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Office Hours: By Appointment Only
ENGL 1A (52452)
Online

English 1A: Course Description

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 (24 pages) in formal academic language

Please note: This class will ask you to read complex, collegiate-level writing and to complete formal, academic essays in which you demonstrate complex and sophisticated thinking. The expected workload for this class is between 12 and 16 hours a week (4 lecture or class hours with two to three hours of outside homework and study time, for each lecture hour), please plan and budget your time accordingly.

Further Description:

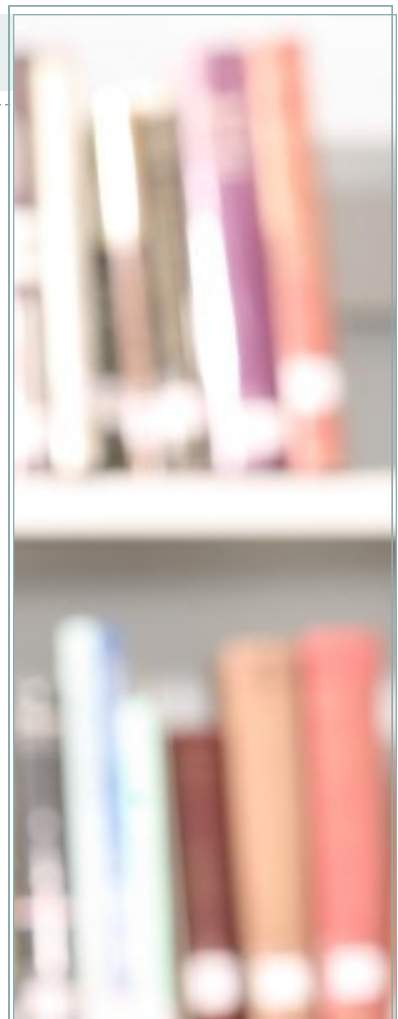
This semester we will discuss the importance of recognizing “Single Stories” and the inherent dangers they contain.

Unit 1: Developing and Defining Grit and a Growth-Mindset

- Important Questions: Why are successful people successful? What can I do to ensure my own success and achieve my goals? What happens if I fail?
- Major Writing Assignment: Narrative Essay (Timed!)

Unit 2: “The Dangers of a Single Story”

- Important Questions: What is a “Single Story”? Why must we learn to move past a “Single Story” and what happens if we do not?
- Major Writing Assignment: Rhetorical Analysis Essay



“Let us step into the night and pursue that flighty temptress, adventure.” - J. K. Rowling

“Isn't it funny how day by day nothing changes but when you look back everything is different.” -C.S. Lewis

Unit 3: Determining the Truth and its Consequences

- Important Questions: How do we know what we know? How do we construct reality? Who has the power to create truth? How does the truth change, and if it changes, is it still the truth?
- Major Writing Assignments: Synthesis Essay; Practice Annotated Bibliography
- Major Reading Assignment: *Speaker for the Dead* by Orson Scott Card

Unit 4: Complicating the Single Story

- Important Questions: Why are “Single Stories” dangerous? Why must we look at issues from multiple perspectives? What is the interconnection between storytelling and social power? How can we share stories that are not typically told in mainstream culture?
- Major Writing Assignments: Research Paper and Presentation; Formal Annotated Bibliography

Required Materials:

- *Speaker for the Dead* by Orson Scott Card (ISBN: 9780312853259)
- Other readings posted to Canvas
- A computer or laptop and access to the internet in order to complete and store/organize assignments.
- Access to Microsoft Word (the College provides each student with a free Office 365 account, which includes Word, PowerPoint, etc.). **When you submit assignments—especially essays—you will need to upload Microsoft Word documents. I will not accept PDFs.**

Student Learning Outcomes

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

- A. Write a documented research paper of at least 1,500 words that includes:
 - A sophisticated introduction, multiple body paragraphs, and a 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
 - 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
- B. Complete a timed essay independently in class
- C. Summarize and comprehend college-level prose (will include a full reading)

Grades

Your grades will be point-based. Each assignment will be given a point value. Your final grade will be determined by adding up all of the points you earned and comparing your points to the grading standard. This semester, the total points possible will be out of 1,000 points. This means that in order to earn an A, you will need to earn a minimum of 900 points. Please see the breakdown of assignments and points below.

