

Syllabus for: English 150	
Semester & Year:	Fall 2013
Course ID and Section Number:	English 150 / E4052
Number of Credits/Units:	3.5
Day/Time:	Tues/Thurs 2:50 to 4:15
Location:	Hu 114
Instructor's Name:	Deborah Dixon
Contact Information:	Email: deborah-dixon@redwoods.edu
<p>Course Description: A course in the development of college-level reading, writing, and critical thinking skills, emphasizing basic argumentation. Students analyze ideas and structure in assigned readings and compose essays supporting arguable thesis statements. The lab component of the course is scheduled in the Writing Center, where students receive individualized instruction in critical reading, in the conventions of standard written English, and in all stages of the writing process. A course in the development of college-level reading, writing, and critical thinking skills, emphasizing basic argumentation. Students analyze ideas and structure in assigned readings and compose essays supporting arguable thesis statements. The lab component of the course is scheduled in the Writing Center, where students receive individualized instruction in critical reading, in the conventions of standard written English, and in all stages of the writing process.</p>	
<p>Student Learning Lecture Outcomes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop an effective, thesis-driven argument appropriate to an academic audience. 2. Critically read and respond to argumentative texts. 3. In a multi-stage process, incorporate feedback (from instructors and peers) in essay planning and drafting. 4. Apply basic grammar and punctuation rules, particularly those that address sentence boundaries. 	
<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 DSPPS.</p>	
<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.</p> <p>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</p>	

Texts and Materials

- Practical Argument, 2nd edition, by Kirsznner/Mandell
- Practical Mechanics (packet) by Susan Nordlