**ENGLISH 205 - 55109**

**ENGLISH SUCCESS SKILLS**

**(2 UNITS)**

**Brandon Baker**

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**Reedley College**

**Fall 2023  
August 7th-December 8th**

**Fridays**

**8-9:50am**

**Room: CCI 202**

**Office Hour: Room CC1 205 / Every Wednesday 10-11am starting 8/16**

**Important Dates**

**Friday, August 18th – last day to drop for full refund**

**Friday, August 25 - last day to drop to avoid W in person**

**Sunday, August 27 - last day to drop to avoid W on Self-Service**

**Monday, Sep 4 - Labor day (NO CLASS)**

**Friday, Oct 6 - last day to drop with a W**

**Friday, Nov 10 - Veterans Day (NO CLASS)**

**Thurs/Fri, Nov 23-24 - THANKSGIVING (NO CLASS)**

**Dec 4-8 finals**

**\*\*\*Participation/Attendance\*\*\***

I'll start with a serious topic because almost all of the points in this class are based on participation **in class**.

Attendance is not graded directly; however, participation *is*. Given that this is an in-person class, you need to be present for participation points. For this class, I will have participation points for almost every single class session. Missing a couple won't hurt too much, but missing several will heavily impact your grade.

Participation is also based on your engagement with the material, so if you're ignoring the worksheets and not trying, you can lose those points even if present.   
  
PS- I do understand that life can get busy, but don't depend on make-up work for these assignments, as they are meant to be done in person— for example, worksheets will be printed, handed out, and worked on in class. There usually won't be an online equivalent.

**I**

**WHAT IS THIS CLASS?**

**Course Description**

This course will be taught in conjunction with English 1A College Reading and Writing so that students can further their critical reading and writing skills for their English 1A course. Course will include assignments linked to and building on the English 1A coursework. COREQUISITES: English 1A or 1AH.

**Course materials/resources (same as English 1A)**

* ***English Brushup (this is the only one you need to purchase for 205)***
  + this can be purchased in the Reedley bookstore on online
  + it's the 6th Edition and is written by John Langan and Janet M. Goldstein
  + [Amazon link](https://a.co/d/7AEK0XH)
* Various short stories that I will make available in class and/or online
* [Purdue Owl](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/purdue_owl.html) is a free online resource that covers all formatting for what we’ll be doing this semester. Please take advantage of this!

**Course Objectives**

* Practice finding and evaluating sources for their credibility.
* Further practice the writing process in support of students writing essays in English 1A.
* Revise essay drafts to improve, focus, and strengthen ideas.
* Further utilize appropriate pre and post reading strategies to analyze patterns of organization within a variety of texts.
* Further demonstrate awareness of rhetorical situations: audience, purpose, and voice.
* Improve in writing grammatically correct sentences that adhere to conventions of written English.
* Proofread and edit essays for clarity and use of academic language.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

* Utilize the skills required to successfully complete English 1A.

**Grades**

There are 400 points possible in this course.  Look at them as currency— you need at least 280 points to purchase a passing grade. Less than 280 points is not enough to buy a passing grade.**You must get a 'C' or higher to pass this course. A 'D' is not a passing grade for English 205.**The combined total of points you earn will be represented by the following grades:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **360-400** | **A (90-100%)** |
| **320-359** | **B (80-89.9%)** |
| **280-319** | **C (70-79.9%)** |
| **240-279** | **D (60-69.9%)** |
| **0-239** | **F (0-59.9%)** |

**For accessibility purposes:**

* an A is 90% to 100%, which is 360-400 points
* a B is 80% to 89.9%, which is 320-359 points
* a C is 70% to 79.9%, which is 280-319 points
* a D is 60% to 69.9%, which is 240-279 points
* an F is 0 to 59.9%, which is 0 to 239 points

**Point distribution:**

* WORKSHEETS/PARTICIPATION (in class!)= **340 POINTS**
* FINAL QUIZ =**60 points**

**II**

**HOW THIS CLASS IS RUN**

**Communication**

The best way to communicate with me is to email me at **brandon.baker@reedleycollege.edu** from your school email.\*

\*There’s something wrong with the way time is set up in my email account at Reedley; I’ve tried to fix it in the past, but sometimes I won’t get your emails right away. Just know that I always respond to student emails and I check my account multiple times a day during the semester.

