

Course Policies

English 1A

Alexis Khoury

638-3641 extension 406

Office Hours: Tuesday 1-2; Wednesday 12-2; Thursday 1-2; Friday 2-3

Required Texts: *The Dolphin Reader*; *The Little-Brown Handbook*; *The Elements of Style*; *The Accidental Tourist*.

You will be writing six essays for this class. Four of the essays will be arguments based on your personal experiences: you will learn how to employ various strategies to prove your points. One essay will be a research paper and the other will be a literary critical analysis. The four argumentative essays will be approximately 500-750 words, as will the literary critical analysis. The research paper will be approximately 1250-2000 words.

1. All essays must be submitted along with rough drafts **or they will not be accepted**. I expect at least three drafts and plenty of freewriting and pre-drafting for each essay. Save everything that you do. I don't care what your rough work looks like. I want to see every bit of it. Scribbling done on napkins and paper plates is perfectly acceptable. Number your rough drafts and attach them in chronological order underneath your final draft.
2. Final drafts must be typed. Typed final drafts should be double-spaced and have ample margins. I need room to comment on your work. Use one side of the paper and supply a proper cover page.
3. You will need a folder in which to keep and organize your completed work. However, don't submit your work in a folder. Put a staple or a paper-clip in the upper left-hand corner.
4. Late papers will not be accepted. However, you may elect to drop one essay. **You may not under any circumstances drop the research paper or the literary analysis**, but you may choose to drop one of the others.
5. If I give quizzes, which I will do if I feel that you guys are not keeping up with the reading, I will not allow you to make them up. Quizzes, which are essentially stupid and a waste of time, will be averaged together to count as one essay grade at the end of the semester if they are given.
6. Show up for this class. If you are going to miss class, don't ask if you will miss anything important. I get irritated by excessive absences and consider anything above six hours of missed time to be excessive. I will drop you if you miss more than six hours.
7. I reserve the right to make changes in the syllabus as the need arises. The needs of individual classes are sometimes unpredictable and require flexibility. **You are responsible for staying informed about what is going on in class. Absences are not an excuse for missed work or for being unaware of changes.**
8. Your papers are evaluated on the value and clarity of their content as well as on the accuracy and fluency of presentation. Content and form are inextricably bound.
9. Final grades are calculated by averaging together your essay grades. The research paper and the literary analysis will each be counted twice. If you do all six essays, I will drop your lowest grade. Remember that if I give quizzes, the average of those will be averaged in to your final grade.
10. If you fail to submit an essay once you have already dropped an essay, you will receive a zero to be averaged in for that assignment. It follows that missing the research paper or literary analysis will count as two zeros a piece. A zero is much worse than a 55 (for an F). I strongly advise making an effort.

Syllabus
English 1A
Alexis Khoury

Week of 12 January : Introduction. Read "Momma" and "Discovery of a Father." Begin essay one.

Week of 19 January: Critical Thinking and Argument. Read "Now This." Drafting and revision essay one.

Week of 26 January: Continue "Now This." Read handout. **Essay one due.**

Week of 2 February: Continue handout. Read "The Smurfette Principle."

Week of 9 February: Read "X," and "The Rites of Sisterhood." Begin drafting essay two.

Week of 16 February: Continue "The Rites of Sisterhood." Peer editing for essay two.

Week of 23 February: Read "Fifth Avenue, Uptown." (handout) **Essay two due.**

Week of 2 March: Continue "Fifth Avenue, Uptown." Read Strunk and White. Discuss.

Week of 9 March: Read "Shooting An Elephant" and "Learning to Read." Begin essay three.

Week of 16 March Begin Research paper. **Essay three due.**

Week of 23 March: Research.

Week of 30 March: Begin essay four. Continue Research. "Lost In The Kitchen

6-10 APRIL SPRING BREAK HAVE FUN!!!!

Week of 13 April: Read Trifles and "Housewives' Hours."

Week of 20 April: Continue "Housewives'." **Essay four due.**

Week of 27 April Read "The Thursday Ladies." **Research Paper due.**

Week of 4 May: Begin work on novel.

Week of 11 May: Wrap things up.

18 May: **Final (Essay six--literary critical analysis).**

Important dates: Martin Luther King Jr.: 19 January; Last day to drop and not have it appear on transcript: 30 January; Lincoln: 13 February; Washington: 16 February; Last day to drop: 13 March; Spring Recess: 6-10 April; Final Exam Week 18-22 May.

Please note: the syllabus is subject to change due to the changing needs of the class. It is your responsibility to keep up with any changes made.