Course Title: English 1A

Instructor: Ms. Jan Chalepah

Meeting Time: Tuesday, Thursday 6:00 p.m. – 7:50 p.m.

Required Materials: Motives for Writing by Kirszner/Mandell, Fifth Edition;

 Brief Handbook for Writers by Howell/Memering

Last Day to Drop: Friday, October 12, 2012

Course Description: Development of the process of writing, revising, editing, and completing short papers, including the logical development and organization of ideas. Emphasizes avoiding common writing errors; develops reading skills by reading model essays and analyzing rhetorical strategies; develops critical thinking skills by matching the structures of writing to meaning and audience, and by using writing as thinking to explore and express ideas. The course outcome standards, listed later, will be followed. A research paper is a major requirement of those standards.

Attendance: Attendance is recorded. Absences totaling two weeks’ worth (4 meetings) before the drop date (see above) will be cause for the instructor to drop the student. Absences that are two weeks (4 meetings) consecutively at any time during the semester will be cause for the instructor to drop the student from the course.

Grading policy: The majority of the grade, 75%, will be based on written papers. The research paper will be an additional 15%. The homework and class participation which consists of exchanging opinions, adding new discussion items and answering questions will be the final 10% of the grade. The final exam, consisting of an in-class written essay and a grammar skills test, needs to be passed at a C grade or higher or the student will not pass the class.

Classroom Expectations: No late papers are accepted unless there is an emergency requiring hospitalization. If a paper is not turned in on the due date, the student may turn it in at the next class meeting without loss of points. After that date, the grade will drop by ten (10) points for each class meeting it is late. Tardiness is a disruption to the class and should only occur due to unavoidable situations. Children are not to attend the class with students. Students are expected to do a great deal of writing. The writing needs to be typed or written in black or blue ink only, one side of the page only. Students may check with me before or after class if there are questions about individual progress. If any messages need to be delivered or papers sent to me, the address is jan.chalepah@reedleycollege.edu.

Holidays: Thanksgiving, Thursday, November 22, 2012

Final Exam Date: Tuesday, December 11, 2012

Grading Scale: A Percent: 90

 B 80

 C 70

 D 60

 F 59 and below

Additional Information: Homework will consist of readings and answering corresponding comprehension questions and essays. Write the page number of the assignment on the homework. If you are absent, turn in the homework the following class meeting. Class work will consist of discussion of readings, grammar exercises, and other related assignments.

Set your cell phone to vibrate so that you do not disturb the class. Should you discover that you are unable to regularly attend class for some reason, discuss the situation with me as soon as possible so some other arrangement can be made.

Important: 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.

To receive credit in English 1A, a student who is passing will be able to:

* Produce three pages of writing in one to two hours
* Write a four to five-page typed essay in a week
* Present a thesis which is universal and complex, exhibiting some higher-level thinking
* Shape and organize material clearly and effectively
* Compose with thorough development and support; divide into logical paragraphs with logical transitions between them
* Integrate material (quote and paraphrase) from reading and research, effectively acknowledging sources accurately with correct MLA or APA style documentation (including works cited or bibliography)
* Show an awareness of audience and purpose, and employ sophisticated vocabulary and academic diction, tone, and protocol
* Follow standard rules of grammar, punctuation and spelling with few errors and little or no editing assistance
* Distinguish between subjective and objective analysis and persuasive writing
* Comprehend college level reading with complex vocabulary and ideas
* Analyze tone and structure, and distinguish level of diction and syntax
* Recognize fallacies in reading and avoid fallacies in writing

Capstone for transfer:

* Writing a six to ten page research paper graded C or better with substantial thesis, logical organization, ample support and development, sentence mastery, appropriate vocabulary, academic format and documentation

Tentative Assignment Schedule:

August: Ch. 1 and Ch. 8

September: Ch. 4 and Ch. 5

October: Ch. 2 and Ch. 3

November: Ch. 6 and Ch. 7

December: Ch. 9 and Ch. 10

Due Date for the Research Paper: November 8, 2012