**English 126 - 8 Spring 2013**

**Instructor:** Lesa Schwartz

**Course #**: 55915

**Credits:** 4

**Class Schedule:** 7:45 am – 8:55 am Monday, Wednesday, Friday AG 2

**Office**: **HUM 56**

**Office Hours:** *Monday 9 – 9:50 and Wednesday 9 – 9:50 pm*

**Voice Mail:** 559-638-3641 Ext. 3272

**E-mail:** lesa.schwartz@reedleycollege.edu

**Important Dates:**  *January 21 (M) Martin Luther King Day*

*January 25 (F) Last day to drop a full-term class in person to avoid a “W”*

*January 27 (Su) Last day to drop a full term class on WebAdvisor to avoid a “W”*

*February 15 – 18 President’s Day*

*March 10 (Sun) Last day to drop a full-term class on WebAdvisor or Touch Tone to avoid a “W”*

*March 25-29 Spring Holiday*

**\*I would appreciate it if you talk with me before you decide to drop the class. I am always concerned when someone disappears and I am not sure why.**

**Wednesday, May 15– Final Exam 8:00 am –9:50 am**

**Textbook:** Pirozzi, Starks-Martin, Dziewisz. Critical Reading, Critical Thinking: Focusing on Contemporary Issues. Fourth Edition

**Dictionary:** Any good dictionary. No pocket dictionaries

**Thesaurus**: (optional) Recommended Roget’s Thesaurus

**Novel**: Khaled Hosseini. The Kite Runner ISBN: 1-57322-245-3. Paperback

**Other**: Three ring loose-leaf notebook, dividers, paper, pens, pencils, highlighters, memory stick for computer and **a stapler**

**MUST HAVE TEXTBOOK BY THE END OF FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL**

**Must have The Kite Runner by February 18, the 7th week of school.**

**Course Description:** This course is designed to help you develop the specific reading skills, abilities, and strategies that will enable you to deal with college-level reading material more effectively, efficiently, and independently. It is designed to make you not only a better reader but a better thinker.

**Grading:** English 126 is a four-unit course. The class is offered on a graded basis with apass/no pass option. Your grade will be based on test performance, successful completion of all assignments (on time), class participation, and punctuality. A percentage point system will be used so that students can stay apprised of their progress in fulfilling the course requirement. YOU NEED a “**C**” TO PASS THE COURSE.

Grades will be posted on **Micrograde** where you can review them at anytime. Please do.

<http://sc.webgrade.classmanager.com/ReedleyCollege/> or on the link in Blackboard

***All grades should be compared to your retained work to ensure accuracy****.*

***PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES. NO TEXTING.***

***YOU WILL BE ASKED TO LEAVE CLASS IF YOU DISREGARD THIS RULE.***

**Grading:**

A - 90% or above

B - 80% - 89%

C - 70% - 79%

D - 60% - 69%

F - Anything below 60%

Included in the final grade are:

* Tests and quizzes - 20%
* Kite Runner assignments and Suicide Bomber Unit. - 20%
* Daily work including in class assignments, summaries, etc.. Some

homework will be randomly graded in class or collected for a grade. - 35%

* Debate and debate research 15%
* Final Exam - 10%

***There will be random notebook checks during the semester.***

* An **attendance sheet** is passed around at the beginning of class. **SIGN IT OR YOU WILL BE MARKED ABSENT**. ***Remember this is the only proof that I have that you were in class.*** If you come late, sign in at the end of class.
* ***All appointments, interviews, meeting with counselors should be scheduled outside of class time. If you work, inform you employer of your class schedule.***
* Two tardies (arrivals in class after instruction has begun) are equivalent to one absence. *If you have* ***five hours*** *of absences by the end of the ninth week, you will be dropped from the course at the instructor's discretion.*
* **PLEASE ! DO NOT EVER TELL ME THAT YOU DON’T HAVE YOUR WORK BECAUSE YOU WERE ABSENT WHEN IT WAS ASSIGNED.**  Call a classmate, check the assignment section on Blackboard or as last resort, email me.

