

Syllabus for: (name of class)	
Semester & Year:	Fall 2012
Course ID and Section Number:	English 1A E1683
Number of Credits/Units:	4
Day/Time:	MW10:45-12:50
Location:	
Instructor's Name:	David Holper
Contact Information:	Office location and hours: Life Science 100, TTH 9-11 am Phone: 476-4370 Email: david-holper@redwoods.edu
Course Description (catalog description as described in course outline): A transfer-level course in critical reading and reasoned writing. Students analyze issues and claims presented in visual, oral, or written arguments and write analytical and argumentative essays based on those issues. Research and source-based writing, employing correct MLA documentation, is required.	
Student Learning Outcomes (as described in course outline) :	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Analyze argumentative claims. 2. Respond to arguments with persuasive critical essays. 3. Locate, synthesize, and document sources for use in response to arguments. 4. Revise and edit for sentence structure and mechanics. 	
Special accommodations: College of the Redwoods complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. Please present your written accommodation request at least one week before the first test so that necessary arrangements can be made. No last-minute arrangements or post-test adjustments will be made. If you have a disability or believe you might benefit from disability related services and may need accommodations, please see me or contact Disabled Students Programs and Services. Students may make requests for alternative media by contacting DSPS.	
Academic Misconduct: Cheating, plagiarism, collusion, abuse of resource materials, computer misuse, fabrication or falsification, multiple submissions, complicity in academic misconduct, and/ or bearing false witness will not be tolerated. Violations will be dealt with according to the procedures and sanctions proscribed by the College of the Redwoods. Students caught plagiarizing or cheating on exams will receive an "F" in the course.	
The student code of conduct is available on the College of the Redwoods website at: http://www.redwoods.edu/District/Board/New/Chapter5/Ap5500.pdf	
College of the Redwoods is committed to equal opportunity in employment, admission to the college, and in the conduct of all of its programs and activities.	

English 1A, Environmental

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Life Sciences 100/Office Hours:

Writing Center Hours:

College of the Redwoods

SYLLABUS

COURSE DESCRIPTION: A transfer-level course in critical reading and reasoned writing. Students analyze issues and claims presented in visual, oral, or written arguments and write analytical and argumentative essays based on those issues. Research and source-based writing, employing correct MLA documentation, is required.

PREREQUISITE: English 150 with a C grade or better or assessment recommendation for English 1A.

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

5. Analyze argumentative claims.
6. Respond to arguments with persuasive critical essays.
7. Locate, synthesize, and document sources for use in response to arguments.
8. Revise and edit for sentence structure and mechanics.

COURSE CALENDAR

The weekly syllabus calendar will be posted on the course website on Friday afternoons.

REQUIRED TEXTS/MATERIALS:

- 1) *Bedford Handbook 8th Edition* (Do note that earlier editions don't work.)
- 2) *The Global Warming Reader*, edited by Bill McKibben
- 3) Class Booklet (for sale in the bookstore too)
- 4) Means of backup: Magic stick, CD, etc.

Required Materials (daily):

- 1) A binder (to hold class booklet, in-class writings and notes, and binder paper).
- 2) Pen, pencil, and hi-liter.

Suggested Reading:

Fast Food Nation by Eric Schlosser
River of Renewal by Stephen Most
The Tyranny of Oil by Antonia Juhasz
Zoom by Vijay Vaitheeswaran and Iain Carson
(See website for further suggestions)

Triad:

Name: _____ Contact info: _____

Name: _____ Contact info: _____

Welcome to English 1A! I'm excited to be your teacher, and I hope that each of us will enjoy and learn a great deal during this semester. This will be an intensive course because I will ask a lot of each one of you, but in return, I hope you will find this to be one of your most memorable writing classes. The primary goals of this course are to help you in preparing for a successful college transfer in English, particularly as it applies to writing, research, reading, and thinking. In order to do this, we will review mechanics and structure in essays; read essays in our text and respond to them in journals, discussions, and essays; and learn how to analyze various modes of writing. Beyond that--and perhaps more importantly--I want you to learn to write more powerfully, passionately, and naturally.

Your Instructor: Aside from being an English teacher, Dave has done a little of everything, including working as a taxi driver, fire fighter, cook, soldier, house painter, and teacher. He earned his BA in English at Humboldt State University in 1983, where he also studied journalism. After his graduation, he served for four years in the Army Military Intelligence Corps and went on to earn a Masters of Fine Arts in English at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, where he wrote a book of short stories. He has since taught at a variety of schools including College of the Redwoods.

