

English 1A: Reading and Composition

Fall 2016
Reedley College

Section: 56274

Meeting Location: Humanities, Room 62

Meeting Time: MW 6:00-7:50 AM

Instructor: Jim Keller

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Office Hours: by appointment

Course Description

Students will read, analyze, and compose college-level prose, with emphasis on the expository; study writing as a process; explore different composing structures and strategies; edit and revise their own writing; and conduct research (gather, organize, evaluate, integrate, and document information), culminating in a term research paper and annotated bibliography. Students will write a minimum of 6,000 words in formal academic language.

Prerequisites: English 125 and 126 or English 130 and English 126 or placement through college assessment process.

Required Texts, Materials and Expenses

Required Textbooks:

FROM INQUIRY TO ACADEMIC WRITING: A TEXT AND READER, Third Edition, by Stuart Greene and April Lidinsky (Bedford/St. Martins, 2015, ISBN 978-1-4576-5344-5)

ANCILLARY JUSTICE by Ann Leckie (Orbit, 2013, ISBN 978-0-6-24662-0)

Other Necessities:

- Regular access to a computer with a word processor
- Daily access to your State Center Community College District e-mail account
- Canvas access
- A flash drive or other means of storing your files (I do not recommend relying on cloud storage solutions)
- Paper, pencils, pens
- A means of taking notes (notebook, tablet, or personal laptop computer)
- One 8 ½ x 11 examination blue book for the final exam

Objectives and Student Learning Outcomes

Student learning outcomes and course objectives are standard across the college, and can be found on the official course outline of record. They are reproduced here for your information.

Student Learning Outcomes:

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

1. *Write a documented research paper of at least 1,500 words that includes:*
 - a. *a sophisticated introduction, multiple body paragraphs, and conclusion*
 - b. *a clearly defined, arguable thesis sentence*
 - c. *supporting details that exhibit critical thinking and use credible secondary sources*
 - d. *correct usage of MLA format, including a works cited page*
 - e. *sentences that exhibit a command of the complex/compound with minimal comma splices, sentence fuses, fragments, and mechanics*
 - f. *controlled and sophisticated word choice*
 - g. *writing in third person/universal*
 - h. *an avoidance of logical fallacies*
 - i. *an avoidance of logical fallacies*
 - j. *demonstration of an awareness of purpose and audience*
 - k. *appropriate and purposeful use of quotations*
 - l. *correct in-text citations*
 - m. *an annotated bibliography of multiple sources*
 - n. *an avoidance of intentional and unintentional plagiarism*
2. *Complete a timed essay independently in class*
3. *Summarize and comprehend college level prose (will include a full reading)*

Objectives:

In the process of completing this course, students will:

1. *Write multiple essays of at least 1,500 words, including at least one research paper with documentation.*
 - a. *Arrange and integrate ideas in a multiple body essay, complete with topic sentences, supporting data, and background, as necessary.*
 - b. *Indicate an arguable thesis.*
 - c. *Gather, analyze, and synthesize peer-reviewed sources and/or original research such as interview, survey, or observation.*
 - d. *Employ MLA formatting guidelines.*
 - e. *Reduce dependence on the instructor's guidance; students will ultimately independently and accurately recognize and self-correct errors in sentence construction, punctuation, and mechanics.*
 - f. *Craft increasingly mature and cogent writing while choosing the appropriate tone and academic voice.*
 - g. *Practice sound choices in identifying and avoiding logical fallacies.*
 - h. *Employ appropriate use of third person universal.*
 - i. *Identify appropriate audiences for their compositions.*
 - j. *Employ quotations, discriminating among sources for accuracy and validity.*
 - k. *Employ MLA formatting guidelines for Work Cited Page and in-text citations.*
 - l. *Develop an annotated bibliography from sources for a research paper.*

Course Policies

The common policies we'll all be expected to adhere to in order to get credit for this class are:

- Take full and active responsibility for your participation, writing, input in discussions, and progress in this course;
- Give courtesy and respect to everyone;
- Participate in each session's discussions and activities;
- Come to each session on time (see "Attendance" below);
- Complete all assignments as directed and in the spirit they are asked of you.

Late Work

Late work is not accepted except under extenuating circumstances. Work not done in the spirit of the assignment, clearly given no thought or with no effort at proofreading, or otherwise deemed unacceptable will be regarded as late, and late work is not accepted.

Early work is generally acceptable, and if I notice a serious defect in early work before the actual due date, I will notify the student and give them a chance to correct it. I do not, however, make any guarantees to look at early work before the deadline.