THERE ARE NO MAKE-UP ASSIGNMENTS FOR MISSED WORK EVER.

**LATE ASSIGNMENTS ARE NOT ACCEPTED.** Major projects with due dates should be turned in prior to the due date if you will not be in class or sent to class with a friend.

**Gone Fishing Coupons**: You will be allowed **2 Gone Fishing Days** – days you can be absent and not be responsible for the **assigned daily homework**. However, you may turn the work upon your return to class with a Gone Fishing Coupon and I will grade the assignment.

*This does not include any assignments that were given before the day you were absent and are due that day such as summaries, Kite Runner assignments, Suicide Bomber assignments, Debate Issue articles, etc.*

**COMMUNICATION MUST BE DONE BY *SCHOOL EMAIL* AND MUST:**

* **BE GRAMMATICALLY CORRECT**
* **USE PROPER PUNCTUATIONS AND CAPITALIZATION**
* **MUST INCLUDE YOUR CLASS ID**

***OR I WILL NOT RESPOND***

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***OR I WILL NOT RESPOND***

**Blackboard –** Assignments and class documents will be posted here. The link to Blackboard can be found on the Reedley College Website.

***You will be unable to participate in any presentation or discussion if you have not been present every day the week before.*** *(****Contact me if you have an emergency).***

**Extended Absences:** My class is your job for this semester. If you are absent for an extended amount of time (more than one day), please contact me by phone or email and let me know what is happening. I am always concerned when a student disappears. This will also help in our discussion about missed work.

**Writing**: Students are expected to write at a college level. This includes correct grammar, punctuation, spelling, and word usage. You will be given or must seek help in order to achieve an acceptable skills level.

**Homework and Paper Policy:**

* All homework and papers are **due at the beginning of class on dates assigned**. If you come late, your work may not be accepted. Being absent does not excuse you from a due date. If you cannot attend class, submit your work before the due date. I have a clip on my office door or it can be left with the receptionist in the administration building.
* Should I discover while reading a paper that you have not run spell check or

sufficiently proofread and edited your work, I will discontinue reading and return the paper to you. You will then have until the following day to revise the paper and

your grade will be lowered by one letter grade.

**PAPERS THAT HAVE BEEN PLAGIARIZED IN ANY WAY WILL AUTOMATICALLY RECEIVE A FAILING GRADE.**

**Final examination:** All students must take the final examination to receive credit in the course. Except in unusual cases of severe illness or family distress, final examinations will be administered only according to the "Spring Schedule" in the *Spring 2013 Reedley College Class Schedule*. **The time and date of the final exam will not be changed to accommodate holiday or travel arrangements or employment schedules. Please do not arrange travel during finals week.**

**YOU WILL BE UNABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FINAL IF ANY CLASSES ARE MISSED DURING THE WEEK PRIOR TO THE EXAM AND/OR YOU HAVE MORE THAN 4 ABSENCES FOR THE TOTAL SEMESTER. (Contact me if you have an emergency).**

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 your instructor as soon as possible.

**COURSE OUTCOMES:**

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Apply semantic, syntactic, and morphological clues to understand more of the unfamiliar words they encounter in in college-level academic reading.
2. Understand college-level, academic reading materials.
   * Understand and state the topic of college-level, academic reading materials.
   * Understand and relate the explicit main idea of college-level, academic reading materials.
   * Understand and state the implied main idea of college-level, academic reading materials.
   * Recognize the major details presented in college-level, academic reading materials to develop and support the main ideas.
   * Recognize and identify organizational patterns used by authors to express logical relationships and use the same organizational patterns to paraphrase and record the important information in college-level, academic reading materials.
3. Analyze college-level, academic reading materials.
   * Distinguish among statements of fact, personal opinion, and reasoned opinion in college-level, academic reading materials.
   * Understand and state an author’s tone, attitude, or bias in a passage of college-level, academic reading materials.
   * Understand and identify an author’s purpose in writing a passage of college-level, academic reading materials.
   * Make inferences that are logical, reasonable, and probable and are based on accurate literal comprehension of what is read in college-level, academic reading materials.
4. Demonstrate confidence in gaining important information from reading independently.