Category:	Points
Timed, Narrative Essay: Developing Grit and a Growth Mindset	50 Points
Rhetorical Analysis Essay: The Dangers of a Single Story	100 Points
Synthesis Essay: Analyzing <i>Speaker for the Dead</i> through the “Dangers of a Single Story” Lens	150 Points
Practice Annotated Bibliography (<i>Speaker for the Dead</i>)	50 Points
Formal Annotated Bibliography	150 Points
Research Project: Term Paper	200 Points
Final: <i>Speaker for the Dead</i> and Reflection Questions	100 Points
Classroom Activities/Participation and Homework Assignments and Quizzes	200 Points

Grading Scale:

A: 100—90% (900—1,000 Points)

B: 89.99—80% (899—800 Points)

C: 79.99—70% (799—700 Points)

D: 69.99—60% (699—600 Points)

F: 59.99—0.00% (599—0 Points)

Warning: You must earn a C in order to pass this class, and for this class to count for transfer credit. As per the English 1A Course Outline of Record, you must be able to write a passing research paper, an annotated bibliography and an in-class timed essay in order to pass this class.

I do not round grades, do not ask.

Grades will be updated regularly on Canvas. Make sure to check them frequently. Do not wait until the end of the summer to discuss your grade with me. If you see that I have made a mistake entering something in the grade book, please politely bring this to my attention. **Be sure to keep all of your work during the semester.**

Reminder: Failure to participate in mandatory rough draft workshops will result in your essays not being accepted. Further, failure to complete the formal Annotated Bibliography (part of your research paper) will result in your research paper not being accepted.

Plan Ahead and Get Help!

“The best way to predict the future is to create it.” - President Abraha Lincoln

“Whether you think you can, or you think you can’t—you are right.” - Henry Ford

“The word you desire an be won.” - Ayn Rand

“Learning to fail might be the most crucial learning of all.” - Chip Wilson

“You are not defined by your setbacks. You’re defined by your comebacks.” - Robyn Benincasa

“Procrastination makes easy things hard and hard things harder.” - Mason Cooley

“It’s our life. It’s the years awaiting us, and all that is still left to us, still possible– if we fight for it.” - Ayn Rand

Do You Need Extra Help?

In order to be successful in college you must become your own advocate. If you ever need extra help—ask. If you are ever confused about something—ask. I cannot help you if you do not let me know you need help, do not wait until it is too late to ask for help. Luckily, there are several ways and opportunities for you to get the help you need at Reedley College:

I will not be keeping office hours this summer. I will be able to respond to emails and Canvas messages rather quickly Monday—Thursday (usually within 24 hours). If you email me over the weekend, it may take me a couple of days to get back to you. If you need more specific help with an assignment, please email me and we may be able to arrange a Zoom meeting. Please feel free to email me drafts of your essays before they are due, so that I can give you helpful and meaningful feedback.

There are several other resources available to help:

- **Free online tutoring through Canvas.** Just click on the “Smarthinking Online Tutoring” link. “Smarthinking Online” is a good resource for getting help/feedback on essays.
- **24/7 Library Research Help:** this is available through Canvas. Just click on the link to open a chat session.
- **Embedded Tutor:** Our summer school classes have an embedded tutor. Please contact our tutor to setup tutoring sessions or to get extra help with assignments.
- **Grammarly:** Grammarly is a free grammar/spell check resource available online. You can signup for a free account to help proofread your work.
- **Hemingway App:** Hemingway is another free resource that will help you improve and revise your writing. You can copy and paste your work onto the website and it will show you what grade level you are currently writing at, and how easy it is to read and follow your writing. Hemingway will also provide suggestions for how best to improve your writing. Please note that Hemingway App is a website and an app that you can choose to install—you do not need to install the app.

