

**SUL ROSS STATE UNIVERSITY
ACADEMIC CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE
ENG 0309 Fall 2026**

COURSE TITLE: Basic Integrated Reading and Writing
SECTION: CRN 11703 Section C01 / CRN 11705 Section C03
CLASS DAY & TIME: MWF 8:00am-8:50am / MWF 10:00am-10:50am
CLASSROOM: FH 213
INSTRUCTOR: Ms. Anne Marie Hilscher
INSTRUCTOR'S OFFICE: FH 208
INSTRUCTOR'S PHONE: 432-837-8338
INSTRUCTOR'S E-MAIL: ahilscher@sulross.edu
INSTRUCTOR'S OFFICE HOURS: MW 9:00-10:00 & 1:30-3:00
Tues/Thurs 9:30-10:45 & 1:30-3:00 and by appt.

CREDIT HOURS: 3
LECTURE HOURS: 3

TSIA2 PLACEMENT: ELAR Score of 944 or lower; Diagnostic Score of 4 or higher, Essay Score: 3 or 4

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: James, Nick. *Skyship Academy: The Pearl Wars*. Flux, 2011. ISBN-13 978-0545448697 (paperback)

SUPPLIES: Internet access, Sul Ross e-mail account, paper, pen, and a journal notebook. Your instructor may require additional supplies.

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 the 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 genuine success stems from learning how to do the work independently. 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* writing test scores at this time. We want you to be successful in your college-level writing courses, so learn everything that you can in this class.

- 2) It costs as much to take this class (at least \$900) as it does to take any other SRSU three-hour course. This course does not count towards your degree. You will save a significant amount of money and time if you decide to fulfill your developmental reading requirement.
- 3) You are the only one who can commit 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, Library first floor, free of charge. Please check with the Tutoring and Learning Center for hours and days of tutor availability.

ADA STATEMENT: SRSU Accessibility Services. Sul Ross State University (SRSU) is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is SRSU policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. It is the student’s responsibility to initiate a request each semester for each class. To help protect confidentiality, students seeking accessibility/accommodation(s) services must submit the Accommodation Request Form located on our website. Students are welcome to call the Office of Accessibility Services at 432-837-8203 or stop by Ferguson Hall, Room 112, if they have any additional questions about the process. Our mailing address is PO Box C-122, Alpine, TX, 79832.

COUNSELING: Sul Ross has partnered with TimelyCare where all SR students will have access to nine free counseling sessions. You can learn more about this 24/7/365 support by visiting [Timelycare/SRSU](#). The SR Counseling and Accessibility Services office will continue to offer in-person counseling in Ferguson Hall, Room 112 (Alpine campus), and telehealth Zoom sessions for remote students and RGC students.

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 once registration has begun for the next semester. Lobo Den is located in the library and the phone number is 837-8982.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT: All full-time and part-time students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the Student Handbook and the Undergraduate & Graduate Catalog and for abiding by the University rules and regulations. Additionally, students are responsible for checking their Sul Ross email as an official form of communication from the university. Every student is expected to obey all federal, state and local laws and is expected to familiarize themselves with the requirements of such laws.

DISTANCE EDUCATION STATEMENT: Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university’s academic support services, such as library resources, online databases, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website.

Students should correspond using Sul Ross email accounts and submit online assignments through Blackboard, which requires a secure login. Students enrolled in distance education courses at Sul Ross are expected to adhere to all policies pertaining to academic honesty and appropriate student conduct, as described in the student handbook. Students in web-based courses must maintain appropriate equipment

and software, according to the needs and requirements of the course, as outlined on the SRSU website. Directions for filing a student complaint are located in the student handbook.

CLASSROOM CLIMATE OF RESPECT: Importantly, this class will foster free expression, critical investigation, and the open discussion of ideas. This means that all of us must help create and sustain an atmosphere of tolerance, civility, and respect for the viewpoints of others. Similarly, we must all learn how to probe, oppose and disagree without resorting to tactics of intimidation, harassment, or personal attack. No one is entitled to harass, belittle, or discriminate against another on the basis of race, religion, ethnicity, age, gender, national origin, or sexual preference. Still, we will not be silenced by the difficulty of fruitfully discussing politically sensitive issues.

