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SUL ROSS STATE UNIVERSITY  
ACADEMIC CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE  
Common Course Syllabus  
ENG 0309  
Summer II 2025

**COURSE TITLE:** Basic Integrated Reading and Writing  
**SECTION, CRN,**  
**CLASS DAY & TIME:** C01/30238 MTWRF 1:00-2:40 p.m.  
 C02/30241 MTWRF 1:00-2:40 p.m.  
**CLASSROOM:** FH 203  
**PROFESSOR:** Edwin Urias  
**PROFESSOR'S Office:** FH 210  
**PROFESSOR'S PHONE #:** 432-837-8725  
**PROFESSOR'S E-MAIL:** edwin.urias@sulross.edu  
**PROFESSOR'S OFFICE HOURS:** Mondays-Thursdays 11:45-1:00 OR by appointment  
**CREDIT HOURS:** 3  
**LECTURE HOURS:** 3

**TEXAS SUCCESS INITIATIVE (TSI) PLACEMENT:**

**TSIA2/ELAR:**

Essay Score: 3 or 4  
 Diagnostic Score of 4 or higher  
 ELAR Score or 944 or lower

**CATALOG DESCRIPTION:** ENG 03090 Writing Skills (3-0). 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. Students will develop their writing and reading skills through exposure to writing and reading exercises. Topics include grammar, sentence structure, paragraph development, main ideas, supporting details, vocabulary, purpose, and tone. Credit in this course cannot be used to satisfy requirements for any degree.

**TEXTBOOK:** *The Pear Wars: Skyship Academy* by Nick James (ISBN: 978-0-545-44869-7)

**SUPPLIES:** Internet access, Sul Ross e-mail account, paper, and pen. Additional supplies may be required by your instructor.

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

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

1. Defining vocabulary using context clues
2. Identifying stated main idea, implied main idea, and central idea
3. Identifying details that support, illustrate, or elaborate
4. Recognizing relationships among ideas in written material
5. Differentiating between fact and opinion
6. Identifying author's purpose and tone
7. Determining points and support of a critical argument
8. Writing a paragraph

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

See your instructor's syllabus addendum for specific requirements.

**METHOD OF EVALUATION:**

See your instructor's syllabus addendum for specific requirements.

**ACADEMIC ETHICS:** Please remember that real success comes from learning how to do the work yourself. Your instructors believe that you are an honest individual and expect that all of the work that you do results from your own efforts. You know that a college education costs too much for you to waste your time trying to beat the system rather than figuring out how to learn the material. You know that any form of cheating is dishonest and it makes you look very bad. Your instructor will have specific responses to any academic dishonesty that s/he may encounter. A repeated instance of academic dishonesty may result in your situation being forwarded to the Dean of Student Life. Please see the *SRSU Student Handbook* for a more complete discussion of academic honesty.

**ATTENDANCE POLICY:** Sul Ross State University and the State of Texas require each student liable for any portion of the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) to attend and participate in developmental coursework. If you fail to attend and/or participate, you will earn an "F" for the course. Also, it is a course requirement that you take the final exam. Failure to do so could result in your earning an "F" for the course.

If you must be absent, you are responsible for finding out what was covered and assigned in class in order to be prepared when you return to class. According to the University catalog, "When a student has to miss class due to an authorized University activity, it will be the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor of the class in advance [and to complete all assignments] within a reasonable time and at the convenience of the instructor."

See your instructor's syllabus addendum for specific attendance criteria.

If you are absent from class, you will want to contact a classmate and get the notes that you missed.

Class Member: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Class Member: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**COURSE COMMITMENT:** You will make the decision about how long it takes you to clear your developmental writing requirement. Please keep these thoughts in mind:

- 1) Your registration in this course is the result of *your* test scores and, at this time, those scores do not indicate that you could be successful in an intensive writing college level class. We want you to be successful in your college-level courses, so learn everything that you can in this class.
- 2) It costs as much to take this class (nearly a \$1000) as it does to take any other SRSU three-hour course. Yet you know that this course does not count towards your degree. You will save a lot of money and time if you decide to clear your developmental writing requirement as quickly as possible.
- 3) You are the only one who can make the commitment to be successful in this class. You will decide how much time you spend doing homework, asking your instructor questions, and visiting with a tutor. So come to class and complete this course with a grade of “C” or better this semester.