Dave's Office: The office is located in Life Sciences, #100. If you're walking away from the Forum Building toward Creative Arts, Life Sciences is the next building past the old library. Please knock before entering. (Don't arm wrestle with a rattlesnake!)

Dave's Mailbox: The mailbox is in the 200 hallway of the Forum Building. The mailboxes are roughly halfway down the hall.

Classroom Rules:

- 1) Don't get up and go to the bathroom in the middle of the class, unless it is absolutely necessary.
- 2) Don't eat in class unless you're a diabetic.
- 3) Don't crinkle up paper when the writing isn't going well.
- 4) Don't come strolling in late or leave early; don't schedule appointments during class sessions.
- 5) Don't tell me you don't know what's going on in class when the syllabus calendar is already posted with the details of what we've done or what we're going to do.
- 6) Don't ask me for information that is available by reading the syllabus.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Required Essay Writing: three out-of-class, formal essays of 1000-2000 words. (Note: these essays will advance in point value from 50-100-200.) Each essay must include a prewrite and at least two drafts. Please save all work that goes into papers! In addition, we will have at least two scored timed essays using the University of California Subject A Format. These, too, will advance in value from 50-100 pts.

Draft Workshops: These are required. In order to make sure you understand how important these are, first drafts are worth 25 percent of the value of each paper. Thus, you cannot go higher than a "C" on a final draft of a paper if you have missed the Draft Workshop or come with no work at all. Absences are not acceptable on Draft Workshop days unless it is an emergency, and you have a written note from a doctor. It is not acceptable to bring handwritten drafts to draft workshops. Late paper coupons cannot be used to excuse late first drafts!

Plagiarism: If you copy someone else's work, and I catch you, you automatically will fail the course.

Turnitin.com: On all the out-of-class papers that we do, you'll be responsible to turn in your paper to the turnitin.com website, which helps all of us in insuring that all work done at the 1A level is original. This must be done before the paper is turned in to me; otherwise, you will receive zero points for the paper (until you do turn it in to turnitin.com). Then you'll need to return the graded paper to me (with the cover sheet signed). For your tardiness, you will receive half a grade off the final grade of the paper; however, if you revise the paper, you may void the penalty, as long as the paper is turned into turnitin.com when it's returned for a new grade. Directions for how to use turnitin.com can be found on the class website, along with a link that will take you to turnitin.com. The class ID# and password will be posted on our website for the first paper. (Once you've inputted the class ID# and password, you don't need to do it again.)

Paper Typing Format: All papers (and all drafts) will be typed. The format will always be the same: use MLA format as described in your Bedford Handbook in section 54a. (You'll find a sample paper in 54c.) I've also included a sample typed page behind the first paper assignment (in the class booklet), so you can see what the format looks like.

Automatic D's: If I ask for a four-page paper (at a minimum), and you give me three and 3/4 pages, I will give you an automatic D; in fact, I probably won't read it. Always go beyond the minimum to be safe.

Revisions: On papers one and two, you may revise your paper for a higher grade, if you're not satisfied with the grade you received. However, in order to take advantage of this revision, you must accomplish a significant revision, which means that once you receive your paper back from you, you should revise and clean up the draft. Then you are required to see a tutor and get his/her signature on the tutor sheet (you'll find this in the class booklet). Also note that a significant revision means more than simply correcting grammatical and mechanical errors: a significant revision often means rethinking, rearranging, expanding, adding, and rewording. You may not revise the last paper. Also, do note that you can void a turnitin.com penalty with a revision.

Make-up Quizzes/Tests: You may not make up grammar quizzes. With tests, if you're absent on the test day and you don't have a legitimate written excuse (a doctor's note, a note from the Student Health Center, a sports match for a CR team, or some other formal document), then you may make up the test, but you lose 25% of the grade for your absence. In other words, be there on test days.

Late Work/Freebies: You will be allowed one late final draft for this course; however, you may not use this on your last paper. There is a late paper coupon included in the course booklet, and it will serve as your cover sheet for your late paper. The freebie is good to turn in a paper one week late; that's seven days. As for excuses beyond the freebie date, unless it's an emergency, remember that I've heard better than you can imagine: quarantined for chicken pox, assault with a deadly weapon, AIDS test, etc. Papers that go beyond the deadline will lose a letter grade a day.

