**ENGLISH 1A: Reading and Composition Summer 2017**

**Instructor: Mrs. Kate Watts**

**Office Hours:** I will be online in the early morning and then from 1-5 Monday-Friday. I will not be available over the weekends.

**Email:** Canvas Inbox Only

**COURSE OBJECTIVE:**

College level skills in reading and writing

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**:

The Reedley College catalog describes English 1A as a course that emphasizes “reading, analyzing, and composing college-level prose, with emphasis on the expository; studying writing as a process; exploring different composing structures and strategies; editing and revising one’s own writing; conducting research (gathering, organizing, evaluating, integrating, and documenting information,) culminating in a term research paper and annotated bibliography.” This means that we will be focusing on both reading AND writing academic prose. Our course theme is “Screens: An Examination of Technology in the Digital Age and its Effect on American Culture.”

We will begin with Nicholas Carr’s *What the Internet is Doing to Our Brains: The Shallows.* We will also will study a variety of other texts related to our main theme along with materials that will teach the fundamentals of college essay writing including the integration of quotation, research and MLA formatting.

**REQUIRED TEXTS & MATERIALS**

Carr, Nicholas. *What the Internet is Doing to Our Brains: The Shallows*

Various links and PDFs posted to Canvas under “Readings”

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**

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

1. Write a documented research paper of at least 1000 words which includes:
   1. A sophisticated introduction, multiple body paragraphs, and conclusion
   2. An arguable thesis sentence
   3. Supporting details that exhibit critical thinking and credible secondary sources
   4. Correct usage of MLA format
   5. Appropriate and purposeful use of quotations
   6. An annotated bibliography of multiple sources
2. Write sentences that exhibit a command of the complex/compound with minimal comma splices, sentence fuses, and fragments.
3. Demonstrate sophisticated word choice
4. Correctly use in-text citations
5. Avoid plagiarism
6. Complete a developed essay independently in class
7. Self-edit for errors and revise compositions
8. Write in the third person
9. Summarize and comprehend **college level** prose

\*Please note you will write a total of 6,000 words for this class. See the Reedley College Catalog for this transfer level requirement.

**COMMUNICATION**

**Communication:** Communication with your instructor is crucial in the online environment. I will be communicating daily with students through posted announcements, Camtasia lectures posted in the weekly modules, Canvas emails, and personal responses to all of your assignments. I expect and require students to communicate through posts on the forums, Canvas email and comments on their assignments. If there is ever a time something is not clear, please send an email asking for clarification. Obviously, your intructor believes whatever is posted is clear. I have no way of knowing if you find anything confusing unless you say so.

**ESSAYS**

**Submission and format**: All work must in MLA format except for forum posts. All work is uploaded to Canvas.

**Essay Policies**: Major essays will be due every two weeks. You will have the opportunity to revise Essay 1 only; however, if you submit a sloppy draft with poor formatting, lots of typos etc.- or a draft under the page limit, you will not be allowed to revise. The idea behind the point increase with each essay is that those students working hard will be improving. The extra points reward this engagement and subsequent improvement. I expect my comments on your first draft to be reflected in your writing on the second essay and the comments from the second essay reflected in your writing on the final essay. This means you pay close attention to the remarks. **If anything is not clear to you in my responses on your work at any time during the session or you feel your grade is in error, it is up to you to ASK QUESTIONS. I am more than happy to reread your essay and/or make clear any confusion.**

**Essay 1**: 100 points (Revision allowed ONLY if the draft meets the required page limit and is properly formatted with a minimum of proofreading errors.)

**Essay 2**: 150 points (No revision allowed)

**Essay 3:** 200 points (No revision allowed)

**GRADES**

You can access your grades at any time by going to our course site. If you see an error of any kind, it is your job to notify me.

Grading Scale**:** A 90-100% B 80-89 C. 70-70% D 60-69%

**CLASS SCHEDULE**

I post modules one week at a time. We will have six modules for this summer session.

**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 assignments, discussion board posts and essays. You cannot use work from another class in this class. Additionally, if, instead of making your own decisions about how to revise, you have someone revise or edit an essay for you, the piece you submit is no longer your own work, and you are plagiarizing. If you have committed plagiarism, you will receive a zero 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.

**Completing Assignments and Missing Deadlines**

All assignments must be completed on the given due dates. Aside from the essays, I do not accept late work. Essays will be docked 10% for every day late (this includes weekends). After the third day, I will no longer accept the essay. This only applies to Essay #1 and Essay #2. Essay #3 must be on time as it is the final assignment of the session.

**ATTENDANCE POLICIES**

In the online class environment, ‘attendance’ is determined by your participation on the weekly forums, listening to lectures and communicating with your instructor.

**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 session any need for extra time etc. will not be available to you retroactively.

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