



RANGER COLLEGE  
STEPHENVILLE, TEXAS

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COURSE SYLLABUS

**Composition I**

**ENGL 1301**

**3 credit hours**

**Fall 2017]**

**INSTRUCTOR: Crystal Tarpley**

**Tarpley**

INSTRUCTOR: Crystal Tarpley  
EMAIL: crystal.tarpley@sville.us  
OFFICE: Stephenville High School  
PHONE: 254-968-4141  
HOURS: Monday - Friday 8:00 - 9:15 a.m.

### **I. Texas Core Curriculum Statement of Purpose**

Students will gain a foundation of knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world, develop principles of personal and social responsibility for living in a diverse world, and advance intellectual and practical skills that are essential for all learning.

### **II. Course Description**

This is a course in essay composition. A knowledge of spelling, sentence structure, punctuation, and paragraph generation is needed for entrance into this course. The study focuses on various patterns of exposition and includes instruction and practice in writing brief, semi-formal research papers, preceded by an overview of grammar basics.

### **III. Required Background or Prerequisite**

A passing grade on the TSI is required for this course.

### **IV. Required Textbook and Course Materials**

Title: *Prentice Hall Reader*  
Editor: George Miller  
Edition: Eleventh  
Publisher: Longman  
ISBN: 978-0-321-89971-2

Title: *They Say/I Say: The Moves That Matter in Academic Writing*  
Authors: Gerald Graff and Cathy Birkenstein  
Edition: Third  
Publisher: W.W. Norton & Company  
ISBN: 978-0-393-93584-4

### **V. Course Purpose**

Courses in Language focus on how ideas, values, beliefs, and other aspects of culture express and affect human experience. These courses involve the exploration of ideas that foster aesthetic and intellectual creation in order to understand the human condition across cultures.

## VI. Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

Demonstrate knowledge of individual and collaborative writing processes.

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 Edited American English in academic essays

## VII. Core Objectives

This course directly meets the following of the six Core Objectives:

- **Critical Thinking Skills:** To include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information
- **Communication Skills:** To include effective development, interpretation, and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication
- **Empirical and Quantitative Skills:** To include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions
- **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
- **Social Responsibility:** To include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities

## VIII. Methods of Instruction

This is a multimedia class, and as such may include lectures, assigned readings, discussions, group projects, videos, electronic documents, PowerPoints, and more.

## IX. Methods of Assessment

Each of these assessments addresses one or more of the Core Objectives: Critical Thinking Skills (**CT**), Communication Skills (**COM**), Teamwork (**TW**), and Personal Responsibility (**PR**)

- **Essays (CT, COM):** Students will write three essays and one research paper and will participate in writing-related activities throughout the semester as prescribed by the instructor. These writings are evaluated by the ability to develop a thesis statement in the introduction, support the thesis statement in the body, and demonstrate unity and focus. They will demonstrate students' proper use of grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, and spelling. The research paper will require proper documentation of sources using MLA format. The assignments will be composed during allocated time periods and will be graded according to clearly specified criteria (see "Essay Grading Criteria" on page 4 of this syllabus).
- **Quizzes (CT):** Quizzes will assess the adequate completion of assigned readings and students' understanding of grammatical concepts.
- **Reading and Homework (PR):** Students are expected to complete assigned readings outside of class. These readings may come from the official course textbooks or from other sources chosen by the instructor.
- **Collaborative Revising/Editing (COM, CT, TW, PR):** Students will participate in small groups face-to-face and via google docs for response, revising and editing assignments.
- **Final Exam (CT, COM):** All students will take the final exam. No exemptions are allowed.

### **Grading**

To pass the class, students must achieve at least a 70% overall grade.

A	90-100%
B	80-89%
C	70-79%
D	60-69%
F	Below 60%

Student grades will be made up of the following components:

- Three Essays & Research Paper                      60%
- Rough Drafts, Quizzes, and Homework            25%
- Final Exam    15%

## X. Course/Classroom Policies

1. **Absences:** If a student has the equivalence of three weeks of unofficial absences in a course in which he/she is currently enrolled, *the instructor may drop the student with a grade of "F."* Unofficial absences are counted from the first day of class as listed in the College Calendar, regardless of the date of the student's registration. The only official absence is an authorized school activity. All work and/or assignments missed because of an official absence must be completed in the time allowed according to district policy. **However, the preference (and to prepare you for future college level work)** would be for any assignment missed because of an official absence to be emailed to the instructor by the start of class that day or earlier.
2. **Late Work:** Any late work, including quizzes, homework, and papers, will receive a grade of zero. **IF ABSENT (FOR WHATEVER REASON) ON THE DAY ONE OF THE FOUR MAJOR WRITING ASSIGNMENTS IS DUE, IT MUST BE EMAILED BY CLASS TIME IN ORDER TO RECEIVE CREDIT.**
3. **Participation:** Students are expected to participate in class discussions and come to class having completed the assigned readings.
4. **Cheating/Plagiarism:** Any assignment reflecting cheating, plagiarism or any other form of academic dishonesty will receive a grade of zero. A second instance of plagiarism results in automatic failure of the class.
5. **Personal Conduct:** Adult behavior is expected of all students at all times. Students are expected to maintain classroom decorum that includes respect for other students and the instructor, as well as an attitude that seeks to take full advantage of the education opportunity represented by enrollment in this class and Ranger College.
6. **Tutorials:** Tutoring is available upon request.
7. **ADA Statement:** Ranger College provides a variety of services for students with learning and/or physical disabilities. The student is responsible for making the initial contact with the Ranger College Counselor. It is advisable to make this contact before or immediately after the semester begins.
8. **Cell Phones and Electronic Devices:** **STUDENTS SHOULD NOT TEXT OR USE PHONES/ELECTRONIC DEVICES IN CLASS UNLESS INSTRUCTED TO DO SO FOR CLASS PURPOSES ONLY.**

## XI. Course Outline/Schedule

Weeks 1-2: Introduction and Grammar/Mechanics Bootcamp  
Weeks 3 -5: Summary/Response Essay  
Weeks 6-7: Revision and Editing Bootcamp  
Weeks 8-10: Argument Essay with revision and editing  
Weeks 11-13: Argumentative Research Paper with revision and editing  
Weeks 14-16: Descriptive/Narrative Essay with revision and editing  
Weeks 17-18: Review and Final Exam

## **XII. Non-Discrimination Statement**

Admissions, employment, and program policies of Ranger College are nondiscriminatory in regard to race, creed, color, sex, age, disability, and national origin.

## **XIII. ADA Statement**

Ranger College provides a variety of services for students with learning and/or physical disabilities. Students are responsible for making initial contact with the Ranger College Counselor, Gabe Lewis (glewis@rangercollege.edu). It is advisable to make this contact before or immediately after the semester begins.