Grades

Grades will be calculated on a numerical scale, as follows:

Passing:

A = 90-100%

B = 80-89.9%

C = 70-79.9%

Non-passing:

D = 60-69.9%

F = 0-59.9%

Formal essays and papers assigned over the course of the class will account for **70%** of the total grade

The final (in-class writing) exam will account for **10%** of the total grade

Homework assignments are worth **10%** of the total grade

Quizzes are worth a total of **5%** of the total grade

Participation is worth a total of **5%** of the total grade

Phones and Electronic Devices in Class

All students are expected to engage fully in all class sessions. Phones are expected to be silenced, and no one is to take or make a call during class. Texting, instant messaging, using social networks, e-mailing, etc. during class time is completely unacceptable.

However, modern electronic devices are an integral part of our learning process, and may be used to take notes, look up information related to in-class activities, etc. We are all adults and know the difference between paying attention and goofing off. Don't goof off and there won't be any trouble.

Attendance

You are expected to attend every class on time and prepared. Missing more than three consecutive classes without a documented excuse acceptable to the college may result either in your being dropped from the class. Missing more class time than is allowable under the state-mandated minimum instruction time for the course will result in your being dropped from the class (if these absences occur before the drop deadline) or failure of the course (if the final absences occur after the drop deadline). Three tardies (less than ten minutes late) will be counted as an absence. Leaving class early or arriving more than ten minutes late will be counted as an absence. Attending class unprepared (prep work not completed, lacking necessary materials, etc.) may be counted as an absence if it prevents you from participating fully in the day's activities.

Additionally, any student who is marked absent for first class session *will* be dropped from the course.

If other students are attempting to add the class, *any* absence during the add/drop period may result in the absent student being dropped from the course unless the instructor has been contacted before the end of class with assurances that the absence was unavoidable and that the student intends to continue with the course.

Students who are physically present but are texting, playing on social media, asleep, refusing to participate, or otherwise disengaged from the learning experience will be marked absent.

The instructor may choose to disregard tardies in the event of extenuating circumstances that apply to many students (e.g., an unexpected transit strike). On foggy days, please err on the side of driving safely, but also try to give extra time to your commute.

The instructor will not repeat material for absent students, whether the absence is excused or not. Get the material you missed from a classmate.

Computer Access

You are required to have computer access to do your homework. Labs are available on campus.

e-mail

All official communication for this class will be done in-person in the classroom, via Canvas, and via your State Center Community College District e-mail account (my.scccd.edu). Be sure you have activated this account and are checking it daily (you can set it up to forward to another address), because anything sent to your official college e-mail account is assumed to have been received and read by you. "I didn't get the e-mail" is never an excuse.

e-Mail communication regarding this class will *only* be sent to your college e-mail account, including messages sent in reply to a message from another account. This is for your privacy and security. If you have sent the instructor an e-mail and have not received a reply, check your college account.

Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty

Cheating on any quiz, exam, or homework assignment will result in a 0 for that quiz, exam, or assignment and an automatic referral to the college for possible disciplinary action.

There are two types of plagiarism: deliberate and inadvertent.

Inadvertent plagiarism is a result of failure to correctly cite sources or poorly wording a quote or summary in a way that implies that it is the author's own work. Avoiding inadvertent plagiarism is one of the things we teach in this class, and therefore incidents of inadvertent plagiarism will be dealt with as part of the revision and grading process.

Deliberate plagiarism is any conscious attempt to pass off someone else's work as your own, including attempting to pass off your own work in another class as original work for this class. Any instance of deliberate plagiarism will automatically result in a 0 on the assignment and a referral to the college for possible disciplinary action, which may result in failure of the course.

It is your responsibility to know what is and is not plagiarism. Do not, under any circumstances, attempt to hand in something that you did not write yourself. This includes having someone else do your homework, copying materials off the internet, turning in papers written by fellow students, and anything else you can think of that involves not writing it yourself. The chances of getting caught are extremely high, so don't risk it!

Disabilities

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

Subject to Revision Policy

This syllabus is subject to revision at any time, and at all times the most recent version posted to Canvas and/or distributed in class shall be the enforced version. Minor revisions may be made by the instructor by verbally announcing them in class, and it is the responsibility of the student to be aware of these changes.

Important Dates

Key dates are listed here. This schedule is tentative and may change as the semester develops. I will notify you if we make any changes. In-class announcements of schedule changes take priority over this schedule.

Monday, August 15
First day of class

Friday, August 26
Last day to drop with a refund.

Friday, September 2
Add/drop period ends.
Last day to drop without a "W" in person.

Monday, September 5
Labor Day. Campus closed.
Last day to drop without a "W" via WebAdvisor.

Friday, October 14
Last day to drop ("W" grade will be assigned).

Wednesday, December 7
Last regular class session.

FINAL EXAM

Monday, December 12, 6:00-7:50

If class is cancelled for any reason, students will be notified via Canvas announcement.