English 1A: Reading and Composition

Schedule #56416

Spring 2018

Syllabus

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**Catalog 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. Students will write a minimum of 6,000 words in formal academic language.

**A traditional college class prescribes 2 hours of out-of-class work for 1 hour of class time. Class-time is determined by the credit units for the class. This class is 4 units, or 4 hours. Therefore, be prepared to spend a total of 12 hours per week on this class.**

**Course Prerequistes**: English 125 and 126 or English 130 and 126 or placement through college assessment process.

**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:
2. a sophisticated introduction, multiple body paragraphs, and conclusion
3. a clearly defined, arguable thesis sentence
4. supporting details that exhibit critical thinking and use credible secondary sources
5. correct usage of MLA format, including a works cited page
6. sentences that exhibit a command of the complex/compound with minimal comma splices, sentence fuses, fragments, and mechanics
7. controlled and sophisticated word choice
8. writing in third person/universal
9. an avoidance of logical fallacies
10. demonstration of an awareness of purpose and audience
11. appropriate and purposeful use of quotations
12. correct in-text citations
13. an annotated bibliography of multiple sources
14. an avoidance of intentional and unintentional plagiarism\
15. Complete a timed essay independently in class
16. Summarize and comprehend college level prose (will include a full reading)

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

* Arrange and integrate ideas in a multiple body essay, complete with topic sentences, supporting data, and background, as necessary.
* Indicate an arguable thesis.
* Gather, analyze, and synthesize peer-reviewed sources and/or original research such as interview, survey, or observation.
* Employ MLA formatting guidelines.
* Reduce dependence on the instructor's guidance; students will ultimately independently and accurately recognize and self-correct errors in sentence construction, punctuation, and mechanics.
* Craft increasingly mature and cogent writing while choosing the appropriate tone and academic voice.
* Practice sound choices in identifying and avoiding logical fallacies.
* Identify appropriate audiences for their compositions.
* Employ quotations, discriminating among sources for accuracy and validity.
* Employ MLA formatting guidelines for Work Cited Page and in-text citations.
* Develop an annotated bibliography from sources for a research paper.
* Recognize the appropriate use of sources, while avoiding intentional and unintentional plagiarism.

2. Write an organized essay(s) with thesis and adequate support independently within a class period.

3. Read and understand college level prose, including:

* Identifying the model, summarizing the thesis, and locating supporting information.
* Naming rhetorical devides such as irony and parallelism and translating metaphorical language, so as to determine the author's intent, both explicit and implicit.
* Answering questions from assigned reading, differentiating between an author's intent and personal reaction.
* Describing, evaluating, and questioning the purpose, audience, organization, and style of assigned readings.

**Required Text/Materials**

* Greene, Stuart and April Lindinsky. *From Inquiry to Academic Writing: A Practical Guide.*
* Sherry Turkle, *Alone Together: Why We Expect More From Technology and Less From Each Other*
* Access to Microsoft Word
* Regular, consistent access to internet

**Other Resources:**

The Purdue Online Writing Lab is a great MLA resource. It is free and very thorough. I highly recommend you use this website when citing works in your writing. The website is **<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource>.**

**Note**: It is vital that you have the course materials ASAP, as you will not be able to complete assignments or engage in class-discussion without them. If course materials are not obtained by the second week of the semester, you will be dropped from this class.

**Attendance Policy:**

Attendance is mandatory. If you miss one class during the first week of class, you will be dropped. If you miss 3 class periods before the end of the ninth week of class, you may be dropped, but it is always your responsibility to make sure you have been dropped from a course you no longer plan to attend. Failure to drop before the drop deadline will result in a letter grade being assigned to you. Early departures and tardies count as absences, so be on time.

**Late work policy:** Essays will be accepted up to one week after the due date, with a 10 point deduction for each DAY that it is late, including weekends.

