

Course: ENGLISH 1302.250 (T-day 9:30) and ENGLISH 1302.250 (T-day 8:00)  
Location: 027 Academic

Instructor: Dr. John Wegner  
Office: 019A or LIB 203  
Phone: 942-2268, X223; 942-2566  
E-mail: [John.Wegner@angelo.edu](mailto:John.Wegner@angelo.edu)  
Opportunities to interact: MW 8-10; T-days 11-12; and by appointment

Note: I am much quicker to respond via email. In the afternoon, you should also feel free to contact me at SKYPE (SKYPE name: john.wegner4). Because I currently have two offices, you will have better luck finding me if you contact me first.

**Required texts:**

Karr, Mary. *Liar's Club*. New York: Penguin, 2005.

Moore, Alan and Dave Gibbons. *Watchmen*. New York: DC Comics, 1995.

Access to the web: If you do not have access at home, each student has access via ASU computer labs.

[San Antonio Express News](#): Login Information is at the end of the syllabus.

[ASU Writing Center](#)

e-mail

**Prerequisites and skills required for English 1302:** Successful completion of English 1301 or its equivalent through testing or transfer work. Students must be able to read, write, and think at the college level.

**Course Description:** A course in critical reading and writing across the curriculum, including the research process and the research paper. Writing is exploration and an articulation of ideas. A university education should take you on an epistemological journey, helping you develop an ideological consciousness. We spend our childhood reacting to authority. We develop our own sense of self not by simply rejecting the past but by rejecting unthinking acceptance of authority. But we can't develop, we can't understand, without finding out what the world holds. The newspaper gives us snippets, vignettes of life from around the world. It shows you things you've never imagined, while offering a glimpse of ideas you've seen. We'll take those little slices of life and delve in deeper. We are filled with beliefs, ideas, curiosities. This class will ask you dive in deeper, do the research, test your ideas and ask you to articulate those opinions intelligently. In order to do that, though, you have to be open to being wrong. I'm not going to ask you what you know: you are going to ask what you can discover.

**Course Objectives:**

- Developing skill in expressing oneself orally or in writing
- Learning to *analyze* and *critically evaluate* ideas, arguments, and points of view
- Learning how to find and use resources for answering questions or solving problems

### **Student Learning Outcomes:**

Upon completing English 1302 at Angelo State University, students will be able to

- use reading and writing for inquiry, learning, critical thinking, and communicating;
- write to a variety of audiences in a variety of disciplines;
- use the libraries resources, including RAMCAT, RAMNET, and other electronic databases;
- work through the research process to write a research paper;
- understand attribution and documentation and use the an appropriate style;

To see the Assessment of First Year Writing rubric, go to (insert web page here when available)

### **Method of Assessing Learning Outcomes:**

Learning outcomes will be assessed via two short essays, the research paper and components, and class participation.

### **Academic Honesty:**

Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding the Academic Honor Code, which is contained in both print and web versions of the Student Handbook. In essence, the willingness to cheat undermines our purpose at the university.

Plagiarism is, quite simply, turning in someone else's language, paragraphs, ideas, or writing for credit without adequately documenting your sources. Plagiarism includes letting your parents write your essay (even small portions) or turning in an essay from high school for credit in this class. To read more, check out the [Center for Academic Integrity](#).

### **Attendance:**

You are responsible for all material covered in class. If you miss class, you must contact a fellow student and get the notes. I will be happy to answer specific questions in my office, but I will not reproduce the day's lecture. Our discussions will be relevant to the research project and all essays.

### **Grades\*\*:**

2 essays (1000-1500 words)	30%
Research paper	25%
Annotated Bibliography	10%
Research proposal	10%
Class participation/daily grades:	15%
Final exam/essay:	10%

\*\*You must complete all major assignments to pass the class. (Major assignments: Essays, Research paper, annotated bib, research proposal, final).

### **About the Essays:**

I will explain each essay assignment in writing. If you ever do not understand an assignment, ask me or someone for an explanation. Each of the essays we write will be expository in nature. Your opinion is valid only insofar as you can offer some tangible, well-thought out explanation and defense of your thoughts. Your essays will assert, offer proof, and analyze that proof (explain why you used said proof). In addition, each essay will have a definite, clear thesis sentence.

The research paper constitutes 25% of your grade this semester. We will discuss research and research writing in great detail throughout the semester. Please note: failure to properly cite material will influence your grade.

