SPRING 2019 ENGLISH 1A

This syllabus contains my policies. If you have a question about class, check here first. If you don’t find an answer, then ask me.

* Section 56297: Mondays and Wednesdays from 1 to 2:50 pm in CCI 207
* Section 56296: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 to 10:50 pm in CCI 202
* Section 55457: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1 to 2:50 pm in CCI 207 (This class is connected to English 205 which meets Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3-3:50 in Soc 35.

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| **INSTRUCTOR**: Lori Levine  Phone: 559-638-0300 ext. 3426  E-mail: [lori.levine@reedleycollege.edu](mailto:lori.levine@reedleycollege.edu) | **Office Hours (Office Hours may change)**  --Mondays from 11-12 pm  --Wednesdays from 11 to 12 pm and 3 to 4 pm.  --Thursdays from 11-12 noon  --Fridays from 9 to 10 am—these are virtual office hours. You can email me. We can also set up a time to talk over zoom—a video-based platform or over the phone. |

**WELCOME!**

The purpose of these courses is to assist you on your journey to becoming a better academic reader and writer. However, in order for these classes and me to assist you in this adventure, you need to be an active participant in this class. These courses are not just about the information I give you but how you interact with the information and how you engage with the class. In that sense, we are co-creating this class.

**CLASS THEME**

“Understanding Bias”

In this class, we will learn about “implicit bias” – the stereotyped attitudes we tend to have toward people based on the group they belong to (e.g., race, religion, gender), often without even realizing we are biased. We’ll also learn about “systemic” or “institutional” bias in which some groups are favored, while others are disadvantaged, by the larger systems in our society – for example, who gets hired for certain jobs, who is viewed as a “real American,” and how we are treated by doctors, teachers, the police, the court system, and federal immigration policies.

**CATALOG DESCRIPTIONS**

Students will read, analyze, and compose college-level prose, with emphasis on the expository; study writing as a process; explore different composing structures and strategies; edit and revise their own writing; and conduct research (gather, organize, evaluate, integrate, and document information), culminating in a term research paper and annotated bibliography. Students will write a minimum of 6,000 words in formal academic language.

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**

**(Shortened Version—see Outcomes and Objectives at the end of the syllabus.**

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

1. Write a documented research paper of at least 1,500 words that includes (see end of syllabus for complete list).
2. Complete a timed essay independently in class

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

**REQUIRED TEXTS AND SUPPLIES**

1. Banaji, Mahzarin and Anthony Greenwald. *Blindspot: Hidden Biases of Good People*. Bantam, 2016. ISBN: 978-0345528438
2. Course Handbook—You can buy this in the bookstore
3. Flash drive
4. A **stapler**. All papers must be stapled!
5. A three-hole punch.
6. Keep all handouts I give you organized in a binder. Make sure you always bring them to class. This is why you need a three-hole punch!

**ATTENDANCE POLICY: BE SMART ABOUT YOUR ATTENDANCE!**

* If you are absent the first day of the semester, you will be dropped.
* If you attend the first class of the semester but are absent the second class—and you do not contact me prior to class—you will be dropped.
* If you have four absences, you will be dropped from the course at my discretion.
* I will NEVER give you permission to leave class early or even to miss class. If you leave a few minutes early, you will get a “Late” on your attendance. If you leave more than 10 minutes early, you will be counted as absent. Personally, I would still come to class so you know what’s going on.
* Roll is taken every day at the beginning of class. **At the beginning of most classes, there will also be an assignment worth 1 to 5 points.**  I call these 1-minute freewrites. If you walk in even 30 seconds late, you will be counted as late and will miss points for this assignment.
* I do not distinguish between excused and unexcused absences. All appointments, interviews, meetings with counselors MUST be scheduled outside of class time. If you work, inform your employer of your class schedule. I consider an unprepared student as absent.
* It is your responsibility to stay informed concerning any changes of assignment due dates, readings, etc. This means that being absent is not an excuse for not knowing what is happening in class. Always come to class prepared—even after an absence.
* Do not skip class because you don’t feel like going, have a little cold, a slight headache, or are tempted to take a trip somewhere.
* If you run into me on campus, then you better be in class that day.
* If you really do have to miss class, be smart about it. Contact me. Ask for the assignments. Arrange time for phone calls or video conferences with me while you are gone. Send in your assignments through email the morning they are due.

