch. 1 & 2 and activities.

Literature: Assign Summer Reading Project; begin *Paradise Lost (PL)*. Assign Book I.

Grammar: TPT Daily Activities; Weekly editing exercises

#### Week 2: Aug. 27-31

*CWS*: Ch. 3 & 4 and activities.

Literature: *PL* Assign Book II. Summer Rdg. Project due.

Grammar : TPT Daily Activities; Weekly editing exercises

#### Week 3: Sept. 3-7 (Labor Day—No class on Monday, the 4th)

Comp: *College Writing Skills*—Ch. 5 & 6 and activities.

Literature: *PL*: Assign Book III.

Grammar: TPT Daily Activities; Weekly editing exercises

#### Week 4: Sept. 10-14

Comp: *CWS*

**DESCRIPTION:** Ch. 8

Read student essays and do activities. Read professional essay and activities.

Assign first essay from topics on p. 198-200.

Begin descriptive essay. RD: Sept. 12; Lab on **Sept. 13. FC due on Sept. 18.**

Literature: *PL*: Assign Book IV.

Grammar: TPT Daily Activities; Weekly editing exercises

#### Week 5: Sept. 17-21—Progress Reports go out.

Comp: **Begin Annotated Bibs.**

*CWS*: **DESCRIPTIVE essay** (cont.)

RD: Sept. 12; Lab on Sept. 13.

Literature: Assign *PL* Book V.

Grammar: TPT Daily Activities; Weekly editing exercises

Week 6: Sept. 24-28

Comp: *CWS*:

**NARRATIVE essay—Ch. 9.** Read student essays and do activities. Choose from topics on p. 217-221.

Begin narrative essay. **RD**—Sept. 26. **Lab on Sept. 27.** **FC**—Oct. 2.

Literature: Assign PL Book VI.

Grammar: TPT Daily Activities; Weekly editing exercises.

Week 7: Oct. 1-5

*CWS*:

**NARRATIVE (cont.) FC of narrative essay due \_\_\_\_\_.**

Literature: Assign PL Book VII.

Grammar: TPT Daily Activities; Weekly editing exercises

**Begin Annotated Bibs--due Dec. 5.**

Week 8: Oct. 8-12

*CWS*: **COMPARISON/CONTRAST Essay—Ch. 13.**

**RD**—Oct. 10. **Lab on Oct. 11.** **FC**—Oct. 16

Literature: Assign PL Book VIII.

Grammar: Weekly editing and vocabulary exercises

Week 9: Oct. 15-19 (End of KPA 1<sup>st</sup> 9 Weeks)

*CWS*: **Comp/Contr. essay (cont.) FC of comp./contr. due Oct. 16.**

Literature: Review and Test over *PL so far* and *CWS*, Ch. 1-3 (mid-term).

Assign Book IX in PL.

Week 10: Oct. 22-26 (KPA 2<sup>nd</sup> 9 Weeks begins)

*CWS*: **ARGUMENTATION, CH. 16.** Read student essays and professional essay.

**RD**: Oct. 31; **Lab: NOV. 1; FC: NOV. 6.**

Literature: Assign PL Book X.

Grammar: Weekly editing & vocab. exercises

Week 11: Oct. 29-Nov. 2

*CWS*: **CH. 21** “Using the Library and the Internet & **CH. 22**, “Writing a Research Paper.”

Literature: Assign Book XI in PL.

Grammar: TPT Daily Activities; Weekly editing exercises

**Annotated Bibs due Dec. 5.**

Week 12: Nov. 5-9

*CWS*: Cont. Ch. 22, Research Papers. **Find a subject to research and argue. FC due Nov. 27**

Literature: Assign Book XII in PL.

Grammar: Weekly editing & vocab. exercises

Week 13: Nov. 12-16

*CWS*: Continue research essays: **RD**: Nov. 14; **Lab on Nov. 15**, **FC due Nov. 27.**

Literature: Discussion of PL.

Grammar: Weekly editing & vocab. exercises

**Annotated Bibs due Dec. 5. (Two weeks after Thanksgiving!)**

**Nov. 19-23 (KPA Thanksgiving Break)**

Week 14: Nov. 26-30

*CWS*: Research RD due Nov. 14; Lab on Nov. 15, **FC due Nov. 27**

Literature:

TPT Daily Activities; Weekly editing & vocab. exercises.

**Annotated Bibs due next week!**

Week 15: Dec. 3-7

*CWS*: Research FC due; Work on CH. 43: “Effective Word Choice.”

Literature: Begin *A Christmas Carol*

TPT Daily Activities; Weekly editing exercises

**ANNOTATED BIBS DUE Dec. 5.**

Week 16: Dec. 10-14

*CWS*: Continue Ch. 43.

TPT Daily Activities; Weekly editing and vocab. exercises

Literature: *A Christmas Carol*—project.

Week 17: Dec. 17-21:

FINAL EXAM