

English 1B~Spring 2017

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Office Hours: T 3-5, W 12-1, Th 11-12 Fig Garden Village Starbucks, F 2-3 (virtual email) and by appointment

“If the book we are reading does not wake us, as with a fist hammering on our skulls, then why do we read it? A book must be an ice axe to break the sea frozen inside us.”

Franz Kafka

COURSE DESCRIPTION

English 1B is a literature survey and composition course that is designed to follow English 1A. Students will be introduced to four major literary genres: short story, poetry, the novel and drama. It is a three -unit course, which is fully transferable to University of California and California State University and most other public and private four-year colleges and universities. Students are required to read approximately 50-100 pages per week and to write papers related to the reading assignments. Students will also discuss literature on the Canvas web site—our electronic forum and virtual classroom. Students should plan to spend 8-10 hours per week on this course, reading, writing and discussing literature for the class. Students need to access the computer each day to read lectures, check the assignment schedule, post to the discussion board, look through and respond to email, or write a paper.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Successfully explicate a sample of literature from several genres—to include poetry, short story, novel and play- using literary vocabulary.
2. Discuss literature, supporting their comments with reference to the text.
3. Develop a self-directed independent interpretation of a work or pair of works supported by text.
4. Write an essay citing published peer-reviewed literary analysis of at least 1000 words

REQUIRED TEXTS AND MATERIALS

- *The Norton Introduction to Literature* (Portable 11th edition) Kelly Mays, Editor.
ISBN-13: 9780393923391
- Boyle, T.C. *The Tortilla Curtain*

- Access to the film *Crash* (widely available on a variety of sites)
- Course Readings posted in the form of links or PDFs in the weekly module
- 1 three ring binder or other folder to organize and keep the syllabus, readings, handouts and your writing. Even though this is an online class, it is imperative that you download, print out, read and annotate the assigned readings carefully. You will be asked to refer to the readings often-having them in one place along with your writing helps to keep you organized and successful in an online environment.
- An electronic system to back up ALL of your writing-flash drive, email or server. Do not rely on blackboard to save your work.

COMPUTER REQUIREMENTS

- **Skills Needed:**
- Know basics of word processing (saving files, using spell check, using grammar check, moving text, using the help function, etc.)
- Know how to access and navigate the Internet (use a browser, utilize search engines, save and/or print from the Internet)
- Know how to send e-mail and attachments.

COMMUNICATION

Please always make sure to check both our course site for announcements as well as other essential course information. All emails should be sent using the Canvas Inbox feature. Please note Thursday office hours are in Fresno to accommodate the many Fresno City and Willow students in the class. Friday office hours are virtual-you will be able to get me through Canvas between 2 and 3 every Friday. I will respond to your emails as soon as possible; however, if you email me late in the evening during the week (and sometimes after 8 is late for me!), don't expect to hear back from me until the following day. I will be available over the weekends, but not in the evenings. If you do not hear back from me within twenty four hours, please resend your email as that would indicate a problem with your first transmission.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Discussion Board: The Discussion Board is our virtual classroom. Every week I will post questions and activities. Responding to the Discussion Board is worth 5-10 points per week. Since the discussion board is one third of the "classroom" for our class, not posting to the discussion board is the same thing as not attending class. I will be posting assignments on the discussion board every week on Monday morning- your responses will be due on Sunday night. The discussion

board is a place for you to talk to each other about the material of the class. Because of this, I require you to respond to two of your classmates for every posted assignment. I post the assignments, but I do not usually participate in your discussion. At the end of the week, I make comments to you individually regarding your participation, but I will also address the class as a whole in lecture form about what I am seeing on the discussion board. The language you use on the Discussion Board can be a bit more informal than the language you would use in an essay; however, your grade will be affected by the use of 'u' or 'i' etc. and your grade will also be affected by careless typos. If your post is under the required word count, your grade will be affected. **More importantly, if it appears you did not do the required reading for the week, you will receive zero credit for that week's posts.**

Response Papers:

You will have a response paper due almost every week. These response papers will range anywhere from 2 paragraphs to 2 or even 3 pages. They are assignments that teach you a specific skill like close reading or a specific rhetorical move like summary. Each response paper builds towards the essay for that unit. I will not accept late response papers for any reason. 10-30 points

Essays, Midterm and Final:

Essay 1: 100 points

Essay 2: 100 points

Essay 3: 200 points

Midterm Timed Write: 50 points

Final Timed Write: 50 points

Grading Scale: 90%=A; 80%=B; 70%=C; 60%=D; 50%=F

PARTICIPATION

Your work on the discussion board replicates the in- class work of a face-to-face class. The viewing of lectures and other materials is also a crucial aspect of your participation. Please note I have access to all of your activity on the course site.

COURSE POLICIES

Late work is not accepted aside from the essays. Essays are docked 10 points for every day late. After the third day (weekends count as days), I will no longer accept the essay. Discussion board grades are based on my reading of the discussion. There are no wrong answers in this class as long as the discussion is thoughtful and developed. As English 1A is the prerequisite for this class, I expect you will be familiar with MLA formatting. I also expect you will know how to incorporate quotation and how to identify and use a scholarly source.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

The Reedley College English department has a zero-tolerance policy regarding plagiarism. All of the writing done in this class must be your own. This includes all homework assignments, discussion board posts and essays. You cannot use work from another class in this class. If you plagiarize on the discussion board, you will receive a 0 for that assignment. If you should plagiarize on the discussion board again, you will also receive a zero, but this time you will be suspended from the class until you have met with the Dean of Students. If I suspect you have plagiarized, I reserve the right to require you to meet with me in person in order to perform writing diagnostic in order to determine whether or not you have committed plagiarism OR to confirm your identity. In that instance, if I determine you have committed plagiarism, you will receive a 0 for the assignment and I will refer you to the Dean of Student's office for disciplinary action. In addition, I will email the Dean of Humanities, the Chair of the English department and the Vice President of Instruction with the particulars of your offense. I do not have to require a meeting in order to confirm any instance of plagiarism.

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**. This is extremely important. Your need for accommodation **MUST** be verified by DSPS. If you do not send me this information in the beginning of the semester any need for extra time etc. will not be available to you retroactively.

CANVAS

All announcements, the course schedule, weekly modules, assignments and your grades are available on our Canvas course site.

*The instructor reserves the right to change this material at any time.