**English 125**

**Summer 2018**

**Jamie Barker**

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**MTWTH Hum 64; 9:00 -- 11:50**

**Office hours upon request and by appointment**

Dear English 125 scholar,

Welcome to my classroom, and into this English course in which you have the opportunity to develop your reading and writing skills and prepare you for the kinds of writing you will do in future academic courses. Here is the course description:

This course will help you develop your reading and writing skills and prepare you for the kinds of writing you will do in future academic courses. You will learn how to read material and understand its purpose and how it functions. You will also learn how to respond to reading material in your writing by using the techniques of accomplished writers. You will learn how to formulate your thesis, provide examples and supporting research, organize your ideas, and review and revise your writing and the writing of others so that it is both clear and persuasive.

My advice to you as you start out on this academic journey: see yourself as a scholar. Not merely as a student--but a scholar. A scholar’s focus is on learning, including the entire learning process, which sometimes means getting it wrong. Allow yourself to fail. Learn from it and do it better next time. A scholar’s end goal is to become a more educated, well-rounded, informed, and interesting person. It’s not just about passing the course; it’s about improving yourself as a human, and in turn making our world a better place.See yourself as a scholar, and you will become one.

Please feel free to talk to me after class or contact me by email if you have any questions. I am here to help you in your scholarly progress, and am honored to be your professor.

Jamie Barker

***You are responsible for all the information contained in this syllabus.***

**Required Texts and Materials:**

**You must have the hard copy of our books--you will be required to bring them to class. Reading the material on your phone will not work in this course.**

*Breath, Eyes, Memory (*ISBN:9780375705045*)*

*The Things They Carried* (ISBN 9780618706419)

*Best American Essays 2017 (ISBN:9780544817333)*

Notebook/folder for taking notes and holding handouts

Colored pens, highlighters, post-it notes--whatever works for you annotating

Blue Books for in-class essays; I will tell you when you will need them.

A USB Flash Drive (also known as a jump drive or thumb drive) to save your work

***If you have your own laptop I strongly suggest you bring it to class.***

**Writing Assignments**

**Summary/responses:** You will be given articles to read, annotate, summarize, and respond to in writing. Summaries must be typed and may not be submitted late.

**S.S.C.C. Critiques**

**Essays:** The essays will be a combination of in-class and out-of-class writing. Unless otherwise specified, all drafts must be typed and be in the required format. Essays will be written in response to a question (the “prompt”) about an assigned reading. The reading will usually be done outside of class, and you will be expected to annotate the articles. (We will go over how to annotate.)

**Poetry/Song Lyric Analysis:** You will be taught to do this using the ARTWARS method.

**Class Policies and Procedures**

**Attendance**

**Students who do not attend the first class meeting will be dropped** unless they have contacted me before the first class with an acceptable reason for why they must miss the first day.

**Students who miss one or more classes in the first two weeks will be dropped** unless they have contacted me prior to the class or immediately afterwards with an acceptable reason.

**Students who miss four classes in the first nine weeks of the course will be dropped**.

If you do not turn your first few assignments in, on the day they are due, I will drop you from the class since this indicates that you aren’t ready to do the work that is required.

Regular attendance is essential. Students who are absent have difficulty understanding the assignments and often do not turn things in. Even though I don’t give you a grade for attendance, you are hurting yourself if you are absent more than two times during the semester: students who do not attend all or most of the classes generally fail.

Students who add or choose to drop the class are responsible for completing the process through Web Advisor. Any student who does not add by the 2nd week will not be allowed to add the class after that.

**Please don’t be late.** Plan ahead for parking, mishaps, and whatnot. Being late is disruptive, and a bad habit for you to develop. It happens--it might happen to me--but please avoid it becuase it could affect your grade.

**Participation:** I believe that students learn not only from the instructor but also from each other. So, be prepared to interact in pairs and groups with other students in the class. You can only be an active, prepared participant if you attend class regularly and on time, contribute in a meaningful way to discussions, and do the assigned work both in and out of class.

**You must** **have required materials, annotate all readings, and take notes during class**. If you do not, you may be asked to leave the class; you will be marked absent and you will be unable to make up the missed work. This will also affect your participation grade.

**Grading:** Your final grade will be determined by the number of points you have accumulated by the end of the semester. The grading scale will be as follows: A 90-100%, B 80-89%, C 70-79%, D 60-69%, F 59% and below.

