**English 3-51271 TTh 12:30-1:45**

**Critical Thinking**

**SPRING 2020**

**Instructor: Elaine G. Stamper**

**PHY-75 or as announced**

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**The information contained in this syllabus is intended to be useful to you and to help you succeed. Please be sure to bring it with you to every class.**

**Contact information:**

**E-mail address**: [*elaine.stamper@reedleycollege.edu*](mailto:elaine.stamper@reedleycollege.edu)*.* Please write **“English 3”** in the subject line of all e-mails to me. PLEASE USE YOUR COLLEGE E-MAIL ADDRESS OR CANVAS INBOX TO COMMUNICATE ELECTRONICALLY WITH ME.

**Office:** *Faculty Annex 4* (inside, second office on the right); my office is near the Administration Building

**Campus Phone**: *(559) 638-0300 ext. 3472*

**Office Hours**:

* **Mondays and Wednesdays,Noon-12:50; Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2:00-3:00; Fridays, 11:00-noon.**
* **I will sometimes need to change my Friday office hours to virtual office hours, meaning that we can communicate via Canvas Inbox between 11:00 and noon. I will notify the class in advance whenever this is the case.**
* *I am also available other days/times by appointment. Please e-mail or call me to make arrangements.*
* Please note: You are never bothering me if you call me, e-mail me, or stop by my office. If it’s outside of office hours, it’s possible that I won’t have time to talk to you, but I will be happy to make arrangements to do so at another time.
* Please don’t ask me when my office hours are; they’re posted here and on Canvas for you.

**Required Texts and Materials and Recommended Text:**

1. *Everything’s an Argument,* 8th edition, byAndrea A. Lunsford and John J. Ruszkiewicz. Please make sure that you get the 8th edition.
2. Assigned articles that will be posted on Canvas; you will need to make copies of these articles and bring them to class.
3. A binder for organizing class notes and returned assignments. Please keep all assignments until final grades of semester.
4. Sticky notes such as Post-Its for taking notes
5. Consistent and reliable access to the Internet, a computer, and a printer
6. A USB flash drive to save the work you do
7. A stapler (please don’t ask if I have one for you to borrow)
8. I recommend that in addition to consulting handouts on Canvas regarding MLA format and citations, you use two online resources: Purdue Owl MLA (<https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/mla_in_text_citations_the_basics.html>) and EasyBib (<http://www.easybib.com/style>) (or Knight Cite or a similar citation generator if you prefer; <https://www.calvin.edu/library/knightcite/index.php/index.php?standard=MLA>)

**NOTE: You will need to have all of the required course materials by the end of the second week of the semester. Students who don’t have the materials by then will find it difficult to be successful in the class and may be dropped.**

**Course Description:**

English 3 is designed to develop critical thinking, reading, and writing skills beyond the level achieved in English 1A/1AH. The course will focus on the development of logical reasoning and analytical and argumentative writing skills based primarily on works of non-fiction in a variety of media. Students will write a minimum of 6,000 words during the course of the semester.

**Writing Assignments**

You will be required to complete three major projects during the semester:

* **Project #1** takes place during the first four weeks of the semester. You will read and annotate a short article. You will write an essay with other members of a small group. Although you will have some time in class for this, you will need to communicate with other group members outside of class. You will receive a grade and feedback for the group essay, and then you will revise it individually for a new grade. You are required to turn in a printed copy of the paper and submit and submit it electronically to Canvas.
* **Project #2** is a rhetorical analysis of an argument in the media. You can choose a Web site, a political speech, a political cartoon, a song or video clip, an ad or commercial, or a photograph. Your analysis should include references to types of arguments and possible logical fallacies that we will have read about and discussed. You are required to turn in a printed copy of the paper and submit it electronically to Canvas.
* **Project #3** asks you to write a 5-7 page research paper (RP) that examines a particular **hidden bias** AND argues for a change in the status quo. Your topic must be approved by me in advance, and your thesis must be supported by academic sources from databases. (We will go over this in class.) Requirements include short in-class and out-of-class writing assignments, a preliminary annotated bibliography (AB 1.1), and a final annotated bibliography (AB 1.2), as well as peer reviews and three drafts of the RP.
* It is essential for your success on the RP that you attend all of the classes related to the research paper. Please note that attending the database orientation, as assigned, is mandatory.
* **You are required to hand in hard copies of all three drafts and submit it electronically to Canvas.**

