

English 1A Syllabus Fall 2022

English 1A-51208: Reading and Composition ✍

Contact Information

Instructor: Deborah Lyons

Office, phone: Annex 4, (559) 494-3000, ext. 3613

Email: deborah.lyons@reedleycollege.edu

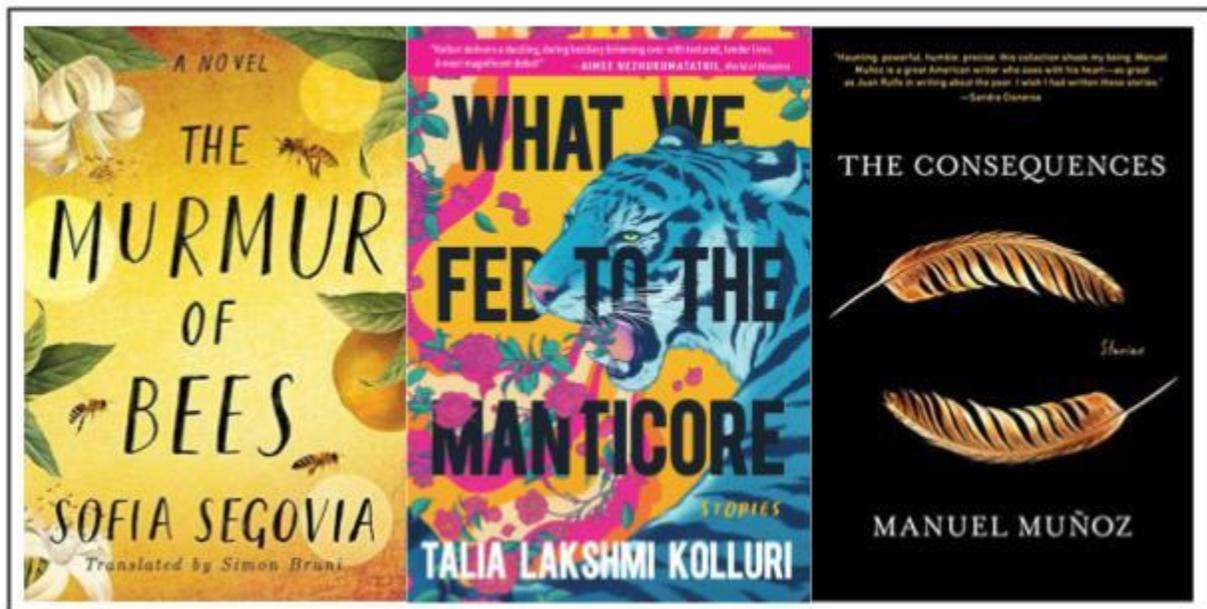
Class Meetings: Wed, 8:00-9:50, CCI 200

Office Hours: Tues, Thurs 11:00-12:00 on Zoom

Wed, Fri 12:00-1:30 Annex 4 / Reading and Writing Center

Overview

What you can expect: The theme for this course is “Community and the Other.” We will examine texts by Talia Kolluri, Manuel Muñoz, Sofía Segovia, Malcolm Gladwell, George Orwell, Gabriel García Márquez, Ta-Nehisi Coates and more who interrogate the tension between groups, individuals, and outsiders. In response, you will write three essays to analyze the readings, to draw on research from a variety of sources and to articulate your own ideas in relation to course themes.



Catalog 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 5,000 words in formal academic language.

Course Texts

Text available for purchase in the [Reedley College Bookstore](#) or to borrow from the [RC Library](#):

- Sofia Segovia. *The Murmur of Bees*
- All other texts are free and will be available as handouts in class and as digital files on Canvas.

