



English (ENG) 3B Syllabus

Course Name

ENG 3B

English III – Semester B

Course Information

ENG 3B is the second semester of this two-semester course.

This course is a survey of different literary genres with a focus on American authors in particular. It is designed not only to foster an appreciation of American literature but also to provide a structure for productive and creative questioning of human nature and motivations. We will follow the "rabbit trail" through a wide variety of works, including journal entries, short stories, poems, novels, expository texts, creative nonfiction, and presidential debates. In particular, we will stress how the historical texts wrestle with matters that are still relevant today and must be read with a critical, yet open, mind. This course should be a challenging and enriching experience for you as you continue your journey to further your education and expand your horizons.

Course Delivery Method

Online

Contacting Your Instructor

You may contact your instructor through the Blackboard messaging system. Technical support is available 24/7 at www.k12.ttu.edu.

Course Objectives

After completing this course, you should be able to:

1. read, interpret, analyze and appreciate a variety of literary genres and American authors;
2. evaluate and make personal connections with literary and informational texts;

3. recognize, evaluate, and create a résumé for both jobs and universities;
4. write a procedural text from a character's point of view;
5. create a visual representation of key ideas and principles found in the text;
6. analyze motive, conflicts, and characterization in a Gothic literature;
7. view multiple political debates and recognize logical fallacies;
8. write a political commercial intentionally including logical fallacies; and
9. write and refine a documented report that analyzes multiple perspectives on a social issue.

ENG 3 addresses the required Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS). These can be found at the [Texas Education Agency](http://www.teks.org) website.

Textbook and Materials

Textbook(s)

The required texts for this course are:

- *Glencoe Literature: Texas Treasures—American Literature*, Student Edition, ISBN: 978-0-07-892781-2
- *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee

Technical Requirements

- Internet access – preferably high speed (for accessing Blackboard)
- Email
- Word processing software such as Microsoft Word
- Adobe Reader (download from [Adobe.com](http://adobe.com))
- Audio and video capabilities (for watching/listening to course content)
- PDF app (free options available)

Technical Skill Requirements

Be comfortable with the following:

- using a word processor
- Internet search engines and browsers

Course Organization

This semester is divided into seven lessons and a final examination. Each lesson contains the following:

- Introduction and Instructions
- Learning Objectives and Curriculum Standards
- Vocabulary

- Learning Activities
- Assignments

Writing Workshop

The Writing Workshop is a collection of resources that will help you develop clearer and stronger written work. These resources will be the most useful for essays, but the habits and skills that they reinforce will also help you with creative writing. For example, all written work is best when you can provide specifics for your audience. In an expository essay, this means elaborating on an idea with examples and evidence. In a short story, it means giving the audience sensory details, helping them “see” the setting in their minds, and letting a character show his or her true nature through dialogue and action.

Take a few minutes to familiarize yourself with the resources below before you start the course, as it will help you know what is available to you before you begin.

The Sample Essay: Thesis Statements, Topic Sentence, and Transitions

Open the **Sample Essay** (PDF) in the Syllabus section of your course to see notes pointing out key features you should have in your own writing. Although you will be producing different types of writing throughout the course, the features pointed out in the sample (topic sentences, transitions, and so on) can apply to many different types of essays.

Regardless of what kind of essay you write—whether it’s personal, for an exam, or even to present an argument—a thesis statement is a key part of connecting with your audience. A strong thesis statement is a single sentence that lets your audience know what issue or idea your essay addresses. Take a look at the thesis statement in the sample, and notice how it introduces the whole purpose of the essay. The [Online Writing Lab \(OWL\) at Purdue](#) provides a good explanation for [developing a thesis statement](#). Refer back to this page as you complete your essay assignments.

The sample essay also points out topic sentences. A topic sentence prepares your audience for the information you are about to present in a paragraph, making your essay easier to read. Read more about [topic sentences](#) on the Purdue OWL website.

Outlines can help you organize your thoughts and ideas, but it is your skills as a writer that will help you produce a unique and interesting essay that your audience will enjoy and understand. As a general rule, only about 20% of your essay should be direct quotes. The remaining 80% should be in your own words, expressing your ideas or [paraphrased ideas](#) from others (which you must cite). If you have trouble developing your ideas into a full-fledged essay—one with good transitions and fully elaborated ideas—you might find two other Purdue OWL pages useful: read more about [paragraphs](#) and [transitions](#). Feel free to explore the whole OWL website for more tips on good writing.

Tips for Good Writing

The following is a list of reminders that will help you improve the quality of your writing assignments. These tips are things that students typically forget or neglect, so read through them carefully and use them as a checklist when completing writing assignments. You could lose points from your grade if you fail to follow these tips.

