

Syllabus for English 1A-51297 and English 1A-52198

Reading and Composition—Online/Asynchronous (no scheduled meetings)

Spring 2023

Instructor: Elaine G. Stamper

Embedded Tutors: Hannah Kleinkramer, Jann Rodriguez, Audrey Bergen, and Patty Santiago



The information contained in this syllabus is intended to be useful to you and to help you succeed. Please be sure to read it carefully and refer to it throughout the semester.

Contact information:

E-mail address: elaine.stamper@reedleycollege.edu. Please write "English 1A/Zebras in the subject line of all e-mails to me. (Note: Using Canvas Inbox to message me is usually easiest for both of us.)

Communication and Office Hours:

Mondays and Wednesdays, 10:00-11:00 via Zoom

Tuesdays, 12:00-2:00 and Thursdays, 12:00-1:00, in Faculty Annex 4

- Other days and times by arrangement; email me with your request
- Zoom link and map and video directions are on Canvas under Course Information/Elaine's Office Hours
 - You are never bothering me, and you can always ask. I can't always say "yes," but I will try to whenever possible.
 - I have posted a map and a short video on Canvas to show you where my office is on campus.
 - You are always welcome to email me to make an appointment for a different day and time. If I can accommodate you, I will.
 - I do check my emails regularly (you're never bothering me), and I will almost always respond quickly.
 - In general, I will not respond to emails on Saturdays since I need one day a week to grade and to plan and—gasp!—have a life. 😊

Required Texts and Materials:

1. Stern, Scott W. *The Trials of Nina McCall: Sex, Surveillance, and the Decades-Long Government Plan to Imprison "Promiscuous" Women*. Beacon Press, 2018.

- Either the hardback or the paperback is fine, but you must have a physical copy of the book; digital versions are not acceptable.

- If you buy a used copy, please make sure that it is a clean copy (no notes or highlighting).

2. Chamberlain, Diane. *Necessary Lies*. St. Martin's Griffin, 2014.
 - Digital versions are not acceptable.
 - If you buy a used copy, please make sure that it is a clean copy (no notes or highlighting).
3. A variety of assigned articles that will be posted on Canvas; you will need to annotate all readings, either electronically or on a printed copy.
4. A binder so that you can organize class notes and anything you choose to print out.
5. Sticky notes such as Post-Its for taking notes in the books.
6. Consistent and reliable access to the Internet and a dependable computer or laptop. You must use Microsoft Word. (Word 365 is available for free for all SCCCD students.)
7. A USB flash drive or access to a cloud service such as Dropbox (**not Google Docs**) to save the work you do.
8. I recommend that in addition to consulting handouts on Canvas regarding MLA format and citations, you use two online resources: [Purdue Owl MLA](#) and [EasyBib](#) (or you can use [Knight Cite](#) or a similar citation generator if you prefer).

NOTE: You will need to have non-electronic copies of *The Trials of Nina McCall* no later than Sunday, 1/15, and *Necessary Lies* by Friday, 2/10.

Course Description

English 1A (Critical Reading and Writing) is a course designed to aid students in the reading, analyzing, and composing of college-level prose. The emphasis will be on studying writing as a process; exploring different composing structures and strategies; editing and revising one's own writing; and conducting research (gathering, organizing, evaluating, integrating, and documenting information) that will culminate in a research paper with an annotated bibliography.

Our class is asynchronous, which means that there are no required face-to-face or Zoom meetings.

- I will have on-campus and Zoom office hours.
 - My office hours are optional, but you are strongly encouraged to come see me to talk about assignments or just to introduce yourself. Also, see [Feedback Assignment](#) below.
 - Although I always appreciate it when students have their cameras on during my office hours, having your camera on is never required. If you're just more comfortable having your camera off, that is absolutely fine with me.
 - The work for the week will be due at 11:59 p.m. on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.
 - The course is set up in weekly modules, and you will need to complete the assignments in the regular modules in the given order. Each assignment is built on previous assignments, and each assignment is designed to help you to be successful with assignments that follow. Therefore, you will not be allowed to skip assignments or to jump ahead. If you have problems with or questions about this, please contact me and/or one of our tutors, and we will help you.

