

English 3 | Critical Reading and Writing | 3 units | fall 2023

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Office hours: MW 9-10AM and TTh 11-12PM (on campus); Fri (via Zoom) 9-10AM

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.

Student Learning Outcomes

ENGL-3 SLO1: Write multiple synthesized and documented, critical analysis papers of at least 1800 words which includes: a 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; illustrates 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 other's 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 point-of-view; 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.

ENGL-3 SLO2: Demonstrate an ability to 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.

ENGL-3 SLO3: Be able to communicate issues, supporting their comments with reference to texts or other materials, in class (and/or group) discussions.

Required Texts:

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

A Pocket Style Manual, 9th ed., Hacker (ISBN: 978-1-319-16954-1) Bedford/St. Martin's

Grading:

Essay 1	100 points
Essay 2	100 points
Essay 3	100 points
Essay 4	100 points
Essay 5	100 points
Quizzes	125 points
Final Exam	50 points

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

A	B	C	D	F
100-90% 675-608 points	89-80% 607-540 points	79-70% 539-472 points	69-60% 471-405 points	59% & Below 404-0 points

***Should extra credit be offered, a student must have a final passing grade of at least a C before the extra credit in order for the extra credit points to count; in other words extra credit cannot move a student from a failing grade to a passing grade.**

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.** 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 to, 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 25 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 or film. 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.

Attendance, Drop Policy, and Zoom etiquette:

Start of the semester: The first thing you should do is review the syllabus thoroughly and take the Day One Survey. The Day One Survey (Syllabus/Course Policy Acknowledgement) should be completed by Tuesday 8/8/23, before 11:59 PM. If you do not complete the survey by this due date, I will assume you are no longer interested in taking the course; you will be dropped and your place in the class will be offered to someone on the wait list. You will only be offered an add code to re-enroll in the course if space is available.

During the semester:

After each Zoom class the recorded video will be posted in a discussion thread. Students must post in the appropriate discussion thread after they have completed the reading and viewed the Zoom video. The discussion thread will outline specific criteria for posting in the discussion. Discussion posts that meet all the post requirements will be used to record attendance for the class; posts that do not follow directions or do not meet the criteria will result in an absence. Attending the Zoom session live is not mandatory, but students are welcome to join live. The recorded Zoom classes will generally be posted the same day the Zoom class is held. Students have until Sunday @ 11:59 PM following the class to complete their posts for attendance. For example: for Zoom classes posted on Monday, August 21st and Wednesday, August 23rd a student will have until Sunday, August 27th before 11:59 PM to post their discussion response. Attending a Zoom class live does not excuse a student from needing to post in the discussion thread.

Students may be dropped from the course when the equivalent of two weeks or more of work have been missed at the discretion of the instructor at or before the end of the ninth week of the semester. Two Zoom classes will be held each week therefore two classes approximate one week of class. Missing four classes will result in a drop for non-attendance.

Zoom etiquette: Class lectures/discussion will be held "live" via Zoom. Attending these "live" Zoom classes is not mandatory—all sessions will be recorded and made available for those who cannot participate "live." The Zoom sessions should be treated as a professional environment, like a traditional classroom. **You are not required to have your camera on during the Zoom session, but if it is possible for you to do so it is greatly appreciated.** Please do not attend these sessions via video and/or audio if you are not in an appropriate environment that will minimize distractions for others who are participating. Any student determined to be intentionally engaging in disruptive behavior during these Zoom sessions will be asked to leave the Zoom class and will be reported and referred to the division dean and/or other appropriate administration for discipline. Inappropriate/disruptive behavior may result in failure of the course or removal from the course.

Late Work:

Essay assignments may be submitted after the deadline. Late essays will have 10% deducted from the final graded score for each day it is late. Canvas will automatically begin applying the 10% deduction following the assignment deadline. Once an assignment reaches 5 days past the deadline (50% grade reduction) it can no longer be submitted for a grade; alternative assignments and/or extra credit will not be available for missed assignments.

In the event of an emergency you may contact me to discuss options; exceptions may be made on a case by case basis at the discretion of the instructor. Technical difficulties will not be considered an exception to the late policy if the assignment was being submitted at the last minute. Students should avoid waiting until the last minute to submit assignments whenever possible.

Quizzes may not be submitted late for any points as the correct answers are released following each assignment deadline.

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's work, supplying one's work to another, giving or receiving copies of examinations without an instructor's permission, using or displaying notes on devices inappropriate to the conditions of the examination, allowing someone other than the officially enrolled student to represent the student, or failing to disclose source material completely and/or accurately.

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, failing to observe computer security systems and software copyrights, or use of artificial intelligence (AI) or similar writing services. 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.

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 DSPS as soon as possible.

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:

Friday, August 18th: Last day to drop a full-term class for a full refund

Friday, August 25th: Last day to drop a full-term class to avoid a "W" (in person)

Sunday, August 27th: Last day to drop a full-term class to avoid a "W" (via Self Service online)

Monday, September 4th: Labor Day (no classes held, campus closed)

Friday, October 6th: Last day to drop a full-term class (letter grade will be assigned after this date)

Friday, November 10th: Veteran's Day (no classes held, campus open)

Thursday, November 23rd - Friday, November 24th: Thanksgiving holiday (no classes held, campus closed)

Monday December 4th - Friday, December 8: final exams week