1. Provide an interesting title that reveals the main idea of your paper and gives your reader a good first impression. Your titles should **not** be in quotation marks or underlined. If your title includes a direct quote or the title of another work that requires quotation marks (essays, articles, and so on), then use quotation marks for those parts only.
2. Remember to double-space typed papers.
3. Avoid using the proverbial *you* in your writing assignments, especially in expository writing. It may put your reader on the defensive. For example, when I read, "When you use drugs, you hurt yourself and your family," my immediate reaction is to exclaim defensively that I *don't* use drugs. It's better to write, "When a person" or "When a teenager" than to use *you*. In some creative nonfiction essays, you may use the word *you* to address a reader, but these are special circumstances, and you must still think carefully about how and why you are addressing the reader so directly.
4. State your opinions without prefacing them with "I feel that" or "I think that". Write, "The story's characters are complex because" instead of, "*I think that* the story's characters are complex". This practice makes your writing tighter and stronger, even in more personal or literary essays where you use the word "I".
5. Avoid referring to your essay or to any part of it. "Edgar Allan Poe uses gothic devices in many of his poems" sounds much better than "In this essay, I will prove that" or "In the following paragraphs, I will show".
6. Use present tense when writing about literature. The events of a story occur each time the story is read.
7. Be consistent in number. If you start out with a singular subject, the pronouns that refer to it must also be singular. Look at this example: "Everyone has their own differences that make them who they are as a person." *Everyone* is singular; *their* is plural; *them* is plural; *they* is plural; *a person* is singular. (Remember that any word ending in *body* or *one* is singular.) The easiest way to achieve consistency in number is to make the whole thing plural: "All individuals have their own differences that make them who they are as people." This sentence isn't profound, but it is grammatically correct.
8. Paragraph indentions should be about 1/2 inch (or 5 spaces).

9. **Elaborate.** In paragraphs and essays, remember to write good topic sentences and give several examples and details under each one. Back up what you write (sometimes by quoting). In your creative work, use dialogue, sensory details, or other appropriate literary elements to bring the story to life. **Remember to show me; don't just tell me.**
10. Proofread several times. Read your paper aloud to yourself—sometimes this helps you catch mistakes that you would not otherwise see.

Course Outline

Please note that some assignments will be hidden from you when you start the course. As you move through the lessons and complete assignments, more will unlock for you.

Lesson	Topic	Approximate Time for Completion
Lesson 1	Making Choices	Two weeks
Lesson 2	Presenting Ourselves with Words and Paper	Two weeks
Lesson 3	How to Act Accordingly	Two weeks
Lesson 4	Small Town Culture	Two weeks
Lesson 5	The Art of Persuasion and Persistence	Two weeks
Lesson 6	Politics and Debate	Three weeks
Lesson 7	Research Paper Project	Three weeks
Final Exam		

Assignment Schedule

This course has seven major writing assignments, which are indicated in *italics* below. These assignments must be completed in sequential order—you must receive feedback and a grade from your instructor before you can turn in the next writing assignment in the series. The instructions for these writing assignments are provided in **ENG 3B Major Writing Assignments** in the Syllabus section of your course.

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Each of the following must be completed in order to complete the course. Items with an asterisk (*) indicate that these are summative assessments for the course.

Lesson	Weeks	Assignments
1	1-2	Checkpoint 1 (Non-graded) Lesson One, Assignment 1: Engage – Forum on the Role of Technology Lesson One, Quiz 1 <i>*Lesson One, Assignment 2: Write – Analytical Essay on Evaluation of Article</i> Lesson One, Assignment 3: Engage – Forum on Evaluation of Peer Pressure Lesson One, Quiz 2 Lesson One, Assignment 4: Write – Paragraph on Self-Respect
2	3-4	<i>Lesson Two, Assignment 1: Create – A Résumé for a Part-Time Job</i> <i>Lesson Two, Assignment 2: Create – A Résumé for a College Application</i> Lesson Two, Assignment 3: Respond – Paragraph on the Résumé Process
3	5-6	Lesson Three, Quiz 1 Lesson Three, Quiz 2 Lesson Three, Quiz 3 Lesson Three, Assignment 1: Engage – Forum on Evaluation of a Short Story <i>Lesson Three, Assignment 2: Write – "How-To" Procedural Document</i> Checkpoint 2 (Non-graded)
4	7-8	Lesson Four, Quiz 1 Lesson Four, Quiz 2 Lesson Four, Assignment 1: Write – Essay: Compare & Contrast Characters Lesson Four, Quiz 3 Lesson Four, Assignment 2: Respond – Forum on Quotation Response Lesson Four, Quiz 4 <i>*Lesson Four, Assignment 3: Write – Persuasive Essay on Character's Motives</i>
5	9-10	<i>Lesson Five, Assignment 1: Write – Research Paper Proposal</i>
6	11-13	Lesson Six, Assignment 1: Respond – Debate Evaluation Sheet Lesson Six, Assignment 2: Respond – Logical Fallacies in the Debate Lesson Six, Quiz 1: JFK/Nixon and Obama/McCain Debates

Lesson	Weeks	Assignments
		Lesson Six, Assignment 3: Engage – Forum on Winners of Presidential Debates Lesson Six, Assignment 4: Political Poetry – Writing Assignment: Paragraph on Analysis of Poem Lesson Six, Assignment 5: Write a Political Commercial
7	14-16	<i>*Lesson Seven: Final Draft and Submission</i> Checkpoint 3 (Non-graded)
		Final Exam

Course Credit

The course grade will be calculated as follows:

- 50% coursework average;
- 50% summative assessment average, including the final exam;
- A passing course grade is 70 or higher.

