



English 1A (Online) | Reading & Composition | 4 units

Instructor: Rick Garza

Office: Annex 2 **Hrs:** Mon-Fri 9:50-10:50

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Section: (53138) WEB

Course Description

Reading, analyzing, and composing college-level prose, with emphasis on the expository: studying writing as a process; exploring different composing structures and strategies; editing and revising one's own writing; conducting research (gathering, organizing, evaluating, integrating, and documenting information) culminating in a term research paper and annotated bibliography.

Course Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:

- Write a documented research paper of at least 1000 words that includes:
 - ✓ a sophisticated introduction, multiple body paragraphs, and conclusion
 - ✓ a clearly defined, arguable thesis sentence
 - ✓ supporting details that exhibit critical thinking and use credible secondary sources
 - ✓ correct usage of MLA format, including a works cited page
 - ✓ sentences that exhibit a command of the complex/compound with minimal comma splices, sentence fuses, fragments, and mechanics
 - ✓ controlled and sophisticated word choice
 - ✓ writing in third person/universal
 - ✓ an avoidance of logical fallacies
 - ✓ demonstrating an awareness of purpose and audience
 - ✓ appropriate and purposeful use of quotations
 - ✓ correct in-text citations
 - ✓ an annotated bibliography of multiple sources
 - ✓ an avoidance of intentional and unintentional plagiarism
- Complete a timed essay independently in class
- Summarize and comprehend college level prose (will include a full reading)

Required Texts:

Where I'm Calling From - Raymond Carver (ISBN: 0-679-72231-9) Vintage Contemporaries

As I Lay Dying - William Faulkner (ISBN: 0-679-73225-9) Vintage International

1984 - George Orwell (ISBN: 0-452-28423-6) Plume

The Packinghouse Review - Vol. 2, Number 2 (ISBN: 978-1-452-81279-3) CreateSpace

English Simplified 12th ed. - Ellsworth/Higgins (ISBN: 978-0-205-63329-6) Pearson

Required Programs:

In order to do work from home, you must have the following programs: **Internet browser** (such as Internet Explorer, Firefox, or Safari); access to your **campus email**; **word processor** (MS Word preferably, see Essays below); **Adobe Acrobat Reader** (available free: <http://get.adobe.com/reader/>)

Email and Blackboard access:

To access the course site go to the following URL: <http://blackboard.reedleycollege.edu>. Login using your seven-digit student ID for your username and password. You will need to be officially enrolled before you will be allowed to enter the site. Please note that all communication for this course will be emailed to only your **campus provided email** account. For more information on this email account visit: <http://reedleycollege.edu/index.aspx?page=1067>

Grading:

<i>Where I'm Call From</i> Essay 1	50 points
<i>Where I'm Calling From</i> Essay 2	50 points
<i>Where I'm Calling From</i> Essay 3	50 points
<i>As I Lay Dying</i> Essay + Annotated Bib.	200 points
<i>1984</i> Essay + Annotated Bib.	200 points
Poetry Analysis Essay	50 points
Quizzes	100 points

The grading scale is as follows: (note scores are not rounded)

A	100-90%	700-630 points
B	89-80%	629-560 points
C	79-70%	559-490 points
D	69-60%	489-420 points
F	59% & Below	419-0 points

Essays:

All work **must** be typed, double-spaced and in 12-point Times Roman. 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).** For each essay you will receive a prompt that will outline the specific requirements for each essay.

All assignments are due on Sunday evenings before midnight via Bb (Blackboard), unless otherwise noted.

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. Please consider the following:

- ☞ 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.
- ☞ Finally, remember that in an online course there aren't the same sorts of opportunities to bond with your classmates as in a face-to-face course. You should view the Discussion Board as a tool for doing this, and as an opportunity to enrich your learning experience, rather than just another task to complete.

Late Work:

Late work will not be accepted unless you have contacted me prior to the deadline posted for the assignment with a verifiable extenuating circumstance. Please pay careful attention to the due dates of assignments; forgetting that something was due, or being out of town is not a valid excuse.

Extra Credit:

Extra credit assignments may be offered throughout the semester. These extra credit opportunities may include attendance of Reedley College sponsored reading events, workshops, or additional reading assignments. When an extra credit assignment is available details will be posted in advance with directions on how to earn the extra points. A maximum of 30 points total extra credit may be earned for the semester. Extra credit will only be counted towards your grade if you are passing the class with a 70% or better before the addition of the points. Extra credit assignments are "extra" and therefore make-up or substitute assignments will not be provided in the event you cannot make it to a particular reading, etc.

Attendance:

Although an online class does not chart attendance per se, you do need to make your presence known every week. There will be a quiz almost every week and Discussion Boards to participate in, and the essays. If you fall behind at any point during the course of the semester, you will find it extremely difficult to catch up. Failure to adequately participate in the class may result in a drop before the final drop date. Justification for this lack of participation includes, but is not limited to, failure to log in to Blackboard on a regular basis, failure to complete assignments, and failure to participate in the Discussion Boards. If at any time you are having difficulty accessing the course, you should notify me immediately.

Cheating and Plagiarism

The following is adapted from Fresno City College's website on cheating and plagiarism.

CHEATING

Cheating is the act of deception by which a student misleadingly demonstrates that he/she has mastered information on an academic exercise. Examples include but are not limited to:

Copying or allowing another to copy a test, paper, project or performance.

Using unauthorized materials during a test, for example, notes, formula lists or "cheat sheets."

Taking a test for someone else or permitting someone to take a test for you.

PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is the act of representing the work of another as one's own without giving credit.

Plagiarism includes but is not limited to:

Incorporating the ideas or words of another's work without giving appropriate credit.

Representing another's artistic or scholarly works, such as musical compositions, computer programs, photographs, etc., as one's own.

Merely changing a few words or making a few structural changes to another's work is still plagiarism when passed off as one's own work.

PENALTIES

Penalties for cheating and plagiarism are severe and can follow you the rest of your college career. At the minimum, you will receive an F on the assignment and a warning, but plagiarizing in a major essay will result in an immediate F for the class and a write-up for your student record. You may also be liable for more severe penalties, up to and including expulsion from the college. **The bottom line is that the college and I take this very seriously and so should you.**

Accommodations

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.

Contact and Conferences

At different times during the semester, a student may need time with me or I may request a

conference with him or her. I check my phone messages and email daily at the email address on the front page. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you are experiencing a problem, have any questions, need help or clarification from me, or have ideas and suggestions for the class. I am here to help you succeed.

Course Changes

This syllabus may change during the course of the semester to better address the class's needs. A handout explaining the new expectations will accompany such changes.