**Welcome to Honors 3B ~ Spring 2022**

**Course Code: 53666**

**Instructor: K. Watts**

**Email: Contact through Canvas Inbox**

**Office Hours: Monday 9:30 - 11:30 AM | Wednesday 9:00 - 10:00 AM in the Reading and Writing Center| Friday 2:00 - 3:00 PM**

**For additional office hours, please contact Professor Watts via Canvas Inbox to request and schedule an appointment.**

**Office Hour Zoom Link:** [**https://scccd.zoom.us/j/98450343179**](https://scccd.zoom.us/j/98450343179)

**Course Purpose and Description**

This class is an interdisciplinary investigation of a contemporary issue through the perspective of those disciplines considered part of the Humanities. (The Humanities consist of philosophy, languages, and works of literature, linguistics, religion, history, and the arts. The arts include the visual arts, drama and music.) Enrolled students will be required to present their research to an Honors committee as the culminating portion of the course.

**What does it mean to be a student in an Honors class?**

Honors students have the following attributes:

1. A higher degree of participation and involvement in the class
2. A higher standard of performance than regular students
3. An ability to comprehend more advanced supplemental reading, especially of primary sources
4. A demonstration of stronger skills in critical thinking, analysis, and interpretation
5. An ability to comprehend a greater depth and breadth of subject matter, especially requiring synthesis of different perspectives or points ofview

**Course Schedule**

I post schedules for each unit one at a time. We spend approximately four weeks on each unit. The final week of each unit focuses on writing. I reserve the right to make any changes to the schedule. If any changes are made, you will be notified immediately.

**Expectations**

**Technology:**

Always use Chrome as your browser. While your phone can show you some materials, many materials will NOT be available to you on your phone or in another browser. All uploaded documents MUST be in Microsoft Word. I will not accept Google docs or any other format.

Please review the “How To” videos posted in the Week 1 module for valuable information including how to download a free version of Word.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

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

SL01: Place a designated topic within a Humanities based academic context

SL02: Understand how different disciplines can contribute information to a central research question

**Course Objectives**

In the process of completing this course, students will:

* experience an integrated academic atmosphere in an effort to stimulate intellectual curiosity and university-level discussion on a particular topic or theme
* build a background in an aspect of the Humanities that is broad enough to contribute to a multi-discipline research project
* develop interdisciplinary hypotheses and questions about a topic with guidance from the instructor
* synthesize information and knowledge using skills obtained from an aspect of the Humanities
* practice critical thinking skills in evaluation and presenting research
* revise ‘first thoughts’ or original hypotheses in light of deeper research and in collaboration with the instructor, classmates and experts in the field
* lead/participate in discussions to investigate questions and concerns regarding the identified research topic

**Required Texts and Materials**

There may be additional content or readings that will be provided via Canvas in the form of PDFs or digital media. Please be sure to thoroughly read announcements and the course calendar for detailed instructions regarding the reading materials required in each unit of this course.

**Communication**

Please always make sure to check both our course site and your district email for announcements as well as other essential course information. All emails should be sent using the Canvas Inbox function. All emails should indicate both your purpose and class section in the subject line and begin with “Dear Ms. Watts….” Or “Hi Ms. Watts……” I will respond to your emails as soon as possible; however, if you email me late in the evening during the week (and sometimes after 8 is late for me!), don’t expect to hear back from me until the following day. Feel free to email any time of the day or night- I do not get email notifications, so you will not be waking me up if you email late at night. I will be available over the weekends, but not in the evenings. If you do not hear back from me within 24 hours, please resend your email as that would indicate a problem with your first transmission. Please review the video "Using Proper and Professional Etiquette" presented by the Reading and Writing Center:

**Course Requirements**

**Weekly Participation:**

The major thrust of this course is the development of a research project in the Humanities. During our class meetings, we will help each other as we work on our projects. During certain meetings, you will be expected to help provide guidance to other students with their projects. Each week you will be earning a grade based on your progress with the project. Additional assignments that arise will be incorporated into this grade.

**Research Proposal**:

The first step in academic research is to clearly define what you are researching. Our first goal will be for each of you to create your research proposal. In order to create the very best possible proposals, we will have three rounds of drafts to create our final draft.

**Individual Progress Meetings**:

These meetings will take place in my office or via Zoom to discuss your progress and decide on the direction of your research. Your grade for this section will depend on your attendance and your appropriate preparation for these meetings. Meeting times will be determined based on each student’s schedule.

**Presentations**:

When performing academic research at the university level, you are expected to present information about your research. During the semester, you will have four opportunities to present your research. First, you will present your initial idea to the class. Then, you will present your finalized proposal to the class. As your research progresses, you present a formal update to the class. Finally, you will give a formal presentation of your project.