**Class Policies and Procedures**

**ATTENDANCE:**

* Regular attendance is essential for your success in the class. Even though I don’t give you a grade for attendance, you are “shooting yourself in the foot” if you are absent more than two times during the semester: Students who do not attend all or most of the classes usually feel lost, miss assignments, and have failing grades. If you want to be successful, come to class and come on time.
* **You will very likely be dropped from the class if you:**
  + **do not attend the first class meeting** (unless you have contacted me before the first class with an acceptable reason for why you must miss the first day).
  + **miss one or more classes in the first two weeks** (unless you have contacted me prior to the class or immediately afterwards with an acceptable reason).
  + **miss four classes in the first nine weeks of the course.** (This is SCCCD policy.)
  + do not turn in one or more assignments given during the first four weeks of class.
* Please let me know—by phone or e-mail—if you are going to be absent and, if possible, why. This does not excuse the absence. It is merely courteous.
* In order to be successful, you should do the following:
  + Make this class a priority: Make sure you have a dependable ride to class. Don’t schedule doctor, dentist, or counseling appointments during class. Make sure your employer knows your school schedule, and do not miss class because of work.
  + Don’t miss class.
  + Don’t miss any assignments. (See Daisy Chain requirement below.)
  + Talk to me. No, really. It will help your writing and your grade.
* Students who add or choose to drop the class are responsible for completing the process through Web Advisor. Any student who does not add by the 2nd week will not be allowed to attend or to add the class after that.

**PARTICIPATION:** This includes, but is not limited to, attendance, completion of all assignments, carrying out lit circle roles and contributing to class discussions in a thoughtful manner, peer reviews, out-of-class conferences with me and/or a tutor, etc. I firmly believe that students learn not only from the instructor but also from each other. So, be prepared to interact in pairs and groups with other students in the class. You can only be an active, prepared participant if you attend class regularly and on time, contribute in a meaningful, useful way to discussions, and do the assigned work both in and out of class.

* **You must** **have required materials, annotate all readings, and take notes during class**.
* You are also required to meet with me in my office at least once during the semester so that I can help you one-on-one with a writing assignment. Please do not tell me, “But your schedule didn’t match my schedule.” We will work together to find a mutually convenient time to meet. You may be surprised to find how helpful it can be to talk face-to-face with your instructor.
* Please note that if you do the minimum amount of work, the best grade that you can get for participation is the minimum—that is, a C-. If you want a higher participation grade, do MORE than simply what is required.

**QUIZZES and HOMEWORK:** Quizzes, homework, and short writing assignments may be unannounced. None of these can be submitted late or made up.

**SUBMITTING PAPERS AND REVISIONS**: **All** writing assignments must be typed in Times New Roman, 12 point, and double-spaced on 8 1/2 by 11-inch paper. In the upper left-hand corner, put your name, class (English 3), instructor’s name (Ms. Stamper), type of assignment, draft number, and date (example: 8 March 2020). Title your paper and center it above your text. See handout for sample and guidelines. **Submit all drafts, last to first,** with each assignment.

* **I reserve the right to refuse any paper that is not typed, is not submitted in the proper format, is not submitted promptly at the beginning of class, or does not include pre-writing and the proper number of drafts.** I have the option of accepting re-submitted papers and assigning a grade penalty. There is no guarantee that I will do this, and you must discuss it with me first.
* I will not accept an essay printed from Google Docs. You can access free Microsoft Word through your student e-mail account: click Office 365 in the top-left-hand corner and "Install Office Apps" in the top-right-hand corner.
* **Unless otherwise specified, all assignments must be turned in electronically and as a printed-out copy. Submission to Canvas alone is not sufficient. The hard copy alone is not sufficient.**

**LATE WORK:** All assignments are due in class by the start of class timeon the day they are due. If you are unable to attend class, make sure that you do one of the following before class: e-mail me an attachment of the assignment (include a message); drop off the assignment in the box outside my office; or give the assignment to the receptionist at the front desk in Administration (she will time-stamp it and place it in my regular mailbox). **If you turn in the paper on the day it is due, it must be time-stamped and given to the receptionist.**

* Any assignment that comes in more than 10 minutes after the start of class will be considered late.
* **Please do not ask me if you can print an out-of-class assignment on the classroom printer.**
* All work must be turned in on time in order to receive credit.