# Feedback and Revision Policy

Preliminary drafts of essays are not graded, but rather they are used for group workshopping. I strongly encourage you to participate in all workshops, as they make you both a better reader and a better writer, both in the role of feedback provider and recipient. To that end, if you do not participate in group workshops, I will assume that you do not take your writing seriously and will not provide written comments on your final draft, and your essay will not be eligible for revision should the opportunity be given to the class to revise that assignment.

Feedback will be provided with a rubric checklist. Printing and attaching the rubric to the essay is required and will be the student’s responsibility. Failure to fulfill this requirement will result in no feedback on your essay. If you have specific questions regarding the grade you receive or the comments I make, you are encouraged to schedule a time to meet with me to discuss it.

**Plagiarism/Cheating:** Plagiarism is the act of using another person’s words OR IDEAS as your own with no citation for their work. Cheating includes having anyone else complete your work for you or turning in a paper you have written for another class. You will be caught, receive no credit on the assignment, reported to the administration, and may be dropped from the course. If plagiarism and/or cheating are suspected, you may be asked to provide drafts of your written work and submit your paper to turnitin.com, a plagiarism-checking service. Keep all drafts of your writing assignments for these purposes. If you cannot provide drafts when asked, you may receive a zero on the assignment.

The following is taken from page 44 of the Reedley College Catalog:

***Academic Dishonesty***

*Students at Reedley College are entitled to the best education that the college can make available to them, and they, their instructors, and their fellow students share the responsibility to ensure that this education is honestly attained. Because cheating, plagiarism, and collusion in dishonest activities erode the integrity of the college, each student is expected to exert an entirely honest effort in all academic endeavors. Academic dishonesty in any form is a very serious offense and will incur serious consequences.*

***Cheating***

*Cheating is the act or attempted act of taking an examination or performing an assigned, evaluated task in a fraudulent or deceptive manner, such as having improper access to answers, in an attempt to gain an unearned academic advantage. Cheating may include, but is not limited to, copying from another’s work, supplying one’s work to another, giving or receiving copies of examinations without an instructor’s permission, using or displaying notes or devices inappropriate to the conditions of the examination, allowing someone other than the officially enrolled student to represent the student, or failing to disclose research results completely.*

***Plagiarism***

*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.*

**Classroom Etiquette:** I expect professionalism and behavior appropriate to the academic setting, which means no cell phones out during class, no using computers during class time unless you are told you may, and general displays of respect from student to teacher and from student to student. If you are disruptive in any way, you may be asked to leave and receive an absence. If your disruptive behavior is chronic, you will be reported to the dean of student services and may be dropped from the course.

**Writing Center (HUM 58):** You are STRONGLY encouraged to enroll in the Writing Center’s English 272 course, a ½ unit tutorial class.

**Accommodations:**Please inform me of any special circumstances you might have. 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 needs.

**Grading:** You will be graded on a point scale system.

Essay #1 = 100 pts

Essay #2 = 150 pts

Essay #3 = 200 pts

Annotated Bibliography = 50 points

Final timed essay = 50 pts

Grading scale:

100% - 90% = A, 89% - 80% = B, 79% - 70% = C, 69% - 60% = D, 59%-50% = F

\*A grading rubric will be posted for each assignment

\*Percentages do not round up! 69.9% is a D.

\*A C is passing, and a D is failing. To pass the class, you must have a 70% or better

**\*You must complete all the essays, including in-class essays, in order to pass the class**

\*\*Instructor reserves the right to make changes to the syllabus as necessary to facilitate the learning process.

**The Final for this class will be Tuesday, May 15, 8:00-9:50**

**Important dates:**

January 8 – First day of class

January 19 – Last day to drop a Spring 2017 full-term class for full refund

January 28 – Last day to drop a class to avoid a “W”

March 9 – Last day to drop a class to avoid a letter grade

March 26-30 – Spring recess

May 15 – Our final

May 19 – End of Spring semester