



English 3 | Critical Reading and Writing | 3 units | fall 2010

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**Instructor:** Rick Garza

**Office:** Annex 2 **Hrs:** Mon-Fri 9:50-10:50 AM

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Sections: (53343) TTh 11-12:15 POR 2 | (54622) MWF 11:00-11:50 SOC 36 | (53344) MWF 1:00-1:50 POR 2

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### Course Description

This course is designed to develop critical thinking, reading and writing skills beyond the level achieved in English 1A. The course will focus on the development of logical reasoning and analytical and argumentative writing skills based primarily on works of nonfiction.

### Course Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:

- Read and critically evaluate college-level nonfiction material from a variety of sources on themes from different content area.
- Distinguish between valid and sound arguments and invalid and unsound arguments.
- Demonstrate an ability to recognize formal and informal fallacies in language and thought and avoid them in the construction of their argument.
- Recognize and use deductive and inductive language.
- Distinguish factual statements from judgmental statements and knowledge from opinion.
- Make effective inferences from information presented.
- Recognize and use denotative and connotative aspects of language.
- Research and evaluate outside sources for use in the development of their own writing.
- Write summaries of one source, critical analysis of a single source or of two sources with a unified approach, and synthesis papers of multiple sources.
- Use causal analysis, advocacy of ideas, definition, persuasion, evaluation, refutation, and interpretation effectively in college-level prose.
- Demonstrate the ability to write correct college-level prose containing proper essay structure, organization, development and diction and mechanics.
- Identify the deliberate abuses and manipulations of rhetoric so they can identify them in general usage and avoid them in their own writing.

### Required Texts and Materials:

Rereading America, 8<sup>th</sup> ed., (ISBN: 0-312-54854-0) Bedford/St. Martin's

A Place to Stand, Baca (ISBN: 0-802-13908-6) Grove Press

A Pocket Style Manual, 5<sup>th</sup> ed., Hacker (ISBN: 978-0-312-66480-0) Bedford/St. Martin's

A notebook for the **exclusive** use of this class, writing utensils for in-class writing assignments, and a stapler (unstapled work will not be accepted).

### Strongly Recommended:

An internet connection, a dictionary, and a flash drive.

**Grading:**

Essay 1	100 points
Essay 2	100 points
Essay 3	100 points
Essay 4	100 points
Essay 5	100 points
Comprehensive Final Exam	200 points

The grading scale is as follows: (**note that scores are not rounded**)

A	B	C	D	F
100-90% 700-630 points	89-80% 629-560 points	79-70% 559-490 points	69-60% 489-420 points	59% & Below 419-0 points

**Essays:**

You will write a total of five (5) essays. Each will be worth 100 points. All final drafts must be typed and follow Modern Language Association (MLA) guidelines. For each essay you will receive a prompt that will outline the specific requirements for each essay. All essays will be submitted as a hard copy and via *Turnitin* on Blackboard. Essays not submitted to *Turnitin* will not be graded.

**Comprehensive Final Exam:**

This exam will be given on the date of the final examination, as designated in the Schedule of Courses (and provided for you in this syllabus). The exam will cover material from the assigned reading and lecture/class discussion. No textbooks will be allowed during the exam. Only original handwritten notes (no photocopies), contained in your notebook, may be used. Your last name must be clearly printed at the top of each note page (front and back) that you intend to use for the exam.

**Late Work:**

Late work is not accepted. If you miss a class or forget to do an assignment you cannot make up the work. You should consult the instructor prior to missing a due date in order to avoid penalty. In the event of an unforeseen event, you may make up work with verifiable documentation of the reason for your absence.

**Attendance:**

You are expected to attend/participate in class regularly. There are no “excused” absences. Students will be dropped prior to the final drop date after missing two consecutive weeks of class or accumulating the equivalent of two weeks of absences. “No-shows” on the first day of class will be dropped and only readmitted based upon seat availability. Late arrivals and early departures count for half an absence.

**Disruptive Behavior and Sexual Harassment**

Reedley College is committed to the principle that instructors and students must treat each other with courtesy and respect, and it will take action to enforce college policies regarding behavior that violates this principle. These policies are set forth in the student code of conduct at Reedley College.

**Mobile Communication Devices must** be turned off. If the vibrate mode of your phone causes it to vibrate to the degree that your classmates can hear this vibration, turn your phone completely off. If you are observed text-messaging during class you will be asked to leave the class and marked absent for the day.

**Guests are not allowed.** Only those enrolled in the class will be allowed in the room.

**Important Dates:**

Friday, August 27th - Last day to drop a full-term class for a refund

Friday, September 3rd - Last day to register for a full-term class

Friday, September 3rd - Last day to drop a full-term class to avoid a “W”

Monday, September 6th - Labor Day (no classes held, campus closed)

Monday, February 15th - Washington Day (no classes held, campus closed)

Friday, October 15th - Last day to drop a full-term class (letter grade assigned after this date)

Thursday, November 11th - Veteran’s Day (no classes held, campus open)

Thursday, November 25th - Friday, November 26th - Thanksgiving holiday

**Final Examination: 53343 - Thursday, December 16th 11-12:50**

**54622 - Wednesday, December 15th 11-12:50**

**53344 - Wednesday, December 15th 1- 2:50**

## **Cheating and Plagiarism**

The following is adapted from Fresno City College's website on cheating and plagiarism.

### **CHEATING**

Cheating is the act of deception by which a student misleadingly demonstrates that he/she has mastered information on an academic exercise. Examples include but are not limited to:

- ✓ Copying or allowing another to copy a test, paper, project or performance.
- ✓ Using unauthorized materials during a test, for example, notes, formula lists or "cheat sheets."
- ✓ Taking a test for someone else or permitting someone to take a test for you.

### **PLAGIARISM**

Plagiarism is the act of representing the work of another as one's own without giving credit. Plagiarism includes but is not limited to:

- ✓ Incorporating the ideas or words of another's work without giving appropriate credit.
- ✓ Representing another's artistic or scholarly works, such as musical compositions, computer programs, photographs, etc., as one's own.
- ✓ Merely changing a few words or making a few structural changes to another's work is still plagiarism when passed off as one's own work.

### **PENALTIES**

**Penalties for cheating and plagiarism are severe and can follow you the rest of your college career.** At the minimum, you will receive an F on the assignment and a warning, but plagiarizing in a major essay will result in an immediate F for the class and a write-up for your student record. You may also be liable for more severe penalties, up to and including expulsion from the college. **The bottom line is that the college and I take this very seriously and so should you.**

### **Accommodations**

If you have a verified need for an academic accommodation or materials in alternate media (i.e. Braille, large print, electronic text, etc.) per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, please contact me as soon as possible.

### **Contact and Conferences**

At different times during the semester, a student may need time with me or I may request a conference with him or her. I check my phone messages and email daily at the email address on the front page. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you are experiencing a problem, have any questions, need help or clarification from me, or have ideas and suggestions for the class. I am here to help you succeed.

### **Course Changes**

This syllabus may change during the course of the semester to better address the class's needs. A handout explaining the new expectations will accompany such changes.