Emailing Work: Unless it's an emergency, I strongly discourage this, as it wastes my printer cartridges and encourages students to wait until the last minute to turn in work. However, if you're not able to meet with Dave for a conference, you may email the work to him as a Microsoft Word attachment, and he'll use the comment feature in Word to respond. Do note though that face-to-face conferences are superior to email comments.

Reading Quizzes: In order to improve our critical reading of essays this semester, occasionally we'll have reading quizzes and questions to answer on the material we've read. Reading quizzes will be open book and will typically be 5 pt. quizzes and will focus on key details, such as names, ideas, time frame, etc. Reading questions for the essays will be assigned out of the text.

Journal Assignments: In order to help you prepare for discussions and writing, with many of the readings we do, there will also be journal assignments. These will be graded for both content and length. The format is to put your name and journal # at the top (do not use MLA format) and then type one page double-spaced. You may go longer than a page, if you want. As for late journals, if for some reason you do miss turning in a journal at a class, it's due by the Friday of that week. If it's later than that, it will not receive points.

Grammar Quizzes: The grammar that we review in this class will be testable. Quizzes will be given in the first five minutes of class, so if you're late, you'll receive a zero (unless you've spoken with me about it in advance or it's an emergency.) These will be 5-10 pt. quizzes.

Grammar Presentations: Rather than bore you with grammar lectures, I am going to divide the class into groups of three and have each group present a 5-10 minute review of the grammatical point we'll be quizzing on. Your presentations should be interesting and/or funny. Presentations should definitely include handouts, overheads, etc. I encourage you to use Power Point, and you'll find links to two online tutorials on my website. Please do not write problems on the board, as it takes too long! Also, get together and practice your presentations so that they are interesting and fit the required time slot. Presentations are worth 20 possible pts.

The grammar presentations will be (from section #s in the Bedford Handbook):

Group 1: 32a-c

Group 2: 32d-f

Group 3: 32g-j

Group 4: 19

Group 5: 20

Group 6: 34

Group 7: 35

Group 8: 22

Group 9: 23

Group 10: 9

Class Participation: This class involves extensive reading, discussion, and writing. If you sit back and leave others to talk, you'll get a lot less out of the course. In the last week or two of the course, I'll ask you to do a self-evaluation on your participation. I'll use that, plus my own observations, to score you on your participation. The participation grade is worth 20 pts.

Attendance/Promptness: Students at the College are expected to attend all sessions of each class in which they are enrolled. For example, if a class meets twice a week, students should not exceed 4 absences for the semester. If a student exceeds the limit on absences before week 11 of the semester, an instructor will notify the student that he or she has been dropped. After that notification, students are still responsible to go into Web Advisor and withdraw themselves from the class, in order not to receive an F. After week 10, excessive absences will likely result in failure.

In addition, I strongly discourage your coming more than 10 minutes late or leaving more than 10 minutes without first clearing it with me. Such practices are disruptive for you and everyone else. If you do come late or leave early (more than 10 minutes) or unprepared that will count as 1/2 an absence.

If you miss a class, please remember, **it is your responsibility to find out from another student what you missed by calling someone on the phone list.**

Release from the Final: If you have a straight A at the end of week 15, I will release you from the final.

Your Portfolio: Please save all your work this semester so that you can verify your improvement, so that you're covered in case I accidentally do not record the grade, and so that you will be able to choose one essay to rewrite at the close of the semester.

Special accommodations: College of the Redwoods complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. Please present your written accommodation request at least one week before the first test so that necessary arrangements can be made. No last-minute arrangements or post-test adjustments will be made. If you have a disability or believe you might benefit from disability related services and may need accommodations, please see me or contact Disabled Students Programs and Services. Students may make requests for alternative media by contacting DSPS.

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Grading/Points:

- 350 pts. formal essays
- 150 pts. timed essays
- 100 pts. grammar quizzes
- 100 pts. miscellaneous quizzes, journals, etc.
- 20 pts. participation

Dave does not grade on a curve; he uses straight point tallies with 90 percent and above as a A, 80 to 89 percent as a B; 70-79 percent as a C; 60-69.5 percent as a D; work below this is usually so late or so poorly composed that is an obviously an F. In case where the grade is less than 1 percent difference between a higher or lower grade, it is the instructor's prerogative to round up or down.

Note: This syllabus may be modified during the course of the semester, as needed. If there are corrections or additions, these will be posted on the syllabus calendar, which can be found on the course website.