Even though we won't be meeting in person, you will hear from me a lot. I send out announcements at least once a week, and you will be watching recordings from me that explain concepts and assignments. I check Canvas Inbox regularly

(as you should do, too), and I will usually reply to you within a couple of hours (except for Saturdays). Please make sure that you check for a reply from me if you have emailed me. You will also be communicating with other students on weekly discussion boards and in peer reviews for essays.

Writing Assignments

You will be completing three major projects during the semester:

- ❖ **Project #1** takes place during the first four weeks of the semester. You will read and annotate selected pages from *The Trials of Nina McCall: Sex, Surveillance, and the Decades-Long Government Plan to Imprison "Promiscuous" Women* by Scott W. Stern. You will take quizzes on the reading, and participate in discussion board postings. Essay #1 will require three drafts, each of which must be submitted to Canvas by the specified deadlines.
- ❖ **Project #2** is based on the book *Necessary Lies* by Diane Chamberlain. You will read and annotate the book, take quizzes on the reading, and participate in discussion boards. Essay #2 will require three drafts, each of which must be submitted to Canvas by the specified deadlines.
- ❖ **Project #3** asks you to write a 5-page research paper (RP) on a topic related to eugenics. I will give you a choice of possibilities related to the main topic, or you can propose your own idea (related to eugenics), which will need to be approved by me in advance. The paper and your thesis must be supported by 5 academic sources. (We will go over how to do research with library databases). Requirements include short writing assignments, a preliminary annotated bibliography (Pre- AB), and a final annotated bibliography (AB), as well as peer reviews and three drafts of the RP.

Some of you may feel nervous about doing academic writing, especially if the papers are longer than what you are used to writing. Please don't worry too much: I don't expect you to know everything before I teach it to you, and I never expect perfection. We take everything step-by-step, and the tutors and I are here to help you. Just reach out to us.

- ❖ **The Feedback Assignment** will require you to get feedback on each of the three projects. You will choose from the following options:
 - Project #1: Meet with me or a tutor (via Zoom or in person) or submit your draft to Smarthinking
 - Project #2: Meet with me or a tutor (via Zoom or in person) or submit your draft to Smarthinking
 - Project #3: Choose two: Meet with me and/or a tutor (via Zoom or in person) and/or submit your draft to Smarthinking

Class Policies and Procedures

ATTENDANCE and DROPS:

- Even though we will not be meeting face-to-face for this course, "attendance" in the class is essential for your success. Your attendance is determined by your timely completion of weekly assignments.
- You **will likely be dropped** from the class if you do not 1) complete all of the assignments in the first two weeks of class or 2) you do not complete all three drafts required for Project #1/Essay #1 and/or all three drafts for Project #2/Essay #2.
 - Note that I say you will "likely" be dropped. If you contact me as soon as possible with a legitimate reason for not having done the assignment, I will consider the situation and let you know my decision. If you do not contact me, you will certainly be dropped from the course.
- Students who add or choose to drop the class are responsible for completing the process through In

most cases, students who do not add by will not be allowed to add after that.

PARTICIPATION: This includes, but is not limited to, having the required materials, annotating all readings, taking notes, completing all assignments, contributing to discussion board prompts in a thoughtful manner, and completing peer reviews. I will also take into consideration if you have communicated with me or with

a tutor (Hannah, Jann, Audrey, or Patty) about your writing. Students learn not only from the instructor but also from each other. So, be sure to do all of the assigned work and to interact with other students in the class in a meaningful, useful way. (Even asking questions about something that you don't understand is useful to others. You are almost certainly not the only one who has a question.) All of us are looking forward to hearing your ideas and your "voice."

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 1A-Zebras), instructor's name (Ms. Stamper), type of assignment and the draft number (example: Essay 2.3), and date (example: 13 February 2023). Title your paper and center it above your text. See handout for example and guidelines.

- ❖ **I reserve the right to refuse any paper that is not submitted in the proper format or does not meet other requirements.**
- ❖ I cannot accept an essay that has been typed on Google Docs. You can access free Word 365 through your school e-mail account. Need help with this? Ask a tutor, another student, or me during my office hours.
- ❖ Some assignments will require you to submit photos. Please make sure that all photos are submitted as JPEG or PNG files; I am unable to open photos saved as HEIC files and therefore cannot accept them.
- ❖ All annotations must be submitted as indicated in the instructions, not as notes written out on paper or typed up. (You will receive instructions on how to annotate correctly.)