SRSU LIBRARIES: The Bryan Wildenthal Memorial Library and Archives of the Big Bend in Alpine offer FREE resources and services to the entire SRSU community. Access and borrow books, articles, and more by visiting the library's website, library.sulross.edu/. Off-campus access requires logging in with your LoboID and password. Librarians are a tremendous resource for your coursework and can be reached in person, by email (srsulibrary@sulross.edu), or by phone (432-837-8123).

No matter where you are based, public libraries and many academic and special libraries welcome the general public into their spaces for study. SRSU TexShare Cardholders can access additional services and resources at various libraries across Texas. Learn more about the TexShare program by visiting library.sulross.edu/find-and-borrow/texshare/ or ask a librarian by emailing srsulibrary@sulross.edu.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: Students in this class are expected to demonstrate scholarly behavior and academic honesty in the use of intellectual property. Students should submit work that is their own and avoid the temptation to engage in behaviors that violate academic integrity, such as turning in work as original that was used in whole or part for another course and/or professor; turning in another person's work as one's own; copying from professional works or internet sites without citation; collaborating on a course assignment, examination, or quiz when collaboration is forbidden. Students must also avoid using open AI sources *unless permission is expressly given* for an assignment or course. Violations of academic integrity can result in failing assignments, failing a class, and/or more serious university consequences. These behaviors also erode the value of college degrees and higher education overall. If there are any questions regarding the use of specific tools or technologies, students are encouraged to seek clarification from the instructor.

Regulations for Academic Integrity: Each student must abide by rules and regulations published by the University. The 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*.

“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, the student will receive a grade of 'F' for the entire course, and the student will be referred to the chair of the department for further review and action. The use of Grammarly or any other online editing service will NOT be accepted without proper citation and submission of unedited rough draft.

MS. HILSCHER'S ADDENDUM

SRSU'S ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) STATEMENT: The University does not recommend or endorse any specific AI tools or resources. Students should be aware that many generative AI tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Google Gemini, Microsoft Copilot) store user input and may use this data to train future models. For this reason, students should never upload or share personal, confidential, or identifiable information—such as names, ID numbers, health data, or assignment submissions containing such details—into any generative AI platform. When using AI tools, students should verify whether the tool

complies with student privacy standards as indicated by the University. Faculty may recommend specific tools that better align with institutional data privacy policies, but ultimate responsibility for data protection rests with users. Students are encouraged to use faculty-recommended platforms when engaging in coursework involving generative AI. The University is not liable for any adverse experience or impact when students interact with these tools.

MY STATEMENT: **No use of generative AI tools is permitted.** This course assumes that work submitted by students will be generated by the students themselves, working individually or in groups as directed by class assignment instructions. This policy indicates the following constitute violations of academic honesty: a student has another person/entity do the work of any substantive portion of a graded assignment for them, which includes purchasing work from a company, hiring a person or company to complete an assignment or exam, and/or using generative AI tools (such as ChatGPT).

In this course, every element of class assignments must be fully prepared by the student. The use of generative AI tools for any part of your work will be treated as plagiarism. If you have questions, please contact me.

ATTENDANCE POLICY: Class attendance is mandatory and crucial to succeed in this course. An absence because of participation in an official University activity is considered to be an authorized/excused absence. While every effort will be made by departments to minimize missed class time of students by careful scheduling of authorized University activities, when a student has to miss a class due to an authorized University activity, it will be the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor of the class in advance. ALL assignments due on a date where the student will be absent, **MUST** be turned in before the student leaves (no exceptions).

****You are allowed 6 absences total (authorized included). After the 6th absence, you will be dropped, and you will receive a grade of "F." **If you are more than 5 minutes late to class, you will be counted as absent, and to limit the number of distractions, you will not be allowed into the classroom.**

EXTRA CREDIT: There may be opportunities to receive extra credit throughout the semester; those opportunities will be announced at a later date.

LATE WORK/ABSENSES: All assignments **MUST** be submitted/completed by deadlines. I will not accept any late assignments under any circumstances. **NO EXCEPTIONS.** There are no make-up quizzes, in-class work, or exams given in this course. ****For school university-related absences, it is the student's responsibility to inform the instructor of pending absences, and MUST complete all work prior to the absence.** If the student does not complete work prior to the absence, the grade will result in a zero. No make-up work is given after the absence. If a student is absent, any assignment due that day, must be submitted via email **BEFORE** the class begins.

ENG 0309 COURSE REQUIREMENTS: This course is designed to help you become a stronger reader and writer. Therefore, this course requires substantial 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 to work 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.

1. Journal: For the entirety of the semester, you will be tasked with keeping a journal where you will be given a daily prompt and time at the beginning of class to write. Each entry must be at least half a page long. You will submit this journal at various times during the semester, so please bring it to each class.

2. In-class Assignments/Quizzes: Each week, you'll be given an assignment to be completed in class. This could be in the form of a handout/worksheet, discussion, or reading. You also will have several quizzes throughout the semester that will consist of questions from the required book and from the grammar lessons.

2. Paragraph Prompts: Each week, you will be assigned a prompt. You must write a COMPLETE PARAGRAPH (at least five sentences), which will be collected in class.

3. Exams:

- **Mid-Term Exam:** The Midterm Exam will consist of the lessons and chapters we have read up to that point in the semester.
- **Final Exam:** The Final exam will consist of all the lessons we have reviewed throughout the semester, as well as the book chapters from the Midterm to the end of the book.

Class Structure (A Typical Class Day): The only way to truly become a better reader is to read, so we will spend a lot of time reading. This course will combine self-paced learning, lectures, and one-on-one assistance. We will learn the skills necessary to become better readers, so you can apply them to college-intensive reading courses.

Communication: If you need any assistance with the course, please don't hesitate to contact me. I cannot help you if you do not maintain effective communication.

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

Journals	20%
In-class Assignments/Quizzes	50%
Paragraph Prompts	10%
Mid-term	10%
<u>Final</u>	<u>10%</u>
TOTAL	100%

****Grading Scale**

A=90-100% B=80-89% C=70-79% F=69% and below

ENG 0309
Tentative Schedule

1st Week: Aug 24-28

- Syllabus and Introductions
- Yin and Yang of Reading
- The SQ4R Method

2nd Week: Aug 31-Sep 04

- Vocabulary in Context
- Main Ideas
- Chapters 1 – 3 *The Pearl Wars*

3rd Week: Sep 07-11

- **Mon, Sep 07—No Class, Labor Day**
- Chapter 4-5 *The Pearl Wars*; Supporting Details
- Chapter 6 *The Pearl Wars*; Conclusion

4th Week: Sep 14-18

- Chapter 7 *The Pearl Wars*; Identify Nouns and Verbs
- Chapter 8 *The Pearl Wars*; Identify Antecedents and Articles
- Chapter 9 *The Pearl Wars*; Note Taking Techniques: Outline, Summary, and Mapping

5th Week: Sep 21-25

- Chapter 10 *The Pearl Wars*; Identify Pronouns
- Chapter 11 *The Pearl Wars*; Identify Adjectives
- Chapter 12 *The Pearl Wars*; Identify Adverbs

6th Week: Sep 28-Oct 02

- Identify and Practice Sentence Structure
- Simple, Compound, Complex, and Compound Complex Sentences
- Chapters 13 – 15 *The Pearl Wars*

7th Week: Oct 05-09

- Coordination
- Chapters 16 – 19 *The Pearl Wars*

8th Week: Oct 12-16

- Summarization
- Chapters 20 – 23 *The Pearl Wars*
- **MIDTERM EXAM**

9th Week: Oct 19-23

- Transitions
- Chapters 24 – 27 *The Pearl Wars*

10th Week: Oct 26-30

- Purpose
- Chapters 28 – 31 *The Pearl Wars*

11th Week: Nov 02-06

- Tone
- Chapters 32 – 35 *The Pearl Wars*

12th Week: Nov 09-13

- Chapter 36 *The Pearl Wars*; Facts
- Chapter 37 *The Pearl Wars*; Opinions
- Chapter 38 *The Pearl Wars*; Facts vs Opinions

13th Week: Nov 16-20

- Inferences
- Chapters 39 – 42 *The Pearl Wars*

14th Week 9: 23-27

- Chapters 43 – 45 *The Pearl Wars*
- **Wed-Fri, Nov 25-27, Thanksgiving Break**

15th Week: Nov 30-Dec 02

- Chapter 46-48 *The Pearl Wars*
- Book Discussion; Final Exam Review
- **Thurs., Dec 03: Study Day**

16th Week: FINALS

- Final Exam