**Submitting work**

All work must be typed in Times New Roman, 12 point, and double-spaced. In the upper left hand corner, put your name, class (English 125/TTH), professor’s name, type of assignment, and date. Title your paper and center it. (Don’t worry--we will go over all of this in class)

**Example:**

Jesse Pinkman

Eng 125 T-TH

Professor: Jamie Barker

Personal Essay

September 22, 2018

What I Learned from My Chemistry Teacher

**Academic Dishonesty**

Cheating, copying, or plagiarizing others’ work may, according to the Reedley College 2014-2015 Catalog, result in anything from a failing grade on the paper or assignment to a failing grade in the course.

You are only allowed to have me, a student in our class, a Reading/Writing Center tutor or Tutorial Center tutor, or Linda Reither (the Learning Specialist) help you with your papers. No one else may help you with any of your papers.

**STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:**

*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 talk to me as soon as possible. Contact Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSP&S) at (559) 638-0332 or visit their website for more information:* [*http://www.reedleycollege.edu/services/dsp/LD.htm* (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site.](http://www.reedleycollege.edu/services/dsp/LD.htm)*.*

**Important Stuff:**

You must use the **school e-mail account *and check it on a regular basis.*** There are computers available at various computer labs (including the library) on campus. If you don’t know how to set up or use e-mail, please get help from me, a tutorial center, or a lab. There is also a video tutorial on Web Advisor.

Please contact me by e-mail (jamie.barker@reedleycollege.edu) if you have any problems or questions about anything**. Please write ENGL 125 in the subject line.** I check my e-mail regularly and will get back to you promptly. If you have not heard back from me in 48 hours, please check to make sure that I received your e-mail.

**I use Canvas, and** **you are responsible for the information posted there**. If I am unable to attend class, I will post it as an announcement on Canvas and send the announcement as an e-mail. There will also be an official sign on the classroom door. I will likely put something on Canvas for you to do; you are responsible for checking it. If you need help with Canvas, see me or a computer lab assistant in the library.

Please keep flash drive copies of all work submitted to me and a file of all work returned to you. I am very careful with your work, but I sometimes make mistakes. Protect yourself by keeping everything until the course is finished and your final grade has been recorded.

**What I Won’t Allow in My Classroom**

A classroom should be a safe place in which we can learn and explore ideas. If a student is disrespectful to me or anyone else in the class, they may be asked to leave the classroom, which results in an absence. If anyone refuses to leave the classroom when asked, or becomes threatening in any way, I will notify the campus police immediately.

**Please DO NOT:**

~Talk when someone else is talking/presenting/lecturing/asking a question (rude)

~Use your phone during class (rude)

~Arrive late (also rude)

~Wear excessive cologne or strong body lotions/perfumes to class

~Start packing up your stuff before I have dismissed the class

~Interrupt or otherwise stifle someone else

~Show signs of discrimination of any kind

~Raise your voice or your hand to anyone in class--ever

**GRADING**

A = 100-90 excellent

B = 89.99-80 very good

C = 79.99-70 average

D = 69.99-60 needs improvement (not passing)

F = 59.99-0 fail (not passing)

**Course Outcomes**

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

Write multiple papers of at least 1200 words, which include an introduction, multiple body paragraphs, and conclusion of some sophistication. This essay will include:

~a clearly defined thesis statement

~unified supporting paragraphs, which begin with topic sentences

~quotations that support the topic sentences and the thesis

~supporting material and ideas which exhibit critical thinking

~complete sentences which include a variety of sentence types

~descriptive vocabulary that exhibits growth and sophisticated word choice

~avoidance of fragments, comma splices, sentence fuses and other basic errors

~use of MLA guidelines to set up essays, and correctly use in-text citations

~a works cited page

~writing that is free from plagiarism

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

1. learn about writing papers which include introductions, body paragraphs, and conclusions
2. learn to write with some sophistication
3. practice writing thesis statements
4. learn about using quotations and in-text citations that support the topic sentences and the thesis
5. practice developing supporting material that exhibits critical thinking
6. develop an understanding of what a complete sentence is and practice using a variety of sentence types (simple, compound,

complex, and compound/complex sentence)

1. learn about common sentence errors, such as fragments, comma splices, sentence fuses
2. develop their usage of descriptive vocabulary that exhibits growth and sophisticated word choice
3. learn how to follow MLA guidelines when formatting papers and using quotations and a works cited page
4. learn about avoiding plagiarism
5. write papers in which they will use 3rd person point of view and practice addressing a specific audience
6. practice using all stages of the writing process as necessary and appropriate
7. practice writing in-class essays