

REEDLEY COLLEGE  
ENGLISH 1A: READING AND COMPOSITION  
FALL 1998  
COURSE DESCRIPTION

drop deadline

Instructor: Gary Enns  
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**Required Text**

- Axelrod and Cooper. *Reading Critically, Writing Well*, fourth edition. Bedford, St. Martin's Press.
- Howell. *A Brief Handbook for Writers*. Prentice Hall.

**Purpose** To study and practice skills in critical reading, thinking, and writing.

**Academic Honesty** Plagiarism is the unacknowledged use of someone else's ideas and/or words. Plagiarism involves everything from buying or borrowing an essay to improper documentation. Penalties for plagiarism include expulsion from the college.

**Policies and Procedures**

**Papers** I require typed papers, double-spaced, on one side of 8.5 x 11 inch sheets of paper. Margins should be one inch. Staple the pages of each paper in the upper left corner before bringing to class. Papers are due at the beginning of class on the due date. The due date is final. I will not accept late papers, so if you are absent for *any* reason, be sure to hand the paper in early or make preparations with a friend to hand your paper in for you.

**Class Presentation** You will give a formal presentation critically analyzing two essays on an issue. A thorough, typed outline of your presentation is required.

**Quizzes and Reading Responses** Frequently I will give unannounced quizzes and assign responses based on the readings assigned.

**Midterm and Final Examinations** These tests may involve a variety of questions, from matching and True/False to short answer and essay questions.

**Attendance and Class Participation** Attendance is vital. Six or more unexcused absences will result in an F for the course. If you come to class after roll is taken, you will be counted tardy. Each tardy counts as one half of one absence. **Note: Any work missed due to an absence may not be made up**, with the exception of work missed due to illness or college business. In these situations, an official (meaning appropriate letterhead and signature) department or doctor's note is required, and the work must be made up within the next week.

**Conferences** I encourage you to make appointments to see me before or after class. I am happy to help with difficult material, ideas for papers and presentations, early drafts, or anything else involving your work.

**Grades**

Class Participation.....	5%
Paper 1.....	10%
Paper 2.....	10%
Paper 3.....	20%
Class Presentation.....	15%
Midterm Examination .....	10%
Final Examination.....	10%
Quizzes and Reading Responses.....	20%

## Tentative Course Plan

**Note:** All works will be discussed on the days they are listed; please read them carefully, at least once, before that class period.

### AUTOBIOGRAPHY

#### **WEEK 1 (AUGUST 18-20)**

T Personal introductions; introduction to critical thinking.

R Ch 1: INTRODUCTION, READING CRITICALLY, WRITING WELL pp. 1-21

#### **WEEK 2 (AUGUST 25-27)**

T AUTOBIOGRAPHY pp. 23-33. Close attention to Lorde's essay.

R Dillard pp. 34. Baker pp. 39. A GUIDE TO AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL WRITING pp. 61-68.

#### **WEEK 3 (SEPTEMBER 1-3)**

T Abraham pp. 51. Benioff pp. 55. "The Ice-Cream Truck" read in class.

R \* **Writing Workshop: bring two copies of your typed rough draft.**

### OBSERVATION

#### **WEEK 4 (SEPTEMBER 8-10)**

T \* **Due: Paper 1: An Autobiographical Story.**

R OBSERVATION pp. 69-78. Close attention to Kidder's essay.

#### **WEEK 5 (SEPTEMBER 15-17)**

T The New Yorker pp. 78. Jones pp. 82.

R The Sterns pp. 87. Elsten pp. 101.

#### **WEEK 6 (SEPTEMBER 22-24)**

T McPhee pp. 95.

R Grammar Workshop

#### **WEEK 7 (SEPTEMBER 29-OCTOBER 1)**

T \* **Writing Workshop: bring two copies of your typed rough draft.**

R \* **Due: Paper 2: An Observation.**

#### **WEEK 8 (OCTOBER 6-8)**

T Grammar Workshop. Review for Mid-Term.

R \* **Midterm Examination.**

### EXPLAINING CONCEPTS

#### **WEEK 9 (OCTOBER 13-15)**

T EXPLAINING CONCEPTS pp. 159-170. Close attention to Quammen's essay.

R Nodelman pp. 170. McCool pp. 197.

#### **WEEK 10 (OCTOBER 20-22)**

T Tannen pp. 177. Elmer-DeWitt pp. 184.

R Csikszentmihalyi pp. 191.