# English 1A: College Reading and Composition

# Summer 2017: Happiness in the Wild

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English 1A, CRN: 73576 and English 1A, CRN: 73574

Room: CCI-207 Room: HUM-62

Class time: 8:00-10:50 am Class time: 11:00 am -1:50 pm

Prerequisites: Successful completion of English 125 and 126 with a “C” or better or an equivalent college course; or eligibility determined by the Reedley College Placement Procedures.

**Course Overview**

This course is designed to cultivate critical thinking skills through reading, writing, and analyzing rhetorical compositions at the college level. Emphasis will be placed on exposition: studying writing as a process, exploring different composing structures and strategies, editing and revising, conducting research, and learning to critique peer writing.

Writing is not just a demonstration of one’s ability to write. Writing is a tool, a strategy for generating ideas, for analyzing information, for inventing responses, critiquing your own thoughts, or creating a record of your thinking. In this class writing will serve many purposes. Consequently, you will be asked to write for many different reasons; thus, your writing will not simply be a reflection of your competence, it will be a representation of your engagement in the class. Using research strategies, you will also be expected to incorporate material from outside sources to support your own position in a persuasive argument essay.

Writing and reading are very similar meaning-making performances. Class discussions about the reading will enhance your ability to write responses to what you read. From the reading assignments you will learn to model your approach to writing and develop a better understanding about form, rhetorical framework, and the use of evidence in writing. I will expect that when you read an assignment, you will have read the text actively, making notes in the margins and/or highlighting the main points, therefore it is not recommended that you rent your textbooks for this course.

Because this is a summer course, we will only be together a short time (six weeks) but we will be together long hours (three per day) so we will try to infuse our work with a little bit of adventure. To that end, the theme of this course is “Happiness in the Wild” and we will read a variety of texts about happiness, and one longer text about one man’s extreme pursuit of happiness and how that relates to our American ideals.

To keep the pace of the class moving, each class day will be divided into three distinct sections with one section devoted to in-class writing. Completed assignments will be due each night to Bb so that we may discuss or build on them in the next class, and you will have time to finish your assignments after class if you require it. The bulk of our reading, however, will be done outside of class so make sure you have a few free **hours** each evening to devote to homework and writing projects. The expectation for homework is 2 hours for every hour spent in class, so 6 hours of work in an evening is not unusual.

**Required Texts/Materials:**

***Pursuing Happiness: A Bedford Spotlight Reader***

ISBN 9781457683770

***Into the Wild (Krakauer)***

ISBN 978-0-385-48680-4

***Walden (Thoreau)***

Will access online

**Money set aside to copy individual writing projects for workshopping**

**Flash/jump/thumb drive for saving assignments during lab hours**

**Access to Canvas and SCCCD email account**

**Course Content**

This course will focus on analyzing readings from the reader, the longer works, and your own research. The course will be divided into three major writing projects and a final essay exam. There will also be lots of in-class activities, group work, presentations, and a midterm exam. The focus for this course will be analysis of the rhetorical framework of both visuals and texts. Each final paper will be preceded by two drafts, and all writing assignments must be completed in order to pass the class. You will be expected to read each day and complete corresponding journal entries for all reading assignments. You will be expected to participate in a workshop for each essay. Also, you will need to contribute to class discussions on Blackboard and in the classroom*.* Growth comes from practice, therefore all assignments are used to calculate the final grade (see grading below).

**Course Outcomes and Objectives:**

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

1. Write a documented research paper of at least 1,500 words that includes:

* a sophisticated introduction, multiple body paragraphs, and conclusion
* a clearly defined, arguable thesis sentence
* supporting details that exhibit critical thinking and use credible secondary sources
* correct usage of MLA format, including a works cited page
* sentences that exhibit a command of the complex/compound with minimal comma splices, sentence fuses, fragments, and mechanics
* controlled and sophisticated word choice
* writing in third person/universal
* an avoidance of logical fallacies
* demonstration of an awareness of purpose and audience
* appropriate and purposeful use of quotations
* correct in-text citations
* an annotated bibliography of multiple sources
* an avoidance of intentional and unintentional plagiarism