Related imageDAISY Chain Requirement: All assignments are linked and therefore are required. If you miss the deadline, you will not only receive a zero for that assignment, but you will not be permitted to complete the next assignment until you have done the previous assignment. Build a chain of daisies, not zeros!

**ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:** Any student caught cheating, copying, or plagiarizing others’ work will be subject to academic sanctions, including but not limited to receiving an ‘F’ on the assignment or in the course. If you are in any doubt as to what plagiarism is, check with me. We will discuss this further in class. (Note: I use turnitin.com.)

You are encouraged to get help on your writing from me, a tutor from the Reading & Writing Center or the Tutorial Center, or Linda Reither (the Learning Specialist), and your classmates in this class. **No one else—not your parents, siblings, boyfriend, girlfriend, former teacher, ex-boyfriend or ex-girlfriend, siblings’ boyfriend or girlfriend, siblings’ ex-boyfriend or ex-girlfriend, or your dog—may help you with any of your papers.**

**STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:**

*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 talk to me as soon as possible. Contact Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSP&S) at (559) 638-0332 or visit their website for more information:* [*http://www.reedleycollege.edu/services/dsp/LD.htm*](http://www.reedleycollege.edu/services/dsp/LD.htm)*.*

**Some Important Points:**

* Please check your school e-mail and Canvas on a regular basis. There are computers available at various computer labs (including the library) on campus. If you don’t know how to set up or use e-mail, please get help from me, a tutorial center, or a lab. There is also a video tutorial on Web Advisor.
  + Please contact me by e-mail ([elaine.stamper@reedleycollege.edu](mailto:elaine.stamper@reedleycollege.edu)) or via Canvas Inbox if you have any problems or questions about anything**. Please write “ENGL 3” in the subject line.** I check my e-mail regularly and will get back to you promptly. If you have not heard back from me in 24 hours, please check to make sure that I received your e-mail.
* Using Canvas is required and will help you know what’s going on. On Canvas, you can get an extra copy of the syllabus and calendar or most other handouts, find out if there was any homework on the day you missed class, and check your grade. If I am unable to attend class, I will post it as an announcement on Canvas and send the announcement as an e-mail. There will also be an official sign on the classroom door. If you need help with Canvas, see me, a tutor, or a computer lab assistant in the library.
* Please keep flash drive copies of all work submitted to me and a file of all work returned to you. I am very careful with your work, but I sometimes make mistakes. Protect yourself by keeping everything until the course is finished and your final grade has been recorded.
* Nothing annoys me like rudeness; that means cell phone use (texting, checking for texts or calls, phones going off), repeated tardiness, people talking when I or someone else is talking, and students “packing up” before I have ended the class. So, turn off your phone and put it away before class, come to class on time, be considerate when others are talking, and wait for me to finish class before you start closing books and putting things away. **If you do not abide by these rules of common courtesy, I will ask you to leave the classroom and this will be counted as an absence.** 
  + **If I see or hear a cell phone, I will ask you to leave. It’s disruptive and rude for you to be having a conversation with someone else—and, let’s face it, that’s what texting is—in the middle of my class. I do not give verbal warnings—consider this to be your warning.**
  + Repeated incidents of any behavior deemed to be rude or disruptive will result in your being reported to the Dean of Students.
* My job is to help you to become better writers and to prepare you to write for other classes. I really care about my students and will do whatever I can to help you. Let’s work together to help you succeed!

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| **Course Assignments (subject to change)** | **Points Possible** | **% of Final Grade** |
| **Project #1: Topless Gardener** | 200 points | 20% |
| * Article annotation and participation in class discussion = 5 pts. * Group essay = 30 pts. * Revised essay (individual essay) = 150 pts. * Works Cited page = 5 pts. * Smarthinking.com submission = 5 pts. * Meet with me outside of class and/or a RWC tutor = 5 pts. |
| **Essay #2: Rhetorical Analysis** | 200 points | 20% |
| * Two rough drafts, 25 pts. each (=50 pts total) * Final draft of essay = 150 pts. * Includes Works Cited and smarthinking.com submission |
| **Essay #3** | 350 points | 35% |
| * Annotated Bibliography first draft (AB 1.1) = 50 pts. * Annotated Bibliography final draft (AB 1.2) = 100 pts. * Final draft of research-based essay (2-3 drafts required) = 200 pts. |
| Short-writing assignments | 100 points | 10% |
| Participation | 50 points | 5% |
| Quizzes and homework | 50 points | 5% |
| Final Exam | 50 points | 5% |
| **TOTAL** | 1000 points | 100% |

