

**SUL ROSS STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**ENG 0310, S01**  
**(IRW: Integrated Reading and Writing Skills)**  
**M-F 9:50-11:25 FH 211**

**Instructor:** Julie Vega  
**Office and Phone:** FH 212; 837-8771  
**Office hours:** M-Th 11:30-12:00 or by appointment  
**email:** [jvega@sulross.edu](mailto:jvega@sulross.edu)

**Required**

**Book:** Pelzer, Dave. *A Child Called It: One Child's Courage to Survive*. Health Communications Inc.: Florida, 1995.

**Materials:** One spiral notebook (bring to every class period); Pen or pencil and extra paper  
**\*\*DO NOT walk into class without all materials!! Always come to class prepared!!**

**Course Description:**

This course is designed for students whose score on an approved assessment instrument does not meet minimum requirements on the writing and/or reading portion of the assessment. The focus of the course will be on applying critical reading skills for organizing, analyzing, and retaining material and developing written work appropriate to the audience, purpose, situation, and length of the assignment. The course integrates preparation in basic academic reading skills with basic skills in writing a variety of academic essays. Credit in this course cannot be used to satisfy requirements for any degree.

**Course Objective/ Learning Outcomes:**

After completing this course, the student should be able to demonstrate competency in the following:

- Locate explicit textual information, draw complex inferences, and describe, analyze, and evaluate the information within and across multiple texts of varying lengths.
- Comprehend and use vocabulary effectively in oral communication, reading, and writing.
- Identify and analyze the audience, purpose, and message across a variety of texts.
- Describe and apply insights gained from reading and writing a variety of texts.
- Compose a variety of texts that demonstrate reading comprehension, clear focus, logical development of ideas, and use of appropriate language that advance the writer's purpose.
- Determine and use effective approaches and rhetorical strategies for given reading and writing situations.
- Generate ideas and gather information relevant to the topic and purpose, incorporating the ideas and words of other writers in student writing using established strategies.
- Evaluate relevance and quality of ideas and information in recognizing, formulating, and developing a claim.
- Develop and use effective reading and revision strategies to strengthen the writer's ability to compose college-level writing assignments.

Recognize and apply the conventions of standard English reading and writing.

**Attendance Policy:**

Class attendance is mandatory and crucial to succeed in this course. You are allowed 3 absences, after the 3rd absence you will be dropped, and you will receive a grade of “F.”

**Academic Learning Center:**

The Writing Skills Lab is located in FH 213. Tutors are available to help you with any problems you may have with an assignment. Take advantage of this service any time you need help. The tutors are there to help you!

**Writing Center:**

The Writing Center is located in MAB 102. Graduate students are available to assist you with your essays.

**ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act):** Sul Ross State University is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is the student’s responsibility to initiate a request for accessibility services. Students seeking accessibility services must contact Mary Schwartze, M. Ed., L.P.C., in Counseling and Accessibility Services, Ferguson Hall, Room 112. The mailing address is P.O. Box C-122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas 79832. Telephone: 432-837-8691. E-mail: mschwartz@sulross.edu .

**Regulations for Academic Honesty:**

Each student must abide by rules and regulations published by the University. Following are the rules and regulations/policies for violation of academic honesty as stated in the *Student Handbook: Student Conduct and Discipline, Academic Honesty page 80*.

**ACADEMIC HONESTY**

The University expects all students to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is beyond reproach and to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of their classroom. The University may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty, including but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work, plagiarism, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials.

“Cheating” includes:

1. Copying from another student’s test paper, laboratory report, other report, or computer files, data listings, and/or programs, or allowing another student to copy from same.
2. Using, during a test, materials not authorized by the person giving the test.
3. Collaborating, without authorization, with another person during an examination or in preparing academic work.
4. Knowingly, and without authorization, using, buying, selling, stealing, transporting, soliciting, copying, or possessing, in whole or in part, the contents of a non-administered test.
5. Substituting for another student; permitting any other person, or otherwise assisting any other person to substitute for oneself or for another student in the taking of an examination or test or the preparation of academic work to be submitted for academic credit.
6. Bribing another person to obtain a non-administered test or information about a non-administered test.

7. Purchasing, or otherwise acquiring and submitting as one's own work any research paper or other writing assignment prepared by an individual or firm. This section does not apply to the typing of a rough and/or final version of an assignment by a professional typist.

8. "Plagiarism" means the appropriation and the unacknowledged incorporation of another's work or idea in one's own written work offered for credit.

9. "Collusion" means the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing written work offered for credit.

10. "Abuse of resource materials" means the mutilation, destruction, concealment, theft or alteration of materials provided to assist students in the mastery of course materials.

11. "Academic work" means the preparation of an essay, dissertation, thesis, report, problem, assignment, or other project that the student submits as a course requirement or for a grade.

All academic dishonesty cases may be first considered and reviewed by the faculty member. If the faculty member believes that an academic penalty is necessary, he/she may assign a penalty but must notify the student of his/her right to appeal to the department chair, the dean and eventually, to the Provost and Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs before imposition of the penalty. At each step in the process, the student shall be entitled to written notice of the offense and/or of the administrative decision, an opportunity to respond, and an impartial disposition as to the merits of his/her case. The decision of the Provost and Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs shall be final.

