

Syllabus for: English 1A	
Semester & Year:	Summer 2013
Course ID and Section Number:	English 1A 3625
Number of Credits/Units:	4.0
Day/Time:	Monday through Thursday 11:00 to 1:10
Location:	CA 113
Instructor's Name:	Deborah Dixon
Contact Information:	Email: deborah-dixon@redwoods.edu
<p>Course Description: ENGL-1A Analytical Reading and Writing <i>(4 Units LEC) Grade Only/Prerequisite: ENGL-150/Transfers to: CSU and UC</i> English 1A is 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.</p>	
<p>Student Learning Outcomes (as described in course outline):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students must generate a minimum of three argumentative and/or analytical, documented essays; at least one of which must be researched and be approximately 2,000 words long. 2. Quizzes, exams, exercises, and/or writing assignments that test students' abilities to correct the following errors: review of the same grammar that a 150 class would cover and anything else the instructor wants to cover: Identifying independent and dependent clauses and phrases, Identifying subjects and verbs, Fragments/Comma splices/run-ons, Vague pronoun references, Pronoun agreement, Comma usage, Apostrophe usage, Semi-colons and colons, and Subject-verb agreement. 3. Quizzes, exams, exercises, and/or writing assignments that test students' abilities to correctly use the major conventions of MLA documentation and format: MLA overview, including a thorough coverage of introduction of how to use in-text citations, how to create a works cited page, how to write and integrate paraphrase, how to write and integrate summary, how to determine if a source is reliable or not, how to avoid plagiarism; and introduction to the use of the college's databases and other resources (both electronic and print). 4. Quizzes, exams, exercises, and/or writing assignments that test students' ability to comprehend, effectively annotate, and respond to sophisticated texts, including written arguments and journal articles. 	
<p>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.</p>	

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>

Welcome to English 1A

“The cure for boredom is curiosity. There is no cure for curiosity.” – Dorothy Parker

My goals are to welcome you to the community of writers and to put you at ease by demonstrating that good writing is not accomplished by inspired geniuses, but by people who are willing to work hard. You will examine your own thinking through writing and improve your writing through practice: writing rough drafts, sharing them with me and your peers, then revising, proofreading, and editing your drafts. Using this writing process, you will write essays in Standard Written English based on the modes of critical analysis and argumentation. Readings and discussions, as well as writing improve your critical thinking skills and enable you to explain and evaluate prose.

Required texts and materials: The required texts are the *Mercury Reader* (specifically for this class), *The Bedford Handbook* 8th ed. by Diana Hacker and Nancy Somers, and *How to Read a Paragraph: The Art of Close Reading* by Dr. Richard Paul and Dr. Linda Elder. In addition, access to a computer with Internet access, a word processing application, and a printer are required. You will also need a manila folder for turning in homework. All work must be typed. All work that is more than one page must be stapled. I will not accept pages that are not stapled.

Attendance: You are allowed three excused absences. If you are absent on the day that a rough draft or final draft is due, you must have medical or legal documentation; otherwise, your essay will be considered late and be graded down half a grade. Being late will be counted as half an absence, so two times late to class means you have one absence. If you are late on a day that an essay draft is due whether it is the rough draft or the final draft, your essay will be considered late too (unless you have a very good reason for being late). It is your responsibility to get any assignments and/or handouts given during your absence.

Common Courtesy: Common courtesy includes being civil to the instructor and classmates, being on time, not disrupting the class for any reason, having cell phones turned off or on vibrate, letting me know if you're a caretaker who may have to answer your cell phone during class, not eating or drinking in the classroom, except for water, returning to class on time after

break, and in general, being considerate of the instructor and the other students in the class. Inappropriate language, cursing, racial, ethnic, sexist, or heterosexist epithets will not be tolerated. Any deliberate disruption of the class will be grounds for your dismissal for that day and the following day. Further deliberate disruption will be grounds for your suspension and expulsion. Although the last two sentences may sound harsh, please keep in mind that someone has paid for the students to be in the class whether it's the students themselves who have paid, their parents, or California taxpayers. Someone has paid for the students in the class to be able to learn, and they can't learn if I have to stop class due to disruptive behavior.

Be Prepared: Being prepared means being on time for class, having done all the required reading and writing, having your textbook and papers with you, and being prepared to participate in small group or whole class discussions or other class activities.

Homework: I will not accept late homework unless you have an exceptionally good reason for not being able to do it. And please keep in mind that our ideas of exceptionally good reasons to not complete homework may differ. There is more information about homework on the first page of the class syllabus. Please read it.

Essays: All essays will be formatted in the Modern Language Association (MLA) style. Late essays lose a half grade for each class after they are due. For example, if your essay is due on a Monday, and you turn it in on Wednesday, I will grade the essay and then mark it down three half grades (it was late on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, even if you turn it in on Wednesday), so if the essay is a C+, it will be a C-, which is not a passing grade in English (English Department policy). If an essay is five days overdue, I will not accept it; the grade for it will be zero. You will have the opportunity to revise your final drafts of essays #1 and #2 for a higher grade. It's better to revise your drafts before the final draft is due. Correcting grammar, spelling, or punctuation is not considered revising; that is proofreading and editing. If you choose to revise your essay, but you do not significantly revise it, you will not receive a higher grade. Because of time constraints, you will not be allowed to revise essay #3 or the research essay. A grading rubric will be provided for your essays. You must submit the final draft of your essays to Turnitin.com, a website that checks for plagiarism, before the final draft is due. Failure to do so will result in a zero on that essay.

Responding to Writing: You will be sharing your writing with your classmates. Please consider everything you write in English 1A as public. Don't write anything for this class that you're not willing to have your classmates read and discuss. When responding to the writing of your peers, please be constructive and helpful.

Plagiarism: If you copy someone else's work and are caught doing so, you will receive an F for that essay. If the plagiarism is blatant, you may receive an F for the entire course and be sent to the college disciplinarian for counseling.

Grades

Essays-50%

Essay #1-15%

Essay #2-20%

Essay #3-20%

Research Essay-30%
In-class Essay-15%

Homework-30%

BH assignments and grammar assignments
12 paraphrase assignments
12 analyzing the essay assignments
12 Mercury Reader questions assignments
9 Research Log assignments

Exams and quizzes 20%

grammar quizzes
other quizzes
MLA exam
grammar exam

Now that you have read the course information carefully and completely, please don't forget or think that I've forgotten that you're here to learn, not because you already know everything. You may speak to me about grades you receive for course work after you have carefully checked your work against the rubric for essays or otherwise gone over your work to be sure that you need to speak to me.