

## **English 3 | Critical Reading and Writing | 3 units | spring 2020**

**Instructor:** Mr. Garza **Office:** Annex 2 **Phone:** 638-0300 ext. 3308

**Hrs:** MW: 8 AM-9 AM; TTh: 12:30 PM-1:30 PM; Fri 8 AM-9 AM (virtual via Canvas/email)

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### **Course Description**

This course is designed to develop critical thinking, reading and writing skills beyond the level achieved in English 1A. The course will focus on the development of logical reasoning and analytical and argumentative writing skills based primarily on works of nonfiction.

### **Course Outcomes**

Upon successful completion of the course, the student 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
  - 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
- Discuss issues, supporting their comments with reference to texts

**Required Texts and Materials:**

*Rereading America*, 11th ed., (ISBN: 978-1-319-05636-0) Bedford/St. Martin’s

*A Place to Stand*, Baca (ISBN: 0-802-13908-6) Grove Press

*A Pocket Style Manual*, 8th ed., Hacker (ISBN: 978-1-319-05740-4) Bedford/St. Martin’s

A notebook for the **exclusive** use of this class, and pens/pencils for in-class writing assignments and taking notes.

**\*failure to obtain the required texts prior to the end of the second week of classes will result in a drop from this course unless you have consulted with the instructor and made prior arrangements.**

**Strongly Recommended:**

A computer, an Internet connection, and a dictionary.

**Grading:**

|            |            |
|------------|------------|
| Essay 1    | 100 points |
| Essay 2    | 100 points |
| Essay 3    | 100 points |
| Essay 4    | 100 points |
| Essay 5    | 100 points |
| Quizzes    | 100 points |
| Final Exam | 50 points  |

The grading scale is as follows: **(note that scores are not rounded)**

| A                     | B                     | C                     | D                     | F                   |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 100-90%               | 89-80%                | 79-70%                | 69-60%                | 59% & Below         |
| <b>650-585 points</b> | <b>584-520 points</b> | <b>519-455 points</b> | <b>454-390 points</b> | <b>389-0 points</b> |

**There will be no extra credit offered for this course.**

## **Essays:**

You will write a total of five (5) essays. Each will be worth 100 points. All essays must be typed and follow Modern Language Association (MLA) guidelines. For each essay you will receive a prompt that will outline the specific requirements for each essay. Essays that do not follow directions or that fail to meet the minimum requirements will receive a failing grade or a zero at the instructor's discretion. All essays will be submitted to *Turnitin* via Canvas. Only new, original work may be submitted. **If you have submitted work to this class or another previously, you should not attempt to reuse that work--revision of that previous work is not a substitute for submitting new, original work--resubmitting work without prior consent of the instructor may result in a failing grade or zero.** All essays submitted are final drafts; there are no re-writes or revisions; work found to be plagiarized or contain plagiarized material will receive a failing grade or a zero at the instructor's discretion; in the event of plagiarism a student will not be permitted to redo the assignment for a grade or improved grade.

## **Lack of Effort Statement:**

Your instructors at Reedley College want you to be successful in your classes and therefore expect you to submit your best work. Successful students in reading and writing classes make sure that they carefully address the prompt, proofread their writing, and follow MLA guidelines. Please note that an instructor may choose to read only the first page or less of an assignment and return it to you with little or no feedback if the paper demonstrates poor effort in areas such as, but not limited, following directions, meeting the minimum requirements, and basic skills; this paper will receive a failing grade. Successful students do the following: follow their instructor's instructions, pay attention to the appropriate syllabus and rubric requirements, attend class regularly, seek assistance from the Reading and Writing Center, ask their instructor for guidance during his/her office hours **DAYS BEFORE** their paper is due.

## **Quizzes:**

There will be a total of 20 quizzes; each quiz is worth 5 points, for a total of 100 points. Quizzes are due on the posted dates. Each quiz may only be taken once; quizzes are not accepted late. Do not attempt quizzes until you've completed the corresponding reading material. Each quiz is timed; 10 minutes are allowed for each quiz; the timer begins as soon as you open the quiz; you must complete the quiz once you start it. Each quiz consists of 5 questions; all questions are multiple choice or true/false.

## **Comprehensive Final Exam:**

This exam will be given on the date of the final examination, as designated in the Schedule of Courses (and provided for you in this syllabus). The exam will cover all material from the assigned reading and lecture/class discussion, as well as films shown in the class. No textbooks will be allowed during the exam. Only original handwritten notes (no photocopies), contained in your notebook, may be used. Your last name must be clearly printed at the top of each note page (front and back) that you intend to use for the exam. You will need a Scantron 882E or 882 Lovas

## **Late Work:**

**Late work is not accepted. Technical difficulties will not be considered an exception for work not being submitted on time. Please do not wait until the last minute to complete your assignments.**

## **Attendance:**

You are expected to attend/participate in class regularly. There are no “excused” absences. Students will be dropped prior to the final drop date after missing two consecutive weeks of class or accumulating the equivalent of two weeks of absences. “No-shows” on the first day of class will be dropped and only readmitted based upon seat availability. If you are late to class by 5 minutes or more, you will be counted absent for the day—additionally, leaving class early without prior arrangement will result in an absence. Finally, **coming to class unprepared (including but not limited to: not having your book; not having read the material; being unengaged in the class, i.e., sleeping, using your cell phone or other electronic device, personal conversation unrelated to the course material) will result in an absence; a student may be asked to leave the class for the day in these circumstances.**

## **Disruptive Behavior and Sexual Harassment**

Reedley College is committed to the principle that instructors and students must treat each other with courtesy and respect, and it will take action to enforce college policies regarding behavior that violates this principle. These policies are set forth in the student code of conduct at Reedley College.

**Cell phones/other electronic devices may not be used in the classroom—do not keep them on your desk where they are likely to distract you or anyone in the class.** If the vibrate mode of your phone causes it to vibrate to the degree that your classmates can hear this vibration, turn

your phone completely off. **If you are observed using your phone during class you may be asked to leave the class and marked absent for the day.**

## **Cheating and Plagiarism**

### **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 person'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. A student may be given a failing grade on the assignment, a zero on the assignment, or fail the course completely, at the discretion of the instructor.

### **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. Students will not be allowed to redo assignments due to plagiarism.

**Guests are not allowed.** Only those enrolled in the class will be allowed in the room.

## **Accommodations**

If you have a verified need for an academic accommodation such as but not limited to additional test taking time, a note-taker, 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 the DSPS office as soon as possible to ensure your accommodations can be met.

## **Contact and Conferences**

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you are experiencing a problem, have any questions, need help or clarification from me, or have ideas and suggestions for the class. I am here to help you succeed.

## **Course Changes**

This syllabus may change during the course of the semester to better address the class's needs. A handout explaining the new expectations will accompany such changes.

## **Important Dates:**

Monday, January 20th - Martin Luther King Jr. Day (no classes held, campus closed)

Friday, January 24th - Last day to drop a full-term class for a refund

Friday, January 31st - Last day to register for a full-term class

Friday, January 31st - Last day to drop a full-term class to avoid a "W"

Friday, February 14th - Lincoln Day (no classes held, campus closed)

Monday, February 17th - Washington Day (no classes held, campus closed)

Friday, March 13th - Last day to drop a full-term class (letter grade assigned after this date)

Monday, April 6th - Friday, April 10th - Spring Break

**Final Exam for this class: Tuesday, May 19th @ 8:00 AM**