LATE WORK:

All assignments are due **either at the start of class or by 11:59 p.m. on the date indicated.**

1. You should make every effort to turn assignments in by the due date; however, **you may submit assignments after the due dates, without penalty, as long as we are still working on that particular Project.** The assignments for each Project will close one week after the Project has been completed.
 - I try to be flexible because we all (including me) need a little grace in our lives. Keep in mind, however, that if you are consistently missing the deadlines, you are almost certainly less likely to do well in the class.
 - If you run into problems, let me know as much in advance as possible. I can't guarantee that I can solve your problem, but I will always listen and, whenever possible, I will try to help you.
 - Note well: The final two assignments of the semester, RP 1.3 and AB 1.2, cannot be submitted late, and the final exam must be submitted by the deadline as well.
2. I will open the Canvas module for the week by Sunday night in most cases (earlier if I can manage it).
3. Most assignments will be due on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday; there will be times that I will ask you to turn something in when we meet for class.
4. Don't wait until the weekend to begin the work or you will run out of time.
5. ALL assignments for the course are required (even the "small" ones). You may not skip anything or submit a "substitution" such as the wrong assignment or a blank sheet of paper.
6. Give yourself enough time to complete the assignment and submit it. All assignments need to be submitted to Canvas; Please don't email me any assignments; I'm unable to grade them.

READING: If you're not much of a reader, you may find that 1) the books are fairly short, easy to read, and interesting; and 2) an [audio version](#) of the books can be helpful. Ask me if you need more information.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:

- Any student caught cheating, copying, plagiarizing others' work, or using AI to complete an assignment 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.)
- Please note that you will not be allowed to turn in previously submitted work for any assignment in this class. That means that you can't "recycle" a speech you gave or a paper you wrote for another class. If you are repeating my class, all of the work that you turn in for this semester must be new.
- You are encouraged to get help on your writing from me, a tutor from the Reading & Writing Center (RWC) or the Tutorial Center, or the Reedley College 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.

Some Important Points:

- Please check Canvas every day. Make sure that you receive Canvas notifications when I send you announcements or e-mails. If you don't know how to do something related to technology, you can get help from me, Hannah, Jann, Audrey, Patty, or [Tech Services](#).
 - Please contact me by [e-mail](#) or through Canvas Inbox if you have any problems or questions about anything. If you have not heard back from me in 24 hours, please check to make sure that I received your message. If you write to me, be sure to check for my response to you.
- Please keep flash drive copies of all work submitted to me. As you know, sometimes things go wrong with electronic systems. Protect yourself by keeping everything until the course is finished and your final grade has been recorded.
- Be appropriate, professional, and kind to others during Zoom meetings and on discussion boards. Remember that other people's experiences may be different from your own and that we all, including me, sometimes need to set aside a tendency to be judgmental. Tell me (or a tutor) if there is ever any online communication that makes you feel uncomfortable. Repeated incidents of any behavior deemed to be rude or disruptive will result in that student 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!

Tips for success this semester:

1. Know your resources
 - [Tech services](#), [RWC](#), smarthinking, [counseling](#), [health services and psych services](#), Canvas Inbox, etc.
2. Understand that coursework for an online class is not "homework"
 - Plan to spend at least 8-10 hours a week doing the work.
 - Keep in mind that although an online class allows you more flexibility in when you complete the work, there is not less work than there is in an on-campus class.
 - Don't wait until the day an assignment is due to begin working on it. You won't have enough time.
 - Assignments in an online class include the work that you would be doing in a classroom setting. Therefore, it's necessary to complete everything. Missing an assignment is like missing a class (or two or more), and it will affect your success and your grade.
3. It takes longer than it takes
 - Whatever assignment you're working on will likely take longer than you thought because of technical glitches, uncertainty about the assignment, because it's college, not high school, etc.
4. Communicate, communicate, communicate
 - with me (If I don't know, I can't help you; I can't always say "yes," but I will consider requests, and I may have options you haven't thought of)
 - with our tutors, Hannah, Jann, Audrey, and Patty. (They love to help students and are very good at their job!)

