

ENGLISH 3 ESSAY AND ARGUMENT: CRITICAL READING AND THINKING

Spring 2000 MWF 7:00-7:50 A. M. BUS 43
MWF 8:00-8:50 A. M. SOC31

Instructor: Michael D. Tolbert

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Required Text:

Barnet, Sylvia & Hugo Bedau. *Current Issue & Enduring Question*, 5th Ed. New York: Bedford/St. Martin's, 1999.

Course Description: The goal of this course is to sharpen your critical reading, writing, and thinking skills beyond the level achieved in English 1A. We will write and read essays focused on logical reasoning, critical analysis, argument and synthesis of argument utilizing rhetorical strategies such as, purpose and audience. Multiple viewpoints are encouraged, particularly if they are well substantiated. Be prepared to read and write, both in and out of class, and to share your ideas and writing with the class. Remember there are no wrong answers just bad arguments.

Attendance: Attendance is required in this class. You will be dropped from the course if you receive more than four absences before the ninth week. If you have more than four absences total going past the ninth week you will receive a letter grade of "F". It is your responsibility to come to class prepared, even after an absence. Much of your writing strategies and some reading will take place in the class, as well as essential group work and paper preparation, so you need to be here. If you have an unavoidable absence, it will be your responsibility to contact one of your classmates or me to get any assignments given out on that date. You are expected to turn in any assignments and complete the readings due by the next meeting. Papers are due on their assigned dates, whether or not you are able to attend class. If you do not turn a paper in on time, it is a zero grade for that essay. If an emergency or illness occurs, it is your responsibility to get your assignment turned in on time. I suggest you leave them at the switchboard to be put into my box: date it and write the time you left it. You must see me to arrange for one excused absence in the semester.

Tardiness is disruptive and disrespectful to the class so do not be late. If you are tardy twice, it counts as one absence and when it comes grade time, they will be the difference in a final grade. If a pattern develops, I will ask you drop the class or I will drop you. Reinstatement must come from the Dean.

I keep a strict attendance log; it is filled out during the first few minutes of each session. Classes begin on the hour if you walk in during attendance you late.

Assignments: There will be approximately three short papers and one final paper (10-.15 pages), which will include secondary sources. Each paper will be brought into class for workshop with your fellow students. You must bring in the typed draft of your paper, along with copies, on the workshop day for discussion with your group. Unless you have made a prior arrangement with me the final letter grade for any paper will be dropped by a letter grade if it is late to workshop. This is to insure that all papers receive group comments, and that discussions are productive.

During the semester, after your papers are returned with my comments, you will have the opportunity to revise one paper of your choice (except the final) for a higher score (if desired). All papers must be typed, double-spaced, and have earlier drafts dated and attached. Late work is not accepted. Late papers will not be accepted, unless by prior arrangement.

Along with the papers, there will be quizzes, a group oral presentation and an in class essay final exam.

I reserve the right to change and modify this syllabus as needed and as I see fit.

Grading:

Grading will be as follows:

Three Short Papers (5-7 pages) 10 points each	30
Final Paper (10-15 pages)	30
Oral Presentation	10
Final	10
Participation (including attendance, homework, and quizzes)	20
Total=	100

Important Dates:

Instruction begins	Monday, January 10, 2000
Martin Luther King Jr.	Monday, January 17, 2000
Last day to drop semester-length course and qualify for a refund	Friday, January 21, 2000
Last day to drop semester-length course and not have it appear on transcript	Friday, January 28, 2000
Last day to register for spring semester-length courses (Dean of Instruction's signature required after this date)	Friday January 28, 2000
Last day to change a course to or from Credit/no credit grading option	Friday, February 11, 2000
Lincoln and Washington's Birthday	F-M, February 18-21, 2000
Last day to drop semester-length course (Letter grades assigned after this date)	Friday, March 10, 2000
Mid-term Report period	Friday March 10, 2000
Spring Break	M-S April 17-22, 2000
Final examination week	M-F May 15, 2000

Tentative Schedule (Due dates may be changed depending on our progress. You will be given a more detailed schedule as the semester progresses).

January 10,	Monday	Introductions Critical Thinking (#1 pp. 1-14)
January 12,	Wednesday	Subject/Thesis (#2 pp.15-21)
January 14,	Friday	Writing a Summary (#2 pp. 22-49)
January 17,	Monday	Critical Reading: Getting Deeper (#3 50-98)
January 19,	Wednesday	
January 21,	Friday	
January 24,	Monday	Critical Writing: (#4 pp.99-159)
January 26,	Wednesday	Workshop Paper #1 draft
January 28,	Friday	Critical Writing: Cont.
January 31,	Monday	(#5 pp. 160-190) Paper #1 Final draft due
February 2,	Wednesday	
February 4,	Friday	
February 7,	Monday	Critical Writing: (#6 pp. 191-248)
February 9,	Wednesday	
February 11,	Friday	
February 14,	Monday	Further Views on Argument: (#7 & #8 pp. 249-298)
February 16,	Wednesday	
February 18,	Friday	
February 21,	Monday	Further Views on Argument: (#9 & #10 pp. 299-338)
February 23,	Wednesday	Workshop Paper #2 draft
February 25,	Friday	Further Views on Argument: Cont.

February 28,	Monday	(#11 pp.339-382) Paper #2 Final draft due
March 1,	Wednesday	
March 3,	Friday	
March 6,	Monday	Current Issues: Pro-Con Debates: (#12-#16 pp. 383-432)
March 8,	Wednesday	
March 10,	Friday	
March 13,	Monday	Current Issues: Pro-Con Debates: (#17-#18 pp. 435-474)
March 15,	Wednesday	
March 17,	Friday	
March 20,	Monday	Current Issues: Pro-Con Debates: (#19 pp. 475-514)
March 22,	Wednesday	Workshop Paper #3 draft
March 24,	Friday	Current Issues: Pro-Con Debates:
March 27,	Monday	(#20-#21 pp. 515-554) Paper #3 Final draft due
March 29,	Wednesday	
March 31,	Friday	
April 3,	Monday	Current Issues: Pro-Con Debates: (#22-#23 pp. 555-597)
April 5,	Wednesday	
April 7,	Friday	
April 10,	Monday	Current Issues: Pro-Con Debates: (#24-#25 pp. 598-628)
April 12,	Wednesday	
April 14,	Friday	Enduring Questions: Essays, Stories, Poems, And Plays:
April 17,	Monday	SPRING BREAK April 21, Friday
April 24,	Monday	Enduring Questions: (#26 pp. 631-684)

April 26,	Wednesday	Workshop Final Paper
April 28,	Friday	
May 1,	Monday	Enduring Questions: (#27 pp. 685-792)
May 3,	Wednesday	
May 5,	Friday	Final Paper Due (10-15 pages)
May 8,	Monday	Enduring Questions: (#28 pp. 794-841)
May 10,	Wednesday	
May 12,	Friday	
May 15,	Monday	Final Time: TBA

Student statement of understanding and acceptance of English 3 syllabus:

I agree, _____, to this syllabus and its contents. By signing I state that I have read and understand this syllabus, due dates for all papers, and that I understand the absence policy and the tardy policy.

Signature: _____