Classroom Policies & Expectations

“Asynchronous” Learning Environment: Because this class is all online, we will be following the “Asynchronous” learning and teaching format. This means that our course will be organized into Modules on Canvas. Each week will have its own Module where the week’s calendar/agenda, notes and assignments will be posted. Each Module will automatically unlock at midnight on the first day of the week (Sunday), and each Module will automatically lock at 11:59 PM on the last day of the week (Saturday). This means you will have the entire week to review notes, discussions and complete assignments at your own pace. **Please note that there are some exceptions to this, as there will be some assignments that require specific due dates and times. This includes, but is not limited to, essay workshops, discussion boards, quizzes and tests and final drafts of written assignments (essays).**

Classroom Activities/Participation and Homework Assignments: 200 of the 1,000 points you have to earn this semester will be allotted to classroom activities and homework assignments. Please note, that while this only makes up 200 points, all of the major writing assignments are based on assigned readings and class discussions, which means your ability to successfully pass English 1A is directly tied to completing homework assignments, reading assignments and discussion board activities. Most homework assignments will consist of outside reading assignments, discussion posts and drafts of assigned essays. **All homework assignments, unless otherwise noted, will be due to Canvas by 11:59 PM the day the assignment is due. No homework assignments will be accepted late.**

Late Work: Late homework assignments, classroom activities, reading assignments, etc. will not be accepted late. Do not ask.

Quizzes: There may or may not be quizzes. If there are quizzes, they will be on the assigned readings and/or weekly notes. Quizzes will be timed and will become locked. You will not be allowed to retake quizzes and I will not unlock them for you if you missed them or forgot to take them.

Attendance: Because this is an online summer school class, attendance will be based on the assignments you complete—or fail to complete. If you fail to complete an assignment that is due on any given day, you will be considered absent. I do not distinguish between excused and unexcused absences. **Please note that you will be dropped if you fail to complete the first day’s assignment, as you will be considered a “no show.” Further, you will be dropped if you do not complete each assignment for the first week of the course, as there will be concerns regarding your ability to successfully complete the class.** Logging on and completing assignments each week is essential. It will not guarantee a passing grade; however, it is definitely a step on the road to success.

Academic Behavior: According to the Reedley College *Student Conduct Standards and Procedures*, if a student “Interferes with or disrupts faculty and administrators who are fulfilling their professional responsibilities that student is subject to discipline” (4). In order to maintain a safe learning environment, I expect you to be respectful and to work cooperatively with your classmates.

Ensuring a Safe and Welcoming Classroom Environment: We will work together the first couple of weeks of the semester to establish a list of rules (“Norms”) that will govern our behavior and how we treat and interact with one another. This list of Norms will be posted to our Canvas page and will ensure that we have created a safe learning environment that ensures each student feels safe and respected. You will be expected to abide by these rules daily, or you may be asked to leave class.

Submitting and Revising Essays:

English Department Student Error Statement: Your instructors at Reedley College want you to be successful in your classes and therefore request you submit your best work. Successful students in reading and writing classes make sure that they carefully address the prompt, proofread their writing, and follow MLA guidelines. **Please note that an instructor may choose to read only the first page or less of an assignment and return it to you with little or no feedback if the paper demonstrates lack of attention to correctness. This paper is also likely to receive a failing grade.** Successful students do the following:

- Follow their instructor's instructions and pay close attention to the rubric requirements.
- Seek assistance from the Reading and Writing Center, Tutorial Center, or Smarthinking
- Ask their instructor for guidance during his/her office hours
- Look for answers in their MLA handbook or online at the PurdueOWL website (<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/>) DAYS BEFORE their paper is due.

Sharing Your Work and Workshops: You will be required to share your whole essay or parts of your essay for peer review during mandatory workshops. 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. If/when I choose to share your work with the class, your name will be removed to protect your privacy. **Please note that the workshops are mandatory—if you fail to share your rough draft and to provide your group members with feedback, your essay will not be accepted.**

Submitting Late Essays: It is your responsibility to make sure your essays are completed and submitted on time. All essays will be submitted digitally to Turnitin (through Canvas). It is your responsibility to ensure that your essay has uploaded properly. If you have problems submitting an essay, you must—at the very least—email me a copy of your essay to prove that it was completed on time. **However, you may submit your essay up to one day late for a grade reduction. A full grade will be deducted from the overall grade.** No essay will be accepted after this point.

Essay Revision: Due to the time constraints associated with a 6-week summer school class, you will not be allowed to revise essays for a higher grade. This means you will need to get help from me, our embedded tutor, or Smarthinking online before your essay is due.