**Essay Presentations:** On the essay due dates, students will provide a 5 minute presentation summarizing their essay. Students whose presentations address the following will earn a 100 for a daily grade. Each presentation will consist of three PowerPoint slides:

Slide 1: Essay's thesis

Slide 2: Summary of essay's body

Slide 3: Conclusion

### **Daily Student Responsibilities:**

You are responsible for reading the newspaper **everyday**. During class, I will assume that you have read the previous day's paper. Any quizzes will cover the news from previous days. (ie.--For Tuesday's class, you must have read Sunday-Monday. For Thursday, you must be familiar with Tuesday and Wednesday.) **You must be prepared to summarize and discuss three articles every day.**

### **Entering the Fish Bowl:**

Every day, I will ask particular students to come to the front of the room. Your responsibility:

1. Access the article you will discuss.
2. Summarize the article's main points. (Who, What, When, Where, Why)
3. Connect the article to other events from the news, ASU, Texas, etc.
4. List three possible research topics one might explore from the article.

Students who successfully accomplish these 4 will receive a 100 for a daily grade. The choice of students will be random and prior to class. Each student will enter the fish bowl an equal number of times throughout the semester.

**Students with Disabilities:** Please register with the office of Student Life and ADA Coordinator at 915/942-2191.

**Graduating Seniors:** It is your responsibility to notify me that you are a graduating senior, and it is your responsibility to pass this course. Failure to complete the assigned work at a passing level will result in failure.

Out of class papers will be scored in the following manner for organization, development, and content:

A+= 98

C+= 78

F= 55

A = 95

C = 75

A-= 92

C-= 72

B+= 88                      D+= 68  
 B = 85                      D = 65  
 B-= 82                      D-= 62

The rubric listing content areas used to determine this portion of the grade are available at (insert web address here).

Once a letter grade is established, the following points will be deducted for mechanical errors:

You get 2 free points a page, for up to 5 pages. (3 pages= 6 free points. 4 pages= 8 points. 5 pages= 10 points. 6 pages= 10 points, etc.)

Each spelling error will be worth 2 points. (Typos are spelling errors.)

Each of the following errors in grammar will be worth 2 points:

1. comma splice in compound sentences;
2. fused or run on sentence;
3. subject/verb agreement error;
4. person and number shift;
5. pronoun antecedent unclear;
6. pronoun antecedent agreement error;
7. verb tense shift (only once);
8. sentence fragment (unless you write [sf] in the margin beside it).

Each of the following punctuation errors will be worth one point:

1. apostrophe in possessives missing;
2. comma in complex sentences incorrect;
3. improper punctuation at the end of the sentence;
4. failure to underscore or use quotations marks with titles;
5. failure to use quotation marks with quotations;
6. capitalization mistakes.

### Schedule of Events

1-19	Introductions; Formatting; plagiarism; <a href="#">Writers Resume</a>
1-21	Registering for the newspaper; library tutorial; 10 areas of interest
1-26	discussion--editorial, opinion, belief, letters to the editor;
1-28	discussion
2-2	<a href="#">Assign Essay 1</a>
2-4	discussion
2-9	Essay 1 due
2-11	discussion
2-16	Mary Karr's <i>The Liar's Club</i>
2-18	Writers Conference in Honor of Elmer Kelton
2-23	discussion--news and events
2-25	discussion
3-2	MLA and APA format;

3-4	<a href="#">assign essay 2</a>
3-11	Essay 2 draft— <a href="#">peer review</a>
3-13	Essay 2 conferences
3-16	Spring Break
3-18	Spring Break
3-23	essay 2 due
3-25	discussion--news and events
3-30	<a href="#">research proposal due</a>
4-1	discussion--news and events
4-6	discussion--news and events
4-8	discussion--news and events
4-13	<a href="#">Annotated bibliography due</a>
4-15	discussion--news and events
4-20	discussion--news and events
4-22	discussion--news and events
4-27	<a href="#">research paper due</a>
4-29	<i>The Watchmen</i>
5-4	<i>The Watchmen</i>
5-6	TBA
5-11	finals
5-13	finals

Accessing the *San Antonio Express News*:

1. Go to <http://e-edition.express-news.net/ee/sanantonioexpressnews/login/index.php>
2. Click on “For information on NIE subscriptions, click here”
3. Enter Username and password in NIE box.
  - a. Username is [john.wegner@angelo.edu](mailto:john.wegner@angelo.edu)
  - b. Password is **expressnews**
4. Click “Help” in the toolbar
5. Read the entire “How to Use the E-Edition”
  - a. Includes information on reading, printing, saving, listening
6. Return to original page.
7. Click “Click to View”
8. Follow direction to read the newspaper