2.  Complete a timed essay independently in class

3.  Summarize and comprehend college level prose (will include a full reading)

*In the process of completing this course, students will:*

1.  Write multiple essays of at least 1,500 words, including at least one research paper with documentation.

* Arrange and integrate ideas in a multiple body essay, complete with topic sentences, supporting data, and background, as necessary.
* Indicate an arguable thesis.
* Gather, analyze, and synthesize peer-reviewed sources and/or original research such as interview, survey, or observation.
* Employ MLA formatting guidelines.
* Reduce dependence on the instructor’s guidance; students will ultimately independently and accurately recognize and self-correct errors in sentence construction, punctuation, and mechanics.
* Craft increasingly mature and cogent writing while choosing the appropriate tone and academic voice.
* Practice sound choices in identifying and avoiding logical fallacies.
* Employ appropriate use of third person universal.
* Identify appropriate audiences for their compositions.
* Employ quotations, discriminating among sources for accuracy and validity.
* Employ MLA formatting guidelines for Work Cited Page and in-text citations.
* Develop an annotated bibliography from sources for a research paper.
* Recognize the appropriate use of sources, while avoiding intentional and unintentional plagiarism.

2.  Write an organized essay(s) with thesis and adequate support independently within a class period.

3.  Read and understand college level prose, including:

* identifying the model, summarizing the thesis, and locating supporting information.
* naming rhetorical devices such as irony and parallelism and translating metaphorical language, so as to determine an author’s intent, both explicit and implicit.
* answering questions from assigned reading, differentiating between an author’s intent and personal reaction
* describing, evaluating, and questioning the purpose, audience, organization, and style of assigned readings

All the assignment for this class are part of your assessment for these outcomes, therefore **failure to turn in any one of the assigned essays or to complete the Final will mean a failing grade in the class. As with any college class, grades can change significantly due to a single missed assignment or project. Do not presume if you are receiving a certain letter grade on most your assignments that it will be reflected in your final grade for the class. The point system will be strictly enforced.**

**Course Requirements:**

* **Attendance:** There are **no excused absences.** If you are absent or tardy, it is your responsibility to find out what you have missed before returning to class. You must email me to get missed work. Information covered in class will not be posted on Canvas. If you miss the first day of class, you will be dropped. If you miss any classes during the first week without preapproval, you will be dropped. If you miss 2 days before the census, or more than 3 classes total, you run the risk of being dropped. Students arriving after role is called will be marked tardy; students arriving more than 20 minutes late or leaving class early will be marked absent.
* **Class participation:** Upon entering my classroom, you are now part of a community of writers, and active participation is mandatory. Come to class **prepared** and ready to participate**!**
* **Canvas:** You will be required to submit work to Canvas both in and out of class. Know your user ID and password.I will accept files in the following formats: Word documents (\*.doc or \*.docx) or rich text format (\*.rtf). The Canvas help desk will be able to help you with Canvas issues.
* **Essays:** Essays may be read both in a workshop by your classmates and by the instructor. SAVE ALL DRAFTS.
* **Revisions**: You may revise all the out-of-class essays except the last. If you revise, the new grade will *replace* the original.
* **Late Work:** I do not accept late work. You will have 1 “lifeline” you may use during the semester to hand in late work. You must hand in the assignment within one week of the original due date. In-class work cannot be made up.
* **Homework:** Homework is due at the beginning of class on dates indicated by the schedule and as assigned in class. Homework will be accepted for the first ten minutes of class. After that time, it will be considered LATE and subject to the use of your lifeline for credit. If you cannot attend class, get your work to me before the due date (by email or on Canvas depending on assignment).
* **Quality of ALL Work:** Your work must reflect college level effort or it will not receive credit.

**Class Policies:**

* Keep all your work until the end of the semester. This may not seem like an important rule, but I often have students who find it crucial that they are able to document a previous grade or assignment later in the semester.
* It is the student’s responsibility to officially withdraw from the course. Failure to do so may result in an F as the final semester grade. I reserve the right to drop a student from the course at various points throughout the semester.
* This is an English class and I expect your best writing always. If your email is sloppy and looks like a text message, I will send it back to you asking you to revise it. Be SURE to sign your emails.
* You must use the email address provided by Reedley College or your email will be deleted as spam.
* Email is the only way you will be able to reach me outside of class. Do not leave messages for me at the switchboard, in the mailroom, etc. as I will not receive them. I check my email often, but please allow for up to 24 hours for a response on emails sent to me Sunday-Thursday and 48 hours on weekends.
* Remember to turn **off** your cell phones (don’t leave on vibrate). Cell phones and text messaging are major distractions and hinder not only your ability to concentrate, but the ability of those around you to concentrate. **Penalties for using cell phones in class: first offense = lose daily participation points, second offense = be marked absent for the day, third offense = be removed from class and be reported to the college for disruptive behavior.**
* Disrespectful or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated—anyone who engages in such behavior will be dropped and may be reported to the college for disruptive behavior.
* Students caught plagiarizing or cheating will receive a zero on the assignment and may be reported to the college for academic dishonesty.

