

Instructor: [David Borofka](#)

Office: [CCI 213](#)

Phone: 638-3641 ext. 3681

E-Mail: david.borofka@reedleycollege.edu

Office Hours: Mondays through Fridays--9:00-10:00
and by appointment

English 41: Themes in Literature Food, Parties, Multi-Cultural Lives Policy (Fall 2010)

Texts/Supplies The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fist Fight in Heaven (Alexie); The Joy Luck Club (Tan); Like Water for Chocolate (Esquivel); Anecdotes of Destiny (Dinesen); The Remains of the Day (Ishiguro); The Hours (Cunningham)

E-Mail and Online Site To access the course site go to the following URL:
<http://blackboard.reedleycollege.edu>. Login following the directions on the Start Page. You will need to be officially enrolled before you will be allowed to enter the site. You must use your SCCCD-provided e-mail address for the purposes of this class.

For a more complete discussion of what you need to know before taking an online class, please see the document [What You Need to Know](#).

Necessary Programs In order to do work from home, you should have the following programs (all of which are installed on computers here on-campus): Internet browser (such as Internet Explorer or Netscape); e-mail access; word processor (MS Word preferably, see Paper Format below); Adobe Acrobat Reader for research materials.

Attendance Although an online class does not chart attendance per se, you do need to make your presence known. Every week new Discussion Board threads will be posted in response to the assigned reading. If you fall behind--in the reading, writing assignments, or discussion board posts--at any point during the course of the semester, you will find it extremely difficult to catch up.

Discussion Board The Discussion Board is really where the "life" of the class takes place, and as such we want to grant it the importance it is due. So, let me make a couple of observations:

- First, unlike discussion in a traditional classroom, you have the opportunity to think carefully and deeply about the things that you "say" on the Discussion Board without the constraint of time pressure or the concern of whether or not your voice will be heard over the voices of others; you also have the opportunity to edit your remarks. Please take advantage of those

opportunities.

- Second, because this is an academic environment, please do not consider the Discussion Board as analogous to text messaging, instant messaging, or e-mail to friends. Your comments should be grammatical and mechanically sound with regards to spelling and punctuation.
- Third, your role on the discussion board is to talk with each other about the reading. While I will be starting the conversation with questions, I hope that you will address your comments to each other. I will, of course, answer questions that you have about assignments, but I'd like for you to use the discussion board as a way of learning from each other.
- Finally, remember that a significant portion of your grade is based upon the quantity, but more importantly, the quality of your participation.

Late Papers I will accept no late papers unless you have contacted me prior to the deadline posted for the assignment.

Grades There will be a midterm paper (100 points) and a final paper (200 points) during the course of the semester. The papers will be judged on the basis of style, organization, content, and the degree to which you have followed the directions for the assignment. No essay seriously deficient in the area of mechanics (spelling, grammar, punctuation) will receive a passing grade. Your participation in discussion will be evaluated each time we finish with a particular book and will be worth a total of 300 points. The point and grade scales are listed below.

Plagiarism Use of another's work as though it were your own will not be tolerated. In the current Reedley College Catalogue, plagiarism is defined as follows:

Plagiarism is a specific form of cheating: the use of another's words or ideas without identifying them as such or giving credit to the source. Plagiarism may include, but is not limited to, failing to provide complete citations and references for all work that draws on the ideas, words, or work of others, failing to identify the contributors to work done in collaboration, submitting duplicate work to be evaluated in different courses without the knowledge and consent of the instructors involved, or failing to observe computer security systems and software copyrights. Incidents of cheating and plagiarism may result in any of a variety of sanctions and penalties, which may range from a failing grade on the particular examination, paper, project, or assignment in question to a failing grade in the course, at the discretion of the instructor and depending on the severity and frequency of the incidents.

Extra Credit During the course of the semester there will be several readings sponsored by Reedley College Speakers Series and the Reedley College First Wednesdays at One, as well as other selected local events. Following your attendance at a reading you must submit an Extra Credit Assignment to receive as many as ten points per reading. You may earn as many as forty extra credit points. I will give you notice of dates and times. **Please note:** extra credit is just that--extra; if you are unable to attend extra credit events due to schedule conflicts, lack of transportation, or for any other reason, I will not provide alternative events or assignments.

Paper Format All work must be typed, double-spaced and in 12-point type of a standard typeface (Times Roman, preferably). You must submit your work via the Assignments area. You must submit files in one of the following formats: Word documents (*.doc or *.docx) or Rich Text Format files (*.rtf).

Accommodation If you have a verified need for an academic accommodation or materials in alternate media (i.e. Braille, large print, electronic text, etc.) per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, please contact me as soon as possible.

Schedule of Assignments

Discussion— <u>The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fist Fight in Heaven</u>	50 points
Discussion— <u>The Joy Luck Club</u>	50 points
Discussion— <u>Like Water for Chocolate</u>	50 points
Discussion— <u>Anecdotes of Destiny</u> ("Babette's Feast")	50 points
Discussion— <u>The Remains of the Day</u>	50 points
Discussion— <u>The Hours</u>	50 points
Midterm Paper	100 points
Final Paper	200 points
Total	600 points

Grading Scale

A	540-600
B	480-539
C	420-479
D	360-419
F	000-359