Format: This is a hybrid course, meaning that in addition to our weekly class meeting, you will complete work online through our learning system, Canvas. There you will engage with lectures, readings, and videos and will post reflections and participate in discussion forums or writing workshops. Generally, online assignments will be due each Monday by 11:59pm. In-person class sessions will involve lectures, discussions, group activities, and writing workshops. It is a 4-unit class, which means that you should allow for **8-12 hours per week for study**. Each week you will read a range of texts (some weeks up to 150 pages from the novel, *The Murmur of Bees*), post annotations and reading responses, study presentations and lectures, and contribute to discussion forums online or in class. Other weeks will require you to locate sources and read and annotate these carefully on your own. Some weeks you will focus primarily on drafting or revising essays. **Set aside distinct study times in your weekly schedule for the best chance at success.**

Communications: The best way to reach me is via email or the Canvas messaging inbox. I will respond within 24 hours. If you do not hear back from me during this time, you are welcome to reach out again. I am happy to answer any questions that you may have during class or my office hours. **At the start of each week, I will post an announcement about the week's assignments with a "To Do" list.** Get into the habit of checking Canvas and your school email daily. Consider changing your notifications settings to receive messages and announcements directly to your phone or email.

Class Participation: Discussion is a key component of this class both in written form on Canvas and during class. Our discussions are an opportunity to try out ideas, practice new skills, and deepen your understanding of the texts as you prepare to write essays.

Reading & Writing Center Tutors: The Reading & Writing Center is an important resource for you. Enroll in their Canvas course to access help with writing strategies, reading skills, grammar help, and much more. **In addition, I encourage you to enroll in group tutoring through the RWC.** During tutoring sessions, a tutor will be available to support you as you study for this class. It is an excellent opportunity to get real time feedback and support from a trained peer as you complete the work. Watch for announcements!

Literary Arts Events: During the semester we will read works by Talia Kolluri and Manuel Muñoz. Both of these authors will visit campus this fall for book launches and readings of their newest works. Please plan to attend one or both of these events. **Kolluri's reading will be on Thursday, September 8 at 7:00-8:00pm in the Forum Hall. Muñoz will be on campus on Tuesday, October 18 at 7:00-8:00pm, also in the Forum hall.** You will also have the option to attend the First Wednesday at One poetry reading series. Watch announcements for details. Please attend at least one Literary Arts event and write a brief summary of the event as well as your impressions to complete this assignment.

Student Learning Objectives & Outcomes

English 1A

Student Learning Objectives:

- ENGL-1A SLO1: Write a documented, well-organized research paper of at least 1,500 words that demonstrates critical thinking and command of the English language.
- ENGL-1A SLO2: Complete a timed essay independently in class
- ENGL-1A SLO3: Summarize and comprehend college-level prose (will include a full reading)

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

1. Write multiple essays of at least 1,500 words, including at least one research paper with documentation 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 which show a command of mechanics
 - controlled and sophisticated word choice
 - writing in third person
 - 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
 - a lack of intentional and unintentional plagiarism
 2. Write one or more organized, independently-written in-class essays with thesis and adequate support.
 3. Read and understand college-level prose.
-

Grades and Assignments

Assignments	Percentage of Total Grade
Weekly Discussion Posts, Reading Responses, Annotations, Topic Proposal	Complete in order to develop skills required for graded assignments. Feedback and scores will be given to help you develop key skills but these will not count towards your final grade.
Analysis Essay	10%
Timed Essay	10%
Research Paper & Annotated Works Cited	75%
Presentations	5%

**As per the English 1A Course Outline of Record and English 1A rubric criteria, you must write a passing research paper and annotated works cited to be eligible to pass this class.*

Skills Mastery Rubric

Criteria Description	Exceeds Mastery	Mastery Demonstrated	Some Mastery Demonstrated	Attempted but no Mastery	No Evidence Provided
Points	4	3	2	1	0

Your grade is based on demonstrated of each skill contributing to mastery of outcomes and identified in the assignments. Each skill is assessed based on a 4-point rubric attached to each assignment. Final grades are calculated by averaging the assessment level of all skills in the course using the following scale:

A – 3.50-4.00 (87.5%-100%)

B – 2.75-3.49 (68.75%-87.4%)

C – 2.00-2.74 (50%-68.74%)

D – 1.25-1.99 (31.25%-49.9%)

F – 1.24 and below (below 31.25%)

Discussion Forum Posts: Discussion Posts include responses to readings or lessons and participation in writing workshops. These are intended to help you widen your understanding of the texts and to build the skills needed to complete essay assignments.

Reading Responses: Reading reflections are more thorough responses to the readings than discussion forum posts, allowing you to practice skills such as in-text citation and to deepen your

critical analysis of texts begun in the discussion forums. They are intended to help you to gather quotes and develop your ideas and are part of the process of building the essays. You are welcome to draw on your ideas begun in discussion forums and reflections when drafting your essays.