**Research Poster:**

A common method for sharing academic research is through a research poster presentation. Given the restrictions of Covid, this is not possible this semester. So, each student will create an electronic poster to share their research results. The post will include the following sections: abstract, introduction, methodology, results, and conclusions. Both a draft and a final poster will be graded. In addition, a virtual poster session will be held on campus during exam week. Participation in this session is required.

**Quality of Research**:

A portion of your grade is based upon the level of quality of your research project. This grade will take into account your full work of the semester. The grade is based on your ability to do the following:

* Develop a clear research question
* Having a well-defined goal for your research
* Meeting goals for the research proposal
* Following proper research methodology
* Showing depth and rigor in research
* Displaying an understanding of the context of the research
* Dealing with questions that arise from your research
* Sharing an enthusiasm for your research topic
* Clearly communicating your research results

**Extra Faculty Reviewer:**

Extra faculty advising will be very helpful to you as you progress with this project. I will provide you with as much guidance as I can, but you will need to ask another faculty member to provide additional insight into your work. You may choose an instructor who is knowledgeable about your research topic, or you may choose one that can just provide general guidance.

**Grading Points:**

200  Weekly Participation and Assignment Grade

          150  Research Proposal

                   First draft (5)

                   Second draft (10)

                   Final Draft (50)

          200  Presentations

                   Initial Idea presentation (20)

                   Proposal presentation (40)

                   Reseach Update presentation (50)

                   Final Presentation (90)

          200   Research Poster

                   Draft Poster (40)

                   Final Poster (60)

                   Poster Session (100)

**Grading Scale: 90% = A; 80% = B; 70% = C; 60% = D, 50% = F**

**Tutoring and the Reading and Writing Center**

This course has the benefit of an embedded tutor from the Reading and Writing Center as your primary contact for peer tutoring and assistance with all reading and writing assignments. This semester, Laura Hand, will be this course's embedded tutor: for more information about Laura, her schedule, and how to book an appointment with her, please see her page within this course by clicking on the [Embedded Tutor](file:////courses/75235/pages/laura-hand) link located in the navigation panel to the left. Laura will be monitoring forums, workshops, and the Tutoring Q&A discussion thread as well as assisting students via Zoom or Canvas Inbox for one-on-one appointments and consultations. As your instructor, I may recommend that you seek help from Laura or another peer tutor at the Reading and Writing Center, and for students wishing to revise Essay 1, an appointment with a peer tutor is required.

The Reading and Writing Center is accessible virtually through their Canvas Course Site: students must enroll (open enrollment at no cost) in this course to access the free resources and book appointments with peer tutors. Use this link to self-enroll in the Reading and Writing Center course now: [https://scccd.instructure.com/enroll/LN9B8C](file:////enroll/LN9B8C)

For more information about available services at the Reading and Writing Center or how to book an appointment with a peer tutor, please watch the two tutorial videos located at the top of the Helpful How-To Videos page located in the Student Resources module.

**Course Policies**

**Attendance:**

Students  will be dropped after four absences.

**Late Policy**:

I do not accept late work.

With that said, if you come to me BEFORE an assignment is due with a specific problem, we can work on resolving the issue together.

If for some reason you cannot access Canvas to post an assignment, wait a few minutes and try again. If Canvas is down for a substantial length of time, you may email the assignment to [kate.watts@reedleycollege.edu](mailto:kate.watts@reedleycollege.edu). I will record that you submitted the assignment on time; however, I will require you to submit the assignment to Canvas again as soon as it is available.

**Extra Credit**

 One point of extra credit will be given to the student who first detects any error on my part throughout the semester and emails me to point out the error. This includes typos. There may also be extra credit opportunities throughout the semester, such as special events or live readings, which will be announced as they become available. Instructions on how to earn the extra credit for these opportunities will be given when they are announced.

**Academic Honesty**

The Reedley College English department has a zero-tolerance policy regarding plagiarism. Plagiarism is defined on page 48 of the Reedley College Catalog 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.”

If I determine you have plagiarized, I will refer you to the Dean of Humanities office for disciplinary action. Until you meet with the Dean once he has received the report, your account with the District will be frozen. You will receive zero credit for the assignment. This could result in a failing grade for the semester.

**Accommodations**

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.**This is extremely important. Your need for accommodation MUST be verified by DSPS. If you produce verification of this information at the beginning of the semester any need for the extra time etc. will not be available to you retroactively.

**Canvas**

All course announcements, the course schedule, assignments, and your grades are available on our Canvas course site. It is the student's responsibility to stay engaged and up to date with the course.

**\*The instructor reserves the right to make changes to this material at any time.\***