- with your classmates; not only do they often have answers to your questions, but you'll feel less alone. Furthermore, you can help someone else with their questions, too, which can be surprisingly rewarding.
5. Have a plan
- Use whatever works for you to manage your time--reminders on your phone, a paper calendar, sticky notes, etc.--but you must do more than rely on your memory and hope for the best.

Important Dates:

Week 1: Monday, 1/9

- Spring 2023 semester begins

Week 2: Monday, 1/16

- Martin Luther King holiday; no classes

Week 2: Friday, 1/20

- Last day to drop with a full refund

Week 3 : Friday, 1/27:

- Last day to register for a Spring 2023 full-term class in person
- Last day to drop a Spring 2023 full-term class in person and avoid a "W"

Week 4: Sunday, 8/28

- Last day to drop a Spring 2023 full-term class online (via Self-Service) and avoid a "W"

Week 6/7: Friday, 2/17 – Monday, 2/20

- Presidents' Day holiday; no classes.

Week 9: Friday, 3/10

- Last day to drop and receive a "W"

Spring Break: Monday, 4/4 – Friday, 4/7 (after Week 12 and before Week 13)

Week 18: Monday-Friday

- Spring 2023 final exams week
 - English 1A-51297 and English 1A-51298 (Zebras) = Wednesday, May 17, 11:59 p.m.

| Course Assignments (subject to change) | Points Possible | % of Final Grade |
|--|-------------------|------------------|
| Project #1: <i>The Trials of Nina McCall</i> | 150 points | 15% |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annotated reading = 10 pts. 1st Draft (Essay 1.1) = 10 pts. 2nd Draft (Essay 1.2) = 10 pts. Smarthinking.com submission = 10 pts. Works Cited page = 10 pts. Final Draft (Essay 1.3) = 100 pts. | | |
| Project #2: <i>Necessary Lies</i> | 250 points | 25% |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annotated reading = 10 pts. In-class essay exam (Essay 2.1) = 50 pts. Smarthinking.com submission = 10 pts. Works Cited page = 10 pts. Second Draft (Essay 2.2) = 10 pts. Practice AB = 10 points Final Draft (Essay 2.3) = 150 pts. | | |
| Project #3: AB and RP | 400 points | 40% |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preliminary Annotated Bibliography (AB 1.1) = 50 pts. Final Annotated Bibliography (AB 1.2) = 100 pts. (subject to change) Research Paper (RP 1.3; 3 drafts required) = 300 pts. | | |
| Feedback Assignments (meet with me and/or a tutor and/or submit work to Smarthinking) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project #1 = 5 pts. Project #2 = 5 pts. Project #3 = 10 pts. Completion of all the above = additional 5 pts. | 25 points | 5% |
| Discussion Board Posts | 50 points | 5% |
| Quizzes and Miscellaneous Assignments | 50 points | 5% |
| Final Exam | 50 points | 5% |
| TOTAL | 975 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 I get this grade? What can I do to improve my 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: Do all of the work, check your grade on Canvas, re-read my comments on your papers, arrange to talk with me, talk to our class tutors, and meet via Zoom with a tutor from the Reading/Writing Center. In a nutshell, put your best effort in and communicate with me.**

The following are department-developed objectives and outcomes for all English 1A students:

Course Objectives

In the process of completing this course, students will:

1. Write multiple essays of at least 5000 words, including at least one research paper with documentation that includes:
 - 1.1 a sophisticated introduction, multiple body paragraphs, and conclusion.
 - 1.2 a clearly defined, arguable thesis sentence.
 - 1.3 supporting details that exhibit critical thinking and use credible secondary sources.
 - 1.4 correct usage of MLA format, including a Works Cited page.
 - 1.5 sentences which exhibit a command of the complex/compound with minimal comma splices, sentence fuses, and fragments, and which show a command of mechanics.
 - 1.6 controlled and sophisticated word choice.
 - 1.7 writing in the third person.
 - 1.8 an avoidance of logical fallacies.
 - 1.9 demonstration of an awareness of purpose and audience.
 - 1.10 appropriate and purposeful use of quotations.
 - 1.11 correct in-text citations.
 - 1.12 an annotated bibliography of multiple sources.
 - 1.13 a lack of intentional and unintentional plagiarism.
2. Write one or more organized, independently-written in-class essays with thesis and adequate support.
3. Read and understand college-level prose.