Essays: In order to be eligible to pass the class, you must turn in all of the essays as well as the annotated bibliography. Essay 1 is an analytical response to the Unit 1 readings. Essay 2 is a timed essay based on *The Murmur of Bees*. Essay 3 is an argumentative research paper on a topic based from course themes. You will draw on multiple sources to craft a thoughtful and supported argument. In preparation for the research paper, you will compile an Annotated Works Cited to demonstrate your close reading and careful evaluation of the sources. All essays are due by 11:59pm on the due date, uploaded through Canvas to Turnitin.com, a plagiarism checking website.

Presentations: You will create two presentations during the semester, one on *The Murmur of Bees* and another on your research paper. Depending on class time you will present in person or upload a recorded presentation to Canvas.

Class Policies

Community: Reach out to others in the class and get to know them. Reach out to your instructor. **I care about you and your success.** If you feel isolated or that you are struggling with any aspect of the course, reach out for help as soon as you are able. Maintain a professional and respectful tone in class as well as in any online communication with the instructor or other classmates.

Technical problems: Computer failure, lost USB drives, or other technology glitches will not be accepted as a legitimate excuse for missing assignments. Get into the habit of saving all work online (or emailing it to yourself) as a safeguard. For your best chance at success take responsibility for your timely completion of all assignments.

Attendance and drop policy: Your participation matters! You must attend all in-person class sessions. If you miss two or more sessions you may be dropped. Attendance online is also required. Logging into Canvas and viewing course content is not enough to be marked present or to be successful. In order to stay enrolled in the course, you must complete assignments each week so that I know you are participating and keeping pace with the readings and other work. You may be dropped if you miss two or more weeks of classwork. **If you are having difficulty completing assignments on time, reach out for help. I want you to succeed.**

Plagiarism: All projects must be entirely your own work. You may not submit work you have written for another class. All essays and assignments will be uploaded to Turnitin.com a plagiarism checking website. Any work containing *any* material that you take directly from the internet or any other source (including your own work for another class) without proper documentation will receive a zero. Depending on the severity of the plagiarized material you

may also be reported to the Dean of Instruction. **To avoid this situation, speak with me as soon as possible if you are having difficulty completing an assignment.**

Administrative Policies: For a complete list of Student Conduct, Rights and Responsibilities, as well as the Grievance Policy, please refer to the Administrative Policies beginning on page 44 of the 2022-23 Reedley College Catalog.

Changes to the Syllabus/Schedule: The instructor reserves the right to make changes as necessary for the benefit of the class.

Additional Assistance

Instructor Support: If you have any concerns about the class, assignments, or your progress, please contact me as soon as possible. I am available during office hours but available to meet at other times.

Students with Disabilities/Special Accommodations: If you need any special accommodations please let me know. I want to ensure that everyone has equal access to a great education. However, requests for special testing accommodations must come through the Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSP&S). Phone: (559) 638-0332.

Other Resources: There are MANY resources available to students on campus. To name a few: Emergency Services, Health & Psychological Services, Career & Employment Center, Reedley College Library, Reading & Writing Center, Food Bank, Information for Dreamers, and Counseling. Please let me know if you have a question or need and I will do my best to put you in contact with the appropriate service.

Important Dates

Aug 8	Start of Fall Semester
Aug 19	Last day to drop a Fall 2022 full-term class for full refund
Aug 26	Last day to register for a Fall 2022 full-term class in person
Aug 26	Last day to drop a Fall 2022 full-term class in person to avoid a "W"
Sept 5	Labor Day Holiday (no classes held, campus closed)
Sept 8	Literary Arts Speaker Series: Talia Kolluri, RC Forum Hall, 7:00-8:00pm
Oct 7	Last Day to drop a full-term class (letter grades assigned after this date)
Oct 18	Literary Arts Speaker Series: Manuel Muñoz, RC Forum Hall, 7:00-8:00pm
Nov 11	Veterans Day (no classes held, campus open)
Nov 24-25	Thanksgiving holiday (no classes held, campus closed)
Dec 5-9	Fall 2022 final exams week
Dec 9	End of Fall Semester 2022