

En [REDACTED]  
e-mail address: rch04@csufresno.edu

Monday/Friday--0800-0950

Office phone #: ~~T.B.A.~~

278-2240  
MWF

### Course Syllabus

#### Objective:

This class is designed to further develop your skills in composition, skills that will benefit your work throughout the university, by advancing the concepts introduced in previous courses in writing.

#### Texts:

*Motives for Writing*  
*A Brief Handbook for Writing*

#### Attendance:

Attendance is mandatory. You are allowed four (4) absences without your grade being affected. A fifth absence means you can receive a grade no higher than a 'C'. A sixth absence means you cannot pass the class. There are no 'excused' absences, so use them wisely.

#### Late/Missed Work:

Late work will not be accepted. If you cannot make a class meeting, please arrange for someone to bring your work to class prior to its being let out (I will excuse interruptions by any couriers).

There are no make-ups for missed work. Any missed assignment, for example a missed quiz, constitutes lost points. Also, it is your responsibility to contact either me or a classmate to ensure you have not missed an assignment due to absence.

#### Reading:

Good writers are good readers; improving your reading ability, your ability to look at others' works critically and analytically, will invariably improve your writing. Please keep in mind: you are not required to "get it" upon finishing a reading assignment. Class time will be devoted to refining ideas about meaning and discussing questions about content and structure. Approximately 30 pages of reading will be assigned a week.

#### Responses:

Periodically you will be required to respond formally to readings, including those of your peers' work, and discuss them in both a small and large group forum. Responses will be a minimum of 1 double-spaced typed page (12 font, Times New Roman, 1 inch margins on all sides). These will be worth 10 points each; 10 points will be given for meeting the minimum requirements, 5 for completing anything short of the minimum requirements, and 0 for doing aught.

At other times I will be giving short essay quizzes on the readings. To prepare for these we will have a sample quiz prior to the first one that will be assessed for a grade.

#### Writing:

You will write, in my estimation, 50 pages of of your own work during the course of the

Drop date  
Final exam date

Tentative Class Schedule (1/10/00-2/11/00)

Friday, 1/14/00:

1. Form groups; gather notes for 2 page, handwritten biography due Friday, 1/21
2. Read pp 1-30 in *Motives for Writing*; response #1 due Friday, 1/21
3. Read pp 31-39 and Maya Angelou's "Finishing School" (pp 61-66)

Friday, 1/21:

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Discuss reading assignment (pp 1-30) and response #1
2. Discuss "Finishing School" (note Questions for Discussion)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Discussion of in-class/timed writing
4. Submit Biographies
5. Pre-writing assignment for Essay #1 (50 pts.) due Mon. (submission of Essay #1, 4-6 pages in length, worth 100 points, due Monday, 2/7/00)

Monday, 1/24:

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Work on Essay #1 (Pre-write to draft); check pre-writing assignment
2. Provide one group member with a copy of your draft. That member is responsible for discussing the draft on Friday, 1/28
3. Response to classmate's work (#2) due Friday, 1/28

Friday, 1/28:

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Submit response #2
2. Re-read classmate's draft; make emendments to response #2; discuss with group
3. Continue drafting of Essay #1
4. For Friday, 2/4, read pp 77-80 and Mike Rose's "I Just Wanna Be Average" (pp 110-115)