“The art of writing is the art of doing what you think you're doing. This is not as simple as it sounds. It implies a very difficult undertaking: the necessity to think. And it implies the requirement to think out three separate, very hard problems: What is it you want to say? How are you going to say it? Have you really said it?” - Ayn Rand

Cheating and Plagiarism

- Cheating is defined as: acting dishonestly or unfairly in order to gain an advantage
- Plagiarism is defined as: the practice of taking someone else's work or ideas and passing them off as one's own.

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 administration. **Plagiarizing any of the major writing assignments (formal essays, presentation or annotated bibliographies) will result in a failing grade in the class.** Please note that you will submit your essays to Turnitin through Canvas, so if you plagiarize, you will get caught.

Proper Email Etiquette:

Feel free to email me whenever you have any questions or concerns. However, you need to remember that when you email me you are emailing your instructor. Make sure your email contains all of the following:

- A salutation: Dear Mrs. Vizthum/Mrs. Viz/Mrs. V
- The body of your email should be polite and should conform to Standard Written English (avoid slang, abbreviations, misspellings and inappropriate language).
- A closing: Sincerely/Thank you...

Any email that fails to follow these guidelines—or an email that is unnecessarily rude or aggressive—will receive a “Try Again” message.

Please **allow at least 24 hours during the week for me to respond.** I don't typically check or respond to emails over the weekend and holidays. If you do not hear back from me after 48 hours, please send me a new email, as it is safe to assume that your original email has been missed or lost. Please make sure to include your name and section information in the email's subject line.

Students with Disabilities/Special Accommodations: Disabled Students Programs and Services provide specialized counseling, support services, and resources to students with temporary or permanent disabilities. For more information, contact Disabled Students Programs and Services at (559) 638-0332. **If you are in need of an accommodation due to a disability please provide me with your notification of authorized services form from DSP&S as quickly as possible, so that arrangements can be made.**

“For tomorrow belongs to the people who prepare for it today.” - African Proverb

Semester Units & Calendar:

As previously stated under the section titled “Asynchronous” Learning Environment, all of the assignments for this summer school class will be organized under weekly Modules on Canvas. Each module will unlock at midnight on the first day of the week (Sunday) and will automatically lock at 11:59 PM on the last day of the week (Saturday). This means that—for the most part—your assignments will be due by 11:59 PM on Saturdays. However, there are exceptions to this rule! Please review the section on “Asynchronous” Learning Environment and make sure to pay close attention to the due dates/times posted on Canvas.

Please see the Tentative schedule below. The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the calendar and any class policies or procedures that may best benefit the class.

Module: First Day June 22

Reminder: Failure to complete these assignments on time (by 11:59 PM on Monday, June 22) will result in your being dropped from the class as a “No Show.”

This Weeks Reading Assignments, Notes, Discussion Boards, Essays, Workshops, Etc.	Important Assignments Due
Notes: Review Syllabus Reading Assignments: Read “Habits of Mind” and suggest plausible Classroom Norms Read “Shitty First Drafts” by Anne Lamott	Respond to Discussion Board “Getting to know you!” Suggest Plausible Classroom Norms on Google Doc

Module Week 1: June 21 - 27—Timed Narrative Essay

Reminder: If you fail to complete each assignment for the first week, you will be dropped from the course.

This Weeks Reading Assignments, Notes, Discussion Boards, Essays, Workshops, Etc.	Important Assignments Due
Notes: Provide Background Information/Context for <i>Speaker for the Dead</i> How to write a narrative essay; elements of a short story (character, plot, dialogue, etc.) TedTalks: “Grit” by Angela Lee Duckworth and “The Power of Yet” by Carol Dweck Reading Assignments: “Brainology” by Carol Dweck “You Can Grow Your Intelligence” by Lisa Blackwell Major Reading Assignment: Begin reading <i>Speaker for the Dead</i> – Read Prologue – Chapter 5	Timed Narrative Essay! This is a requirement for English 1A and it cannot be made-up if you miss it! You will have TWO HOURS to complete the essay! You may choose to complete the essay on Friday or Saturday. It will automatically lock and kick you out by 11:59 PM on Saturday, June 27th. Reading Response for <i>Speaker for the Dead</i> Prologue – Chapter 5