Students must attempt all assignments in the course. The final exam will not be available until all assignments have been accepted and graded by the teacher.

Students who score below 70% on the final exam will be eligible for one re-exam opportunity.

Coursework

The graded assignments within each lesson are formative in nature. This means that they are designed to assist you in applying and demonstrating the lesson concepts, as well as identifying areas in which you need additional review. You may use all the lesson's learning activities to assist you as you complete the graded assignments.

Summative Assessments

Summative assessments are those that allow you to demonstrate mastery of the course objectives. For summative assessments, you will NOT be allowed to use the learning materials. These are opportunities for you to show what you have learned by that point in the course. Summative assessments may be proctored using the online proctoring system Proctorio. Information about Proctorio is provided in **Remote Proctoring** in the Syllabus section of your course. The summative assessments for this course are as follows:

- **Summative Assessments (20% of Course Grade)**
 - Lesson One, Assignment 2: Write – Analytical Essay on Evaluation of Article (75 points)

- Lesson Four, Assignment 3: Write – Persuasive Essay on Character's Motives (75 points)
 - Lesson Seven: Final Draft and Submission (125 points)
- Summative Final Exam **(30% of Course Grade)**

Course Completion and Extensions

- Students may not complete the course in less than 30 days.
- All courses expire six months after the enrollment date. Student may purchase a single three-month extension for a fee.
- Extensions are non-refundable and non-transferrable.

Academic Integrity

It is the aim of the faculty of Texas Tech University to foster a spirit of complete honesty and high standard of integrity. The attempt of students to present as their own any work not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a most serious offense and renders the offenders liable to serious consequences, possibly suspension.

“Scholastic dishonesty” includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, falsifying academic records, misrepresenting facts, and any act designed to give unfair academic advantage to the student (such as, but not limited to, submission of essentially the same written assignment for two courses without the prior permission of the instructor) or the attempt to commit such an act.

Student Expectations

You will be expected to log into the Blackboard course regularly to be aware of possible announcements/reminders and to pace your progress in the course.

Students are expected to maintain an online environment conducive to learning, which includes “netiquette” (Internet etiquette). Please review the basic rules for [Online Discussion Netiquette](#). Ensure that your email messages, discussion board postings, and other electronic communications are thoughtful and respectful. Diverse opinions are welcome in this course, and you are expected to demonstrate an open mind and courtesy when responding to the thoughts and ideas of others.

The following are prohibited:

- making offensive remarks in email or the discussion board;
- using inappropriate language or discussing inappropriate topics online;
- spamming;
- hacking;
- using TTU or Blackboard email or discussion boards for commercial purposes;
- using all caps (considered shouting in online communications); and
- cyber-bullying or online harassment of any type.

Inappropriate behavior shall result in consequences ranging from a request to correct the problem, to removal from the course or even the university, depending on the severity of the behavior. Disciplinary actions will be taken according to the TTU K-12 Student Handbook.

Communication

- You can expect a reply from your instructor within 2 business days.
- Use the Blackboard Course Messages tool for sending messages to your instructor.

Submitting Assignments

You will submit all assignments through the Blackboard Assignment Tool, rather than by email. For assignments that require you to upload a PDF or other document, please title your assignment files “lastName_firstName_assignmentName.xxx (.pdf, .doc, .xl, .jpg, etc.)”.

Technical Difficulties

Getting Help

For student assistance with Blackboard, visit [TTU K-12 Support](#).

Computer Problems

A working computer is necessary for online coursework. Computer problems will not be accepted as a valid reason for failure to complete course activities within the allotted time frame. Identify a second computer, before the course begins, that you can use if you experience computer problems.

Server Problems

When the Blackboard server needs to be taken down for maintenance, the Blackboard administrator will post an announcement in your course informing you of the time and date. If the server experiences unforeseen problems, your course instructor will notify you.

Lost or Corrupted Files

You must keep/save a copy of every project/assignment on an external disk or personal computer. In the event of any kind of technology failure (e.g., Blackboard server crash or virus infection, students' own computer problems, loss of files in cyberspace, etc.) or any disputes, the instructor may request or require you to resubmit the files. In some instances, the instructor may need to open another attempt within Blackboard, so communication with your instructor is critical in these circumstances.