

**English 1A** – 56295 online  
Fall 2016 - Ryan LaSalle  
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### **On Writing...**

This class aims at moving students closer to the model of an “expert” writer where one is able to make informed decisions about any writing task and employ a wide range of tools and strategies to write the best possible paper—not just any paper. It is designed to get students to think beyond their own personal experience and use sources not just as storehouses of information, but as works to engage, debate, and utilize to some greater end. The course will require students to write several essays that will culminate in the creation of a documented research based argument essay.

Aside from the mechanics of writing essays, we will be spending quite a bit of time developing critical thinking skills as we work with ideas and improve the content of our writing. Several essays will be brought in for us to comprehend, discuss, and respond to in order to yield material for assignments. These short works will be on a variety of subjects and we will look to cultivate observations, arguments, and ideas that will fulfill the expectations of effective college writing.

### **Course navigation:**

1. **Announcements** will provide important direction for all aspects of the course. Announcements will be used to introduce assignments, provide reminders, and will point students to other parts of the Canvas course for information (think of it as the compass to the class).
2. **Modules** will include lectures, instructions, essay readings, and other items that will be used as materials or supplementary information for assignments.
3. **Assignments** will include assignment prompts (with requirements) that must be completed and turned in. Due dates will be listed here and the link to submit assignments is located here as well.
4. **Discussion (Board)** will be used to discuss readings and assignments as a group.
5. **Course Information** (first module) will provide syllabus, textbook, and submission guidelines.

**Textbook:** A Writer's Reference, Diana Hacker and Nancy Sommers 8th ed.

**Policies:**

All due dates are until midnight of the day the assignment is due. Late work may be accepted for partial credit (5% deduction for each day late) with instructor's approval. However, if assignments provide a due date with the "no exceptions" clause as in the case of the "final" paper (including the "final" rough draft and annotated bibliography), then no late work allowed.

In the event of plagiarism (see Schedule of Courses for more information), the student will fail the assignment or the class at the discretion of the instructor (depending on the nature and severity of the offense).

**Grading:** Grading is based on a point system. 90% A 80% B 70% C 60% D 50% F (of total points available in class)

Summary	4 pts.
Response Essay	5 pts.
Argument Essay	10 pts.
Adv. Argument Essay	10 pts.
Annotated bibliography (for final paper)	10 pts.
Rough draft of final paper	10 pts.
Research based argument paper (as final)	25 pts.
Participation	5 pts.
(discussion board, turning assignments in on time, following class instructions)	

\*instructor reserves the right to make changes in this syllabus as deemed necessary or appropriate.

\*Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:

If you have special needs as addressed by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), including alternate media requests, please notify me immediately. Reasonable efforts will be made to accommodate your special needs.

Final drop date: Friday, Oct. 14, 2016