

English 1A: Reading and Composition

Syllabus Spring 2016

Spring 2016		
Instructor:	David Borofka	
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Office Hours:	TTh (1:00-2:00); F (9:00-10:00)	
Objective:	College-level skills in reading and writing	
Texts/Supplies:	English Simplified, 13 th edition (Ellsworth and Higgins); Hunger of Memory (Rodriguez);	
	The Feast of Love (Baxter); The Ghost Writer (Roth)	
Blackboard course	To access the course site, go to the following URL: <u>http://scccd.blackboard.com</u> .	
site:	Follow the directions for logging in. You will need to be officially enrolled before you	
	will be allowed to enter the site.	
	Students on the wait list will not have access to the course site until they have been	
	given an authorization code and their enrollment in the class is verified.	
Necessary	In order to do work from home, you should have the following programs (all of which	
programs:	are installed on computers on campus): Internet browser (such as Internet Explorer or	
	Firefox); district e-mail account (my.scccd.edu); word processor (MS Word	
	preferably, see Paper Format below); Adobe Acrobat Reader for research materials.	
	Please be advised that Internet Explorer 11 will not run the flash files for the lectures;	
	for those you'll need to use an older version of IE or Firefox or Chrome.	
Attendance:	I will drop you after the third absence before the end of the ninth week; if I do not see	
	sufficient progress or participation, I reserve the right to drop you from the course.	
Class activities:	This class will consist of reading assignments, in-class and out-of-class writing	
	assignments, quizzes, tests, discussion activities, and lectures. The degree to which	
	you are successful in this class will be a direct reflection of how seriously you take	
	each of these activities.	
Late	I will accept no late papers or tests unless you have contacted me prior to the deadline	
papers/missed	posted for the assignment. There will be no make-ups of missed quizzes or in-class writing	
exams:	assignments for any reason, no matter how compelling.	
Grades:	There will be two objective tests and four graded papers. Almost every week you will	
	take a quiz covering material on mechanics, sentence structure, essay structure, the	
	use of research materials, and/or the reading. 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. 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. Verified instances of plagiarism will result in a 0 for the assignment. The student responsible will be reported to the office of the Vice President for Instruction, the Dean of Humanities, the Chair of the Composition, Literature, and Communication Department, and the Vice President for Student Services for appropriate disciplinary action. 		
Extra credit:	During the course of the semester there will be several readings sponsored by Reedley College Speakers Series and Reedley College First Wednesdays at One. Following your attendance at a reading, you must complete and submit an Extra Credit Assignment to receive as many as ten points per reading. You may earn as many as forty extra credit points during the semester. I will give you notice of dates and times. Please note: <i>extra credit is just that—extra; if you are unable to attend extra credit events due to</i> <i>schedule conflicts, lack of transportation, or for any other reason, I will not provide alternative events</i> <i>or assignments.</i>		
Paper format:	All work must be typed, double-spaced and in 12-point Times Roman type. You must submit your work via the Assignments area. You must submit files in MS Word document format (*.docx or *.doc).		
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:	Sentence Structure Test	50 points	
	Hunger of Memory Paper	100 points	
	Midterm Timed Essay	50 points	
	The Feast of Love Paper	150 points	
	The Ghost Writer Paper	250 points total 200 points (paper) 50 points (annotated bibliography)	
	Final Objective Test	100 points	
	Quizzes throughout the Semester	200 points	
	In-class writing exercises	100 points	
	Total	1000 points	

Grade scale:	
	A 900-1000
	B 800-899
	C 700-799
	D 600-699
	F 000-599