Module Week 2: June 28 – July 4—Rhetorical Analysis Essay

This Weeks Reading Assignments, Notes, Discussion Boards, Essays, Workshops, Etc.	Important Assignments Due
<p>Notes Analyzing a text rhetorically: speaker, situation, purpose and tone What is rhetoric? Ethos, Pathos, Logos</p> <p>TedTalk “The Dangers of a Single Story” by Chimamanda Adichie</p> <p>Practice Assignment: Rhetorically analyze “The Gettysburg Address” – Provide a thesis statement and a well-developed body paragraph</p> <p>Rough Draft Workshop</p> <p>Major Reading Assignment: Continue reading <i>Speaker for the Dead</i> – Read Chapters 6 – 12</p>	<p>Begin drafting rhetorical analysis essay</p> <p>Post rough draft to small group discussion group on Canvas by 11:59 PM on Thursday, July 3.</p> <p>Reading Response for <i>Speaker for the Dead</i> Chapters 6 – 12 due</p>

Module Week 3: July 5 – July 11—Synthesis Essay on *Speaker for the Dead*. You must finish reading the novel by the end of this week!

This Weeks Reading Assignments, Notes, Discussion Boards, Essays, Workshops, Etc.	Important Assignments Due
<p>Notes Review background information/context for <i>Speaker for the Dead</i></p> <p>TedTalks “Be Suspicious of Simple Stories” by Tyler Cowen “What to Trust in a Post-Truth World” by Alex Edman</p> <p>Reading Assignments “The Four Truths of the Storyteller” by Peter Gruber “The Essential Role of Storytelling in the Search for the Truth” by Lise Saffron</p> <p>Complete Rough Draft Workshop for Rhetorical Analysis Essay</p> <p>Major Reading Assignment: Complete reading <i>Speaker for the Dead</i> – Read Chapters 12 – 18</p>	<p>Complete Rough Draft Workshop for Rhetorical Analysis Essay by 11:59 PM Monday, July 6.</p> <p>Final draft of Rhetorical Analysis Essay due by 11:59 PM on Friday, July 10.</p> <p>Reading Response for <i>Speaker for the Dead</i> Chapters 13 – End</p>

Module Week 4: July 12 – July 18—Synthesis Essay *Speaker for the Dead*

This Weeks Reading Assignments, Notes, Discussion Boards, Essays, Workshops, Etc.	Important Assignments Due
<p>Notes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How to write a synthesis essay How to synthesize sources/textual evidence How to write an annotated bibliography <p>Practice Annotated Bibliography in Groups Begin drafting essay Start Rough Draft Workshop</p>	<p>Group Practice Annotated Bibliography for <i>Speaker for the Dead</i> due 11:59 PM on Saturday, July 18.</p> <p>Post rough draft to small group discussion group on Canvas by 11:59 PM on Thursday, July 16.</p> <p>Complete Rough Draft Workshop by 11:59 PM on Saturday, July 18.</p>

Module Week 5: July 19 – July 25—Research Project

This Weeks Reading Assignments, Notes, Discussion Boards, Essays, Workshops, Etc.	Important Assignments Due
<p>Notes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How to Navigate the Library Databases <p>Practice Assignment: Finding Sources for Thomas Hardy’s “The Ruined Maid” Revise Essay Invention Exercises and Thesis Proposal Begin working on Annotated Bibliography</p>	<p>Final Draft of Essay due by 11:59 PM on Wednesday, July 22.</p>

Module Week 6: July 26 – 31 (Class Ends July 31)

This Weeks Reading Assignments, Notes, Discussion Boards, Essays, Workshops, Etc.	Important Assignments Due
<p>Complete Annotated Bibliography Draft Essay – Share thesis, essay outline and first two pages of your rough draft with your small groups. Complete final essay and final exam.</p>	<p>Annotated Bibliography will be due by 11:59 PM on Wednesday, July 29.</p> <p>Mini-Workshop on Wednesday, July 29. Share your thesis, essay outline and two pages of your rough draft with your group members for feedback.</p> <p>The Final will be on Friday, July 31. The final will only be available to you on Friday, July 31st. You will not be allowed to take it at a different time or take it more than once.</p> <p>Final Draft of Essay due by 11:59 PM on Friday, July 31.</p>