**English 1A :Reading and Composition**

**Instructor: Mrs. Corinth Gibbs   
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**ABOUT OUR COURSE**

Welcome to class! This course is all about reading and writing. We will be doing a lot of both, in class and outside of class. I hope that you enjoy the texts that we use and that you actively participate on Canvas as well as in person. The more you participate the more enjoyable our time will be and it really is the best way to learn.

**REQUIRED TEXTS**

* The Norton Field Guide to Writing with readings and handbook, 6th edition.
* Solito by Javier Zamora

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

**Write multiple essays of at least 1,500 words, including one research paper with Works Cited.**

* Identifiable thesis
* Gather, analyze, and synthesize peer-reviewed sources and/or original research such as interviews, observations, or surveys
* Correct MLA formatting
* Reduce dependence on instructor’s guidance; show movement toward independently identifying errors in sentence structure, punctuation, and mechanics
* Ability to choose appropriate tone and academic voice with mature writing
* Identify and avoid logical fallacies
* Employ third person universal POV
* Appropriately employ quotations, carefully choosing valid and credible sources
* Develop an annotated bibliography for the research paper
* Avoid intentional and unintentional plagiarism

**Write an organized essay with thesis and adequate support within a class period.**

**Read and understand college level prose, including:**

* Summary and Response
* Name rhetorical devices such as irony, metaphor, parallelism in order to understand the author’s intent
* Answering questions from assigned reading, differentiating between author’s intent and personal reaction
* Describing, evaluating, and questioning the purpose, audience, organization, and style of assigned readings
* Arrange ideas in a multiple paragraph essay with topic sentences, support, and background details

**GRADING CATEGORIES**

Paper #1- 150 points

Paper #2- 150 points

Paper #3- 150 points

Paper #4- 150 points

In-class Essays (3) – 150 points

Writing Center Visits/Online Submissions- 150 points

Reading Responses- 100 points

Class Participation/Discussion- 200 points

Total- 1,200 points

Assignments and points may vary and grading scale adjusted accordingly.

**GRADING SCALE**

1000-900 points- A  
899-800 points- B  
799-700 points- C  
699-600 points- D  
559-0- F

**COMMUNICATION POLICY**

Regular communication is crucial. If you have any questions or concerns about the class, please do not hesitate to reach out to me for assistance. You have multiple ways to contact me:

• Email: Corinth.gibbs@reedleycollege.edu  
• Canvas inbox  
• Phone: (559) 349-8510, call or text  
• Q&A Board on Canvas

You can expect a response Monday – Friday within 24 hours. If you contact me over the weekend you can expect a response Monday morning. If you do not hear back from me within 24 hours you can assume that I did not receive your communication and please resend the email or try your call/text again.

**ATTENDANCE POLICY**

Attendance in this class is crucial. Your grade for “attendance" consists of both showing up to class each week, prepared with readings and assignments completed, as well as posting on Canvas when required. This means that you must participate in class and online as part of your attendance. Use of phones or computers during class must reflect the work we are doing. You will be marked absent if you are not engaged with your instructor, peers, and course content.

Students are expected to attend all sessions of classes in which they are enrolled. Excessive absence will jeopardize a student’s satisfactory progress in a class. Per the Reedley College catalogue, "Students may be dropped from class if they fail to attend the first class session of the semester. There are no institutionally approved excused absences for any reason. Only the instructor may excuse an absence. Absences caused by personal engagements, transportation delays and business affairs will not be excused, nor will absences from class to complete registration or add/drop activities. The faculty places strong emphasis on attendance in all classes. Students are expected to be in the classroom at the time the class begins. Instructors are required to take attendance at each class session. Any student who is excessively absent may be dropped from the class as specified in each class syllabus." Generally, a student who misses more than 2 weeks of school (5 or more class sessions) will be dropped from the class.

**DROP POLICY**

You are responsible for dropping this course on WebAdvisor and with the Admissions and Records office if you are no longer committed to meet the requirements. If you do not participate the first two weeks of the course, you will be automatically dropped from the class.

**LATE WORK POLICY**

Due dates for all assignments will be clearly communicated in advance and no late work will be accepted. They will be due by the time and date indicated in class and/or Canvas. To create a “fair, equitable learning context for all students,” assignments and essays must be done on time because they require feedback from not only the instructor, but peers as well.

Writing is a process and we build on what we do each week. Therefore, timeliness is vital in this class. In the event of emergencies or unavoidable circumstances, please contact me immediately so that other arrangements can be made.

**TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS**

* Fairly recent Mac or PC with current operating system
* Current browser (Firefox or Chrome, preferred), do not use Internet Explorer
* Internet connection

**TIME COMMITMENT AND RECOMMENDED SKILLS**

* **This class will take approximately 216 hours. 144 of which happen "outside of class."**
* Basic computer skills
* Basic internet skills

If you need assistance with any of the above, please see the provided links for student assistance or reach out to me as soon as possible.

**TIPS FOR SUCCESS**

* Expect to invest significant time for readings, responses, and class discussions.
* Block out time in your schedule to work on this course. See Late Work Policy for more information.
* This is a community and as such, we treat each other with kindness and respect and actively participate for the benefit of everyone.
* Have patience and a sense of humor with you peers, technology and most importantly me!
* Ask for help when you need it, and assist others when help is needed.