**STUDENT ASSISTANCE:** Tutors are available in the Tutoring and Learning Center, first floor of the Library, free of charge. Please check with the Tutoring and Learning Center for hours and days of tutor availability.

**ADA Statement:** 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 Schwartz, M.Ed., L.P.C., in Counseling and Accessibility Services, Ferguson Hall, Room 112. Telephone: 432-837-8691. E-mail: [mschwartz@sulross.edu](mailto:mschwartz@sulross.edu) .

**TEXAS SUCCESS INITIATIVE (TSI) ADVISING:** As a developmental education student, you have a TSI hold on your records. In order for you to register for the next semester, you must see a TSI advisor in Lobo Den. Lobo Den is located in the Sul Ross Library on the first floor, and their phone number is 432-837-8982.

### Mr. Urias’ Addendum

Course Requirements: Materials for taking notes (pen and paper), Internet access, BlackBoard access, Office 365/One Drive access, and flashdrive (optional).

**1. Attendance:** Attend class! To be successful, you must attend class regularly. Therefore, satisfactory attendance is a course requirement. Unsatisfactory attendance consists of absences, tardiness, leaving the classroom early, coming to class unprepared to participate (without texts and/or assignments), and/or using your cell phone (turn off before class begins). No absences will be “excused” (uncounted).

Should you have to miss a class (even on university business), you are still responsible for everything that is covered in that class. Missing class or being late is not an excuse for missing a due date or misunderstanding an assignment. Your classmates are always your first resource. Therefore, you will want to make contact with a classmate in order to find out what you missed. You should feel free to contact me should you need more clarification.

Attendance will count towards 10% of your final grade. Students must take the Final Exam to pass the course. If you do not pass this course, then you will be ineligible for extracurricular activities in the fall semester.

**2. Late Work:** Do all assignments and turn them in when requested. We will do much of our work in class, so that is another excellent reason for you to be in class every day. I will accept late work under only the most egregious of circumstances, and I am the one who will decide if your circumstances are egregious or not. It doesn't happen often. Do not wait until the last minute to complete your work. This is your responsibility.

In other words, come to class, come to class on time, and come to class ready to work.

**3. Grades:** For your own peace of mind and protection, keep all graded assignments. Don't throw away anything until you have received your final grade at the end of the semester. Also, by keeping your work, you will always have an approximate idea of what your current grade is.

**4. Respect:** I want you to feel free to speak your mind in this class. However, we will share our ideas in a respectful manner. We don't have to agree with each other, but we do have to support each other's right to have a differing point of view.

**5. E-Mail:** You will want to check your Sul Ross e-mail regularly. It is an easy way for me to stay in contact with you and for you to stay in contact with me.

**6. Course Requirements:** This course is designed to help you become a stronger reader and writer. Therefore, you will do a LOT of reading and writing this semester. I do not expect perfection from you, but I do expect your best effort. Becoming a better reader and writer requires you working very hard, so that is what I expect from you – hard work and commitment. ENG 0309 can provide the foundation for your success in the university environment. You must take advantage of all the opportunities provided you this semester in this course.

A) Journal: You will be given a journal topic most class periods. You will be allowed 15 minutes to write at the beginning of class. I will collect your journal entries daily. If you are late to class, then you will have less time to write your journal and your grade will be impacted. While I want you to use your best grammar and spelling, the emphasis of this assignment is to have you practice your writing skills as well as your ability to generate information on a given topic. There is no make-up for missed journals.

B) Daily Work (Quizzes, In-Class Assignments, and Participation): I will rarely announce quizzes ahead of time. If homework is assigned, it is due when I call for it during class. In-class work should be finished before class is over. If work is not completed during class time, it will then be assigned as homework and expected to be

returned the next class period. You are expected to participate in class discussions.

Participation is part of this grade. There is no make-up for missed assignments. Your writing must be legible. If I can't read it, you can't get credit for the answer.

C) Mid-Term Exam: The Mid-Term Exam will cover the reading, writing, and grammar topics that we cover over the first half of the semester.

D) Attendance: You must attend class. You will need to sign-in each day. This sign-in sheet is evidence that you were in class. I will note on the sign-in sheet if you came in late or left early. This will impact your Attendance grade.

E) Final Exam: The Final Exam will cover the reading, writing, and grammar topics that we discuss over the course of the semester.