**Schedule**

**Week 1 (1/7)** Discuss syllabus

Introductions

What is reading? Prediction

Reading assignment

Topic & Main Idea& Central Message (Ch 2)

Vocabulary awareness (Ch 1)

Annotating and underlining

**Week 2 (1/14)** Readings – Text

Underlining and annotating

Topic & Main Idea& Central Message

Vocabulary (CH1)

Major support/Minor Details (Ch 2)

**January 21 – Martin Luther King Day**

**Week 3 (1/22)**  Readings- Text

Underlining and annotating

Central Message

Vocabulary (Ch 1)

Major support/Minor Details (Ch 2)

**Week 4 (1/28)** Readings – Text

**Summarizing** (Model how)

**Outlining**

**Week 5 (2/4)** Reading textbooks (Ch 3)

SQ4R

Notetaking

Test taking

**Continue summarizing (Group summary)**

Readings – Text

Patterns of Organization (Transition Words) (Ch 2)

Critical reading and thinking (fact/opinion, inference, tone, point

of view, drawing conclusion) (Ch 6, 7, 8)

**Week 6 (2/11)**  Readingtextbooks

**Summarizing** - (first individual summary)

Critical reading and thinking (fact/opinion, inference, tone, point

of view, drawing conclusion) (Ch 6, 7, 8)

**Begin reading about Afghanistan**

**February 15 & 18 President’s Day**

**Week 7 (2/19)** **Continue reading about Afghanistan & discuss with group**

**Story Elements**

Rewrite Summary

**Begin Suicide Bomber Unit**

Critical reading and thinking (fact/opinion, inference, tone, point

of view, drawing conclusion) (Ch 6, 7, 8)

**Week 8 (2/25)** Discuss what we have learning about Afghanistan

**Begin reading The Kite Runner**

**Second individual summary**

**Continue Suicide Bomber Unit**

Critical reading and thinking (fact/opinion, inference, tone, point

of view, drawing conclusion)

**Week 9 (3/4)** **Continue reading and discussing The Kite Runner**

Novel assignments

**Finish Suicide Bomber Unit**

**Midterm**

**Week 10 (3/11)** **Continue reading and discussing The Kite Runner**

**Library Visit**

Internet research – Locating information

Evaluating sources

Novel assignments

**Summary #3**

**Week 11 (3/18)** **Finish reading The Kite Runner**

**Final** **assignment on The Kite Runner**

**Choose Issues to Debate and Teams**

**Lab research on your issue**

**Choose Second book to read independently**

**March 25 – 29 Spring Holiday**

**Week 12 (4/1)** **Final test on Kite Runner**

**Final Essay Due**

**Continue work on your issue debate – Meet with Teams**

**Two issue articles with notecards due**

**Book group meeting**

Readings – text

**Week 13 (4/8) 2more articles and notecards due**

Do any more research necessary

**Individual outline of all issue research due**

**Summary #4**

Book group meeting

Interpreting Tables, Graphs, and Diagrams

**Week 14 (4/15)** **Group** **Outline of your side of the issue and opposition’s due**

**Discuss issue and Debate**

**Assign parts and prepare**

Book group meeting

**Week 15 (4/22)** Finish any needed research and group outline revision

**Debates may begin**

**Week 16 (4/29) Debates**

**Book Summary Due**

**Book Talk**

**Week 17 (5/6)** **Review for the final**

Readings and discussion

**Wednesday, May 15 – Final Exam 8:00 am –9:50 am Good Luck!!!!**

***You made it. Hooray!!!! Congratulations!!!!!***

\* The schedule is an approximation of our semester plans. Final and firm dates will be given as the

semester progresses.

\*\**This document is subject to change at the instructor’s discretion.*