**Late Work**

No exceptions. 😫

I’ve been too lenient on this before, and I find that students tend to do less and less throughout the semester when there is no clear and direct deadline. The work is also meant to build up to larger assignments and means much less when turned in late.

What I also worry about with late work is how it piles up; I have an intentional schedule that builds up to each essay and should make the completion of each essay fairly simple and rewarding for those who follow along. The more behind you get, the more the work tends to feel like it doesn't relate to anything and thereby doesn't fulfill its purpose. That being said, please make sure you plan ahead. If you are prone to computer problems, try turning assignments in a day early.

For the larger assignments (the major essays), however, I would prefer giving you an extra day or two to clean up a final draft than grade an unfinished essay turned in a minute before it’s due. However, if you really need to, always ask*before*it’s due (not a week later) and know that I will hold you to whatever extension you choose. If you ask after it's due, then it's too late.

**Participation**

Attendance is not graded directly— however, participation *is*. Given that this is an in-person class, you need to be present for participation points.

Coming to class late, talking to each other while I'm lecturing, and/or using your electronic devices in a distracting way can also disqualify you from these points.

**Plagiarism**

Plagiarism includes any writing done by anyone but you— **this includes writing done by any AI program**. Any material that you include in your essay, even if it is only a sentence or two, which is not thought and written by you, must be cited. **All work must be original for this class. Submitting writing created for another class, even if you have revised it for ours, is EVIL! (jk, but you get the idea)**. If you’re not sure if something is allowed, ask me first.

Essays are submitted to Turnitin.com and other plagiarism detection services and you’ll see a percentage when you upload your essay. This number reflects the work that has been found on other sites or in other student papers. There will often be a low percentage for any essay because it recognizes your name or a few phrases— that’s ok. If you’ve quoted and cited your work, that won’t count against you either. If you have a high percentage and there are full sentences highlighted that don’t have quotation marks or an in-text citation, please re-do those sections and re-submit your essay to avoid a very low grade on that assignment (and a low grade on a big essay will negatively effect your total grade).

In other words... don't cheat! Oftentimes, essays are flagged due to problems with quoting and paraphrasing, so make sure to pay attention to those particular lectures and please ask questions if you need help. And please don’t steal directly from the examples we go over in class together… it’s too obvious. Cheat better if you must. :)

**III**

**RESOURCES**

**Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**[**https://www.reedleycollege.edu/student-services/disabled-student-programs-and-services/index.html**](https://www.reedleycollege.edu/student-services/disabled-student-programs-and-services/index.html)Please, visit our DSP&S office if you are need of *any* academic accommodations.  I cannot honor your accommodations if I am not aware of them.  This means you need to advocate actively for yourself.  If you have a verified need for an academic accommodation, please contact me as soon as possible.

**Counseling**<https://www.reedleycollege.edu/student-services/counseling/index.html>

College can be confusing! Counselors are available to help guide you through adding classes, dropping classes, transferring classes, and working on your overall educational plan.

**Health Services**<https://www.reedleycollege.edu/campus-life/health-wellness/index.html>

This includes physical and mental health. Please reach out for help if needed— if you're not sure how to connect, let me know and I can guide you to where you need to go.

**Procedures for Connecting with All Tutoring Services on Campus**

The Math Center, the Reading/Writing Center, and the Learning Center are all using the same online tutor matching service.

Additionally, all Math and English Courses, as well as many other high demand courses should have embedded tutors; that means you may be able to message your embedded tutor via Canvas in each course.

If you need to search for a tutor, you should go to [www.tutormatchingservice.com/reedley (Links to an external site.)](http://www.tutormatchingservice.com/reedley) , sign up for a free account, and begin searching for RC tutors from all three Centers.

Here is a tutorial video on how to use Tutor Matching Service: [Reedley College Tutor Matching Service Promo](https://youtu.be/xvRD7kSJNhs)

**P.S. - I WANT YOU TO SUCCEED! I am on your side. The respect I ask of you is mutual. Please reach out to me with anxieties, concerns, etc. Let’s make this interesting and insightful. Please participate actively; I expect to learn from *you*and I look at this class as a little family. I’m looking forward to getting to know you all! You will pass if you do the work— and you won't if you don't. It's completely up to you (which should be empowering 🙌).**