**Schedule:**

* The class schedule, including reading assignments and due dates, is posted on Canvas. We will review procedures for logging into Canvas during the first week of class. After that, it is your responsibility to visit Canvas to check the schedule. The schedule is subject to update. Updates will be announced in class or via email.

**Grading: YOU MUST COMPLETE ALL THE PROJECTS IN ORDER TO PASS THE CLASS.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Essay Projects | 100 points each for Projects 1 & 2, 200 points for Project 3 |
| In-Class Essays | 50 points for midterm and final |
| Presentation | 50 points |
| Reading Responses | 10 points each for 15 reading responses |
| Daily Participation | 270 (10 points for regular class days/more for workshops) |
| Literature Circle Projects | 30 points |

TOTAL 1000 points

***NOTE: Canvas calculates your grade based on assignments submitted to date. It does not take into account future assignments. Therefore, the letter grade assigned by Canvas CANNOT be used to determine your class grade. Grades are determined on the following point scale:***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Scale | |
| A | 90% (900-1000) |
| B | 80% (800-899) |
| C | 70% (700-799) |
| D | 60% (600-699) |
| F | 50% (0-599) |

**Campus Policies:**

**Cheating and Plagiarism:** Students at Reedley College are entitled to the best education that the college can make available to them, and they, their instructors, and their fellow students share the responsibility to ensure that this education is honestly attained. Because cheating, plagiarism, and collusion in dishonest activities erode the integrity of the college, each student is expected to exert an entirely honest effort in all academic endeavors. Academic dishonesty in any form is a very serious offense and will incur serious consequences.

**Cheating** is the act or attempted act of taking an examination or performing an assigned, evaluated task in a fraudulent or deceptive manner, such as having improper access to answers, in an attempt to gain an unearned academic advantage. Cheating may include, but is not limited to, copying from another’s work, supplying one’s work to another, giving or receiving copies of examinations without an instructor’s permission, using or displaying notes or devices inappropriate to the conditions of the examination, allowing someone other than the officially enrolled student to represent the student, or failing to disclose research results completely. Plagiarism is a specific form of cheating: the use of another’s words or ideas without identifying them as such or giving credit to the source.

**Plagiarism** may include, but is not limited to, failing to provide complete citations and references for all work that draws on the ideas, words, or work of others, failing to identify contributors to work done in collaboration, submitting duplicated work to be evaluated in different courses without the knowledge and consent of the instructors involved, or failing to observe computer security systems and software copyrights. Incidents of cheating and plagiarism may result in any of a variety of sanctions and penalties, which may range from a failing grade on the particular examination, paper, project, or assignment in question to a failing grade in the course, at the discretion of the instructor and depending on the severity and frequency of the incidents. For more information, contact the Vice President of Student Services’ Office or the Vice President of Instruction’s Office.

**Nondiscrimination Statement:** Reedley College and the North Centers comply with all Federal and state rules and regulations and does not discriminate on the basis or race, color, national origin, gender, disability, sexual orientation, religion or age. This holds true for all students who are interested in participating in educational programs and/or extracurricular school activities. Harassment of any employee/student with regard to race, color, national origin, gender, disability, sexual orientation, religion or age is strictly prohibited. Limited English speaking skills will not be a barrier at Reedley College to participation in Vocational Education programs. Inquiries regarding compliance and/or grievance procedures may be directed to the college’s Title IX Officer and/or the Section 504/ADA Coordinator.

If you have a verified need for an academic accommodation or materials in alternate media, please contact me as soon as possible. I will work with the DSPS office to make sure that you get the help that you require. In order to get accommodations, you must be signed up with DSPS. It is my goal to have all accommodations done within the first week of class or within one week of any new accommodation, but I cannot make any accommodations without DSPS referrals.

Survival Team Members:

After the *Lost at Sea* exercise, please get the names and contact info of all the members of your survival team. These will be your go-to people when you have a question on homework, if you need notes from class, to find out if class has been cancelled, etc.

Name: Contact Info (email or cell):

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