7. Talk to Me: If you have questions or concerns, talk to me. I can't help if I don't know what the problem is.

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Course Requirements		
Assignments	Possible Points	Earned Points
Journals	200	_____
Daily Grades: In-class assignments, participation, quizzes	500	_____
Mid-Term Exam	100	_____
Attendance	100	_____
Final Exam	100	_____
Total	1000	_____

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Grading Scale:

A = 900 – 1000 Points

B = 800 – 890 Points

C = 700 – 790 Points

F = 699 points or fewer

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## ENG 0309 Course Calendar

Course Text: *The Pearl Wars: Skyship Academy* by Nick James

### Week One:

- July 7 (M) Introduction to the course  
Introduction to each other
- July 8 (T) Writing: Journal 1  
Reading: Vocabulary in Context  
Grammar: Parts of Speech
- July 9 (W) Writing: Journal 2  
Reading: *The Pearl Wars*, Ch. 1; Vocabulary in Context  
Grammar: Parts of Speech
- July 10 (R) Writing: Journal 3  
Reading: *The Pearl Wars*, Ch. 2; Main Ideas  
Grammar: Parts of Speech
- July 11 (F) Writing: Journal 4  
Reading: *The Pearl Wars*, Ch. 3; Main Ideas  
Grammar: Sentence Structure/Simple Sentences

### Week Two:

- July 14 (M) Writing: Journal 5  
Reading: *The Pearl Wars*, Ch. 4; Supporting Details  
Grammar: Sentence Structure
- July 15 (T) Writing: Journal 6  
Reading: *The Pearl Wars*, Chs. 5 & 6; Supporting Details  
Grammar: Compound Sentences Coordination
- July 16 (W) Writing: Journal 7  
Reading: *The Pearl Wars*, Chs. 7 & 8; Transitions  
Grammar: Complex Sentences Subordination
- July 17 (R) Writing: Journal 8  
Reading: *The Pearl Wars*, Chs. 9 & 10; Transitions  
Grammar: Compound Complex Sentences
- July 18 (F) Writing: Journal 9  
Reading: *The Pearl Wars*, Chs. 11 & 12; Purpose  
Essay Organization

**Week Three:**

July 21 (M) Writing: Journal 10  
Reading: *The Pearl Wars*, Chs. 13-14; Purpose  
Grammar: Coordination

July 22 (T) Writing: Journal 11  
Reading: *The Pearl Wars*, Chs. 15-16; Tone  
Grammar: Coordination

July 23 (W) ***Mid-Term Exam***

July 24 (R) Writing: Journal 12  
Reading: *The Pearl Wars*, Chs. 17-18; Tone  
Grammar: Subordination

July 25 (F) Writing: Journal 12  
Reading: *The Pearl Wars*, Chs. 19-20; Topic?  
Grammar: Fragments

**Week Four:**

July 28 (M) Writing: Journal 15  
Reading: *The Pearl Wars*, Chs. 21-23; Fact Vs. Opinion  
Grammar: Subordination

July 29 (T) Writing: Journal 16  
Reading: *The Pearl Wars*, Chs. 24-26; Fact Vs. Opinion  
Grammar: Fragments

July 30 (W) Writing: Journal 17  
Reading: *The Pearl Wars*, Chs. 27-29; Inferences  
Grammar: Fragments

July 31 (R) Writing: Journal 18  
Reading: *The Pearl Wars*, Chs. 30-32; Inferences  
Grammar: Commas

Aug. 1 (F) Writing: Journal 19  
Reading: *The Pearl Wars*, Chs. 33-35; Fallacies  
Grammar: Run-ons

**Week Five:**

Aug. 4 (M) Writing: Journal 20  
Reading: *The Pearl Wars*, Chs. 36-38; Fallacies  
Grammar: Comma Splices

Aug. 5 (T)      Writing: Journal 21  
 Reading: *The Pearl Wars*, Chs. 39-41; Fallacies  
 Grammar: Comma Splices

Aug. 6 (W)      Writing: Journal 22  
 Reading: *The Pearl Wars*, Chs. 42-44  
 Grammar: Comma Splices

Aug. 7 (R)      Writing: Journal 23  
 Reading: *The Pearl Wars*, Chs. 45-46  
 Grammar: Practice

Aug. 8 (F)      Writing: Journal 24  
 Reading: *The Pearl Wars*, Chs. 47-48  
 Grammar: Practice

**Week Six:**

Aug. 11 (M)      Final Exam Prep

Aug. 12 (T)      In-Class: Final Exam: Essay

Aug. 13 (W)      In-Class: Final Exam: Grammar