**GRADING**

**A = 100-90 excellent**

**B = 89.99-80 very good**

**C = 79.99-70 average**

**D = 69.99-60 needs improvement (not passing)**

**F = 59.99-0 fail (not passing)**

* **I don’t round up.**
* **I’m happy to talk to you about your assignment grades (Why did you get the grade that you did? What can you do to improve your grade?), and if I’ve made a mathematical error, I will correct it; however, I am unable to negotiate your grade with you at any point in the semester.**
* **If you care about your grade, do something about it EARLY in the semester: Come to all of the classes, do all of the work, check your grade on Canvas, re-read my comments on your papers, come see me, talk to our class tutor, and go to the Reading/Writing Center. In a nutshell, put your best effort in and communicate with me.**

**Course Outcomes**

These outcomes have been determined by the Reedley College English Department and are in accordance with the guidelines determined by the UCs and the CSUs for a transfer level class in the humanities. Every assignment in this class is geared towards you achieving these outcomes.

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

1. Write a synthesized and documented, critical analysis of at least 1500 words which includes:

• sophisticated introduction, multiple body paragraphs, and a conclusion

• an arguable claim that aims to contribute to or alter pre-existing ideas on the subject matter

• supporting details that exhibit critical thinking and use credible, multiple secondary sources

• researched and evaluated sources for use in the development of their own writing

• correct usage of MLA format with correct use in-text citations and a works cited page

• appropriate and purposeful use of quotations

• causal analysis, advocacy of ideas, definition, persuasion, evaluation, refutation, and interpretation effectively in college-level prose

• an annotated bibliography of multiple sources

• correct citations (therefore avoiding plagiarism)

• identification of logical fallacies in others’ writing and avoid them in their own writing

• details related to main point and with complex analysis

• evidence of self-editing for errors and revise compositions

• use of third person/universal

• awareness of writing for a scholarly audience

• controlled and sophisticated word choice

• sentences that exhibit a command of the complex/compound with minimal comma splices, sentence fuses, and fragments

• use of denotative and connotative aspects of language

1. Read and critically evaluate college-level non-fiction material from a variety of sources on themes from different content areas

• Distinguish between valid and sound arguments and invalid and unsound arguments

• Recognize deductive and inductive language

• Distinguish factual statements from judgmental statements and knowledge from opinion, identifying the deliberate abuses and manipulations of rhetoric

• Make logical inferences from information presented

• Recognize denotative and connotative aspects of language

C. Discuss issues, supporting their comments with reference to texts

**Important Dates:**

**Week 2:**

**Monday, 1/20: Martin Luther King Day; no classes**

**Friday, 1/24: Last day to drop for a full refund**

**Week 3: Friday, 1/31: last day to add a class; last day to drop in person without receiving a “W”**

**Week 4: Sunday, 2/2: Last day to drop via WebAdvisor and avoid a “W.”**

**Weeks 5-6: Friday, 2/14 and Monday, 2/17: Presidents’ Day; no classes (4-day weekend! 👍)**

**Week 9: Friday, 3/13: Last day to drop and receive a “W.” Letter grades (A-F) are assigned after this date.**

**Thursday, 3/12: Free Pass Opportunity: Susan Orlean, author of The *Library Book*, RC Cafeteria, 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.**

**Spring Break: Monday, 4/6-4/10; no classes**

**Week 18: Finals Week: Final exams are the only classes this week. (Check with your other instructors for any changes.)**

**Final Exam: Wednesday, 5/20, 1:00-2:50 (note time change); PHY 75 or as announced**

**Please check your final exam schedule for other classes to make sure that there is no conflict. The final exam is mandatory, and it is expected that you will attend the exam on the given day and at the specified time. It is your responsibility to discuss with me well in advance any conflicts that you may have so that we can attempt to resolve them.**

**Final Exam: Thursday, 12/13, 11:00-12:50 in LRC-104 (Note change in time.)**  Please check your final exam schedule for other classes to make sure that there is no conflict. The final exam is mandatory, and it is expected that you will attend the exam on the given day and at the specified time. It is your responsibility to discuss with me well in advance any conflicts that you may have so that we can attempt to resolve them.

**Required textbook**



**Me Hershey**

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