

Course Outline
English 1A
David Good
Fall 1999

Office: A1
Hours: M-W 09:00-10:00 & T-Th 15:00-16:00
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Texts: Fields of Reading, and In Pharaoh's Army as well as a reference book such as English Simplified or A Brief Writer's Handbook.

Other: One 3.5 HD or DD computer disk.

In this class you will be required to write five essays of three to seven pages each. You will also be required to read several essays from our text as well as essays I provide as handouts. Finally, you will be required to read a novel for the midterm exam and a collection of short stories (to be named later) for the final exam.

I believe the best way to improve writing skills is to read good writing, to discuss that writing, then to write. It is also important to learn to rewrite essays in order to make corrections and to add polish. Therefore you can expect to rewrite several of your essays based on your classmates' and my comments and your own good sense.

In the area of mechanical writing problems, I expect you to have most basic problems under control. Mechanical errors will have an adverse effect on your grade, and I will expect you to find the necessary corrections in your handbook. I will also be happy to help you individually during office hours, but we will not spend much time on these problems as a class.

Grades: All papers, the mid-term, and the final will be given letter grades. In addition, there will be several five to ten point quizzes and lab exercises. These will be assigned point values that will be totaled at the end of the semester to add an additional letter grade the value of one essay.

For example, if 200 points are possible and you have gotten 150 of them (75%), you would have a "C" as one of your grades.

Attendance: Because the vast majority of the learning in this course takes place in the classroom, it is important that you attend on a regular basis. Therefore if you have more than three absences for any reason, I may drop you from the class or reduce your final grade for subsequent absences. In addition, arriving late and leaving early go into the grade book as an absence.

*Grade scale
drop date*

Late Papers etc.: I will not accept late papers. Quizzes cannot be made up, and other work can only be made up with my approval prior to the work being missed. Remember, we have drop date. After that date you must receive a grade for this class, so don't get behind.