In the case of flagrant or repeated violations, the Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs may refer the matter to the Dean of Students for further disciplinary action. No disciplinary action shall become effective against the student until the student has received procedural due process except as provided under Interim Disciplinary Action.

Any violations in this course will be grounds for automatic "0" on the assignment with no possibility for makeup work. If the violation occurs a second time, student will be referred to the chair of the department for further review and action.

### **Course Requirements:**

This class is geared around helping you learn the basics of writing an essay not for the sole purpose of passing a test, but to also help you become a successful college student; therefore, you can expect to do a lot of writing and reading. Not all of it is going to be difficult, but you will be expected to do the best that you possibly can. I am not expecting perfection. What I do expect is for you to work hard at becoming a better writer. I want you to work on improving your weaknesses as a writer and building on your strengths. All assignments **MUST** be turned in during class on the day they are due. I will not accept any late assignments under any circumstances. **NO EXCEPTIONS!!!!** You know when you are going to be absent because of a school related activity, so you must turn in any and all assignments, take quizzes, or takes tests **BEFORE** you are to be out.

- Attendance is mandatory as part of the course grade, but also and more importantly, to ensure understanding of material to be covered throughout the semester. Each student will begin with a 100 and for each absence, 10 points will be deducted from the grade. If a student is 10 minutes or more late for class, he/she will be counted absent. All SRSU related activities will not result in point deductions **ONLY** if the student lets me know

**BEFORE** the absence (**No Exceptions and No Excuses**). If you come to class unprepared (pen/pencil, paper, English Grammar, journal), you will be asked to leave and you will receive an absence.

- You will be given a journal entry every class and you will have 15 minutes to write during class time. I expect you to use this time wisely. I will grade you on the number of entries you have compared to the number that were assigned. Hint: If you come to class each time and write the required one page you should easily get an A for your journal score. If you miss class, you should either get the journal entry from another classmate or write on a subject that interests you.
- Reader Response assignments will pertain to a particular issue that is related to an issue or subject which occurred in or was discussed in the novel *A Child Called It*. Each student will find, read, bring to class, and share the contents of the article with the class. The student will also complete the reader response questions handout.
- Grammar assignments will be assigned throughout the term either in class (which must be completed by the end of class and on Blackboard).
- You will be required to write 2 essays during the course of the semester. You will turn in a rough draft for each essay written. In order to get credit for the essay, each component for the writing process must be turned in with the final paper (outline, rough draft, peer review, and essay break-down). The rough draft must be checked by either a **WRITING TUTOR** working in the Academic Learning Center in FH 213 or a graduate student working in the Writing Lab MAB 102. It is your responsibility to make sure the tutor signs or initials (include printed name) the rough draft after it has been checked as well as your responsibility to sign-in at either place. **All components to the essay are due at the same time. I DO NOT accept emailed essays.**
- Quizzes will be administered randomly throughout the semester. There are absolutely no make-up quizzes.
- There will be two exams: mid-term and final. Each will consist of a section over grammar, stories, lectures, handouts, and there could also possibly be an essay portion in each test. Final exam is comprehensive. There will be **NO** make-up exams given.

**Your final grade for the class will be calculated as follows:**

Essays	50%
Journal	10%
Reader Response	5%
Grammar	20%
Attendance	5%
Quizzes/Mid-term/Final	10%

**\*Grade distribution is as follows:**

**A= 90+**

**B= 80-89**

**C= 70-79**

**F= 69 and below**

**PR=only given at the discretion of the instructor**

**(attendance, assignments, participation will be taken into consideration for the PR grade)**

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**Tentative Schedule**  
**ENG 0310**  
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**July**

- 7 Introduction
- 8 Blackboard: Discussion Board**
- 11 Diagnostic: Grammar
- 12 Guidelines and Requirements
- 13 Parts of an Essay, Parts of a paragraph, Transitions, Generating Ideas, Unity, Language (diction & tone), Audience, Appropriateness, Purpose, Paragraph Expansion Concrete & abstract words, Verb choice, connotation, denotation; Topic #1~~Expressive/Descriptive Essay, Generate Ideas, Outline
- 14 Rough Draft Due, Peer Review
- 15 Blackboard: Fragments, Run-Ons and Comma Splices**
- 18 Reader Response Due**
- 19 2<sup>nd</sup> Rough Draft, Paragraph Expansion
- 20 In-class essay formatting/essay breakdown/final revision
- 21 Essay #1 Due, Review for Midterm
- 22 Blackboard: Review for Midterm**
- 25 Midterm**
- 26 Stages of Reading
- 27 Purpose & Main Idea
- 28 *A Child Called It*—Chapters 1, 2 & 3
- 29 Blackboard: Commonly Confused Words**

August

- 1** **Reader Response Due**
- 2 Topic #2~~Convincing/Persuasive Essay, Generate Ideas, Outline
- 3 *A Child Called It*—Chapters 4, 5 & 6
- 4 *A Child Called It*—Chapter 7, Epilogue & Perspectives on Child Abuse
- 5** **Blackboard: Subject/Verb Agreement**
- 8 Rough Draft Due, Peer Review
- 9 2<sup>nd</sup> Rough Draft, Paragraph Expansion
- 10 Essay #2 Due, Review for Final Exam
- 11** **Final Exam**