**GRADES: Percentages might be altered—notice will be given if this happens.**

Participation, In-class Work, Homework, and Quizzes 10%

Essay 1: Victims/Creators 15%

Essay 2: Implicit Bias 20%

Timed Essay 5%

Essay 3: Systemic Bias 20%

Essay 4: Research Paper 25%

Final Reflection 5%

Grading Scale

100-90% = A

80-89% = B

70-79% = C

60-69% = D

0-59% = F

**PARTICIPATION, IN-CLASS WORK, HOMEWORK, AND QUIZZES**

This part of your grade includes any assignments that we do in-class, homework, quizzes, annotations, 1-minute freewrites, and anything else that we do that isn’t an essay. You need to be in class to get points for this category. I DO NOT accept late homework. If you aren’t going to be in class, you need to get me your homework BEFORE class. Don’t bring it to me at the end of class; I won’t accept it.

**ESSAY POLICIES**

All papers must be typed, saved as WORD files, and follow MLA guidelines. Read and review the PAPER POLICY below carefully.

1. All papers must be revised and typed in accordance with MLA guidelines. It is expected that you learn various functions in WORD to format your papers correctly.
2. All work leading to your final paper must be kept—for example, all prewriting, rough drafts, peer responses, and any other work produced. ***There are no exceptions to this policy.***
3. Word Processing Formats: The most common word processing format is Microsoft Word. If you use another word processing program, you will need to learn to save your work in Rich Text Format (RTF). *Do not use Microsoft Works or any other program that does not allow for easy conversion*. *Using WordPad is unacceptable. If you have Pages, you must learn to convert files to WORD so they can be submitted to TURNITIN and read by others.* ***I do not accept Pages files, Google Docs, or PDF files!!***
4. All essays will be turned in through TURNITIN through links on Canvas. *TURNITIN is a website that detects plagiarism*. This means that if you copy and or copy/paste writing from a website, another published source, or from a previous student of mine, without properly quoting and citing the source or sources, the plagiarism will be detected. You will be “caught.”
5. Should I discover while reading your essay that you have not run spell check or sufficiently proofread and edited your work, I will discontinue reading and return the essay to you. You will then have until the following week to revise the paper (the return date will be clearly marked for you). The highest grade such a "returned" paper can receive is a “C.”
6. You might be required to share your whole essay or a part some of your essay for peer review. Additionally, at my discretion, sentences and/or paragraphs may be taken from essays or other assignments and shared with the class to help illustrate grammar concepts, writing concepts, MLA guidelines, and more.
7. With all our writing assignments, process will be focused upon as well as final product.
8. Essays can be turned in up to one week late with approval by Ms. Levine.

**ESSAY REVISIONS**

Revision is an important part of writing, and you will revise your essays multiple times. If you want to revise your essay after it has been graded—and I highly suggest that you do if you get below a C—**you will need to have a quick chat with me sometime within the week you get your essay back.** Sometimes, we will have time to talk about these in class. Other times, you will need to come to my office. **Then you will have another week or so to revise your essay**. **You will bring this revision into my office WITH your original graded draft.** **You also need to mark the changes on the new copy. We will then review it TOGETHER. Sometimes during that meeting, I’ll give you a better grade. Other times, you will need to work on it longer.** This is okay. Every writer will tell you that revision is an important parts of writing and so expect to revise a lot and revise often. Please note, that you will not be able to revise your final essay.

**CONFERENCES**

Throughout the semester, I occasionally hold mandatory conferences during which we will talk about your essay. These mandatory conferences are worth 5 participation points each.

**CLASSROOM RULES**

**My classroom** rules are meant to help us maintain an orderly classroom so that I can teach and you can learn. Some of these rules might seem strict, and indeed if you don’t follow them, you might be asked to leave the classroom for the day, but if everyone follows the rules, our class time will be productive!

**I have five rules**

1. When you come to class, get your materials out—paper, pens books, articles, etc. Put your cell phone in your purse or backpack—not in your pocket. Put your backpack/purse on the ground or another chair—somewhere off of the table. **There should be nothing on the table except the materials for class.**
2. **I have a No cell phones rule unless I authorize you to use yours.** All cell phones must be put in your purse or backpack—not in your pockets or on your lap. If I ask you more than once to put away your cell phone, you will have three choices:

* Put it away.
* Give it to me for the remainder of the class.
* Leave and be counted as absent. Remember that you can be dropped from class if you are absent too many times.
* If you do not follow these rules, and I have to ask you to put your phone away more than once, you will have the choice of leaving or giving me your phone.

1. Be respectful. This means:
   1. No talking to your neighbor when I am talking.
   2. No talking to your neighbor when someone else is talking.
   3. If you have a comment/question, raise your hand, and I will call on you when I can.
   4. **No walking in front of me to throw away trash when I am talking or to leave to use the bathroom or get water**. Wait until a break or the end of class.
   5. No leaving class to talk to someone or text someone on your phone. You shouldn’t even know if someone called you if you are following rule #2.
   6. No outbursts.
2. Be on time and ready to work. If you are not, you will lose participation points.
3. Be a Creator! Reading and writing can be difficult. Essays will require multiple revisions. Just know that every time you revise an essay, you are learning. Keep going. You are becoming a better writer.

**DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR**

Disruptive behavior in the classroom should not be a problem, but I do reserve the right to ask a student to leave class whose behavior is impeding the learning of other students or making it impossible for me to do my job effectively. Disruptive behavior includes but is not limited to arguing with me, any other type of outburst, frequently interrupting students or the professor, habitually being late, or breaking any of my rules above. If you continually disrupt class, you will be asked to leave and, thus, counted as absent for that particular class.  If the behavior becomes too disruptive, disciplinary steps will be taken, as per Board Policy 5550, “including but not limited to the removal, suspension or expulsion of a student.”

**INFORMATION ABOUT THE READING/WRITING CENTER**

The READING/Writing Center is located in HUM 58. You may enroll in English 272, a ½ unit course designed to help you on any writing assignment from any class. You can also take advantage of their walk-in tutoring. I highly recommend that students use the writing center and sign up for the ½ unit course.

**EXTRA CREDIT!**

If you enroll in English 272 and complete 27 hours, you will get 10 extra participation points.

**ACCOMMODATIONS FOR 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 Disability Act (ADA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, please contact me as soon as possible.

**PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING**

1. If it is discovered that you have cheated or plagiarized on an assignment—at any point during the semester—you will receive a zero on that assignment and perhaps a failing grade in the class. Additionally, a plagiarism report will be filed with the administration. *Plagiarism of the final essay for the semester will result in a failing grade in the class.*
2. *Plagiarism means to pass off the work of others as your own. Plagiarism is dishonest and represents an attempt to obtain the benefits of a college degree without doing the work.*
3. For more information about plagiarism and cheating, refer to the Current Class Schedule (Campus Policies).
4. ***Bottom line***: Do not copy someone else’s words or ideas without giving him/her credit. Do not use another student’s paper as your own. Do not use a paper you wrote from another class in this class. Do not use a paper you wrote for this class in a previous semester. Do not have another person write the paper for you.  All of these are forms of cheating. You will receive a zero on the assignment, and a report will be filed with the college administration for their review. Please be advised that you will submit the final drafts of your papers through Turnitin.com (through links on Canvas), so if you do plagiarize, you will be caught.

**TIME COMMITMENT AND ESSENTIAL INFORMATION**

* English 1A is a four unit class. The average amount of homework for a unit hour is two-three hours. This means that the time needed **outside of** this class, for this class, is about EIGHT to TWELVE (8-12) hours per week during the eighteen week semester.
* It is important to understand the time commitment necessary to be successful in this or any class.
* It is your responsibility to stay informed concerning any changes of assignment due dates, readings, etc. This means you need to be in class and aware.
* It is your responsibility to officially withdraw from this and/or any course. Failure to do so may result in an "F" grade being awarded.

**HELPFUL HINTS**

* Keep a copy of each of your papers. This protects you if I should happen to lose one of your papers. You should save your work on your hard drive and back up your work to a USB or other storage device EVEN IF you use Google docs.
* Keep track of your work. You should save all of your work until the end of the semester so you can double check your final recorded grade. Of course, check your grade regularly throughout the semester.
* Should you discover that you are unable to regularly attend class for whatever reason, it is imperative that you discuss this with me as soon as possible. Telling me of work schedule changes, illness, family emergencies, etc. after missing several days/weeks is unacceptable.

**IMPORTANT DATES**

January 14 (M) Start of Spring 2019 semester

January 14 - March 15 (M-F) Short-term classes, first nine weeks

January 21 (M) Martin Luther King, Jr. Day observed (no classes held, campus closed)

January 25 (F) Last day to drop a Spring 2019 full-term class for full refund

February 1 (F) Last day to register for a Spring 2019 full-term class in person

February 1 (F) Last day to drop a Spring 2019 full-term class to avoid a “W” in person

February 3 (SU) Last day to drop a Spring 2019 full-term class to avoid a “W” on WebAdvisor

February 8 (F) Last day to change a Spring 2019 class to/from Pass/No-Pass grading basis

February 15 (F) Lincoln Day observance (no classes held, campus closed

February 18 (M) Washington Day observance (no classes held, campus closed)

March 8 (F) Last Day to drop a full-term class (letter grades assigned after this date)

March 18 - May 24 (M-F) Short-term classes, second nine weeks

April 15-18 (M-Th) Spring recess (no classes held, campus open)

April 19 (F) Good Friday observance (no classes held, campus closed) (classes reconvene April 22)

May 20-24 (M-F) Spring 2019 final exams week

May 24 (F) End of Spring 2019 semester/commencement

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**

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| **English 1A** |
| 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) |

**Course Objectives**

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| English 1A |
| 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    * 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 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    * Describing, evaluating, and questioning the purpose, audience, organization, and style of assigned readings. |