Course Outcomes

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

1. Write a documented, well-organized research paper of at least 1,500 words [approximately 6 pages] that demonstrates critical thinking and command of the English language.
2. Complete a timed essay independently in class.
3. Summarize and comprehend college-level prose (will include a full reading).

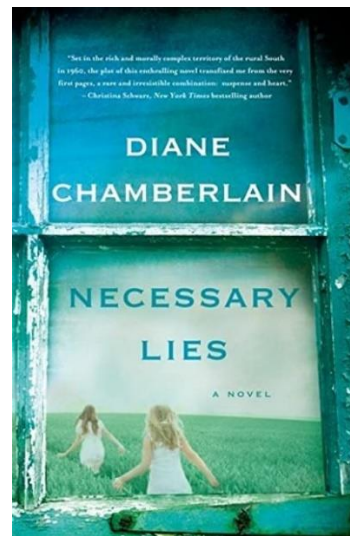
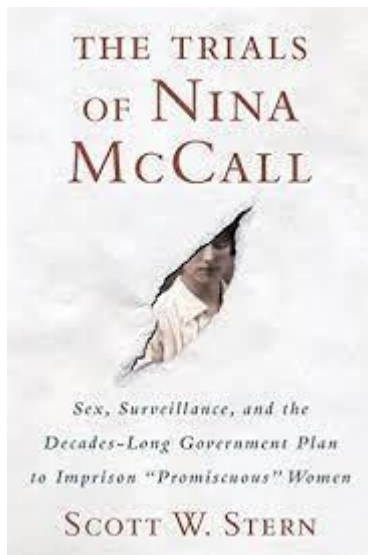
Course Outline

- A. Expository Essays and a Narrative-Descriptive Essay (at the instructor's discretion)
 1. Reading, discussion of models
 2. The writing process
 3. Thesis and support
 4. Paragraphing, topic sentence
 5. Introductions and conclusions
 6. Use of showing details to support assertions
 7. Editing for grammar, punctuation, and usage
- B. Planning, Developing, and Writing the Research Paper
 1. Library and Internet research
 2. Evaluation of sources for accuracy and reliability
 3. Evaluating and selecting evidence which supports a defensible thesis
 4. Summarizing with accuracy and academic respect
 5. Paraphrasing with attribution
 6. Use of quotation to develop, support, or refute an idea
 7. Planning, organizing, and outlining information and ideas
 8. Correct MLA documentation
 9. Completion of an annotated bibliography
 10. Reading discussions of arguments
 11. Reasoning, refuting opposition
 12. Avoiding fallacies
- C. Full-length work: Instructors should have students read a full-length novel, book, short stories or poems.
- D. Assignments based on the work will vary.
- F. In-class timed essay
 1. Planning and organizing ideas under pressure
 2. Composing quickly
 3. Editing independently and within given time
- G. College-level reading skills
 1. Analyzing/synthesizing
 2. Interpretation
 3. Evaluation
 4. Compare/contrast
 5. Drawing conclusions
 6. Distinguishing fact from inference
 7. Summarizing/paraphrasing

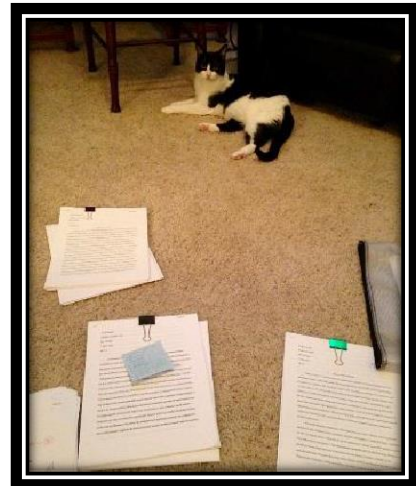
👉 Important points about the theme of the course and the book:

Throughout the semester, we will be reading, researching, and engaging in class discussions about eugenics, marginalized people, and the value (or lack of value) that society often places on certain people. You may have strong opinions about the topics we cover, and some students in the class may have personal experiences related to some of the ideas brought up in readings and discussions. Some students may find the topics too disturbing to read, talk, and write about and should therefore consider choosing a different class; and 2) students who remain in the class must be willing to be sensitive to other people in the class during class and online discussions.

Required Books (physical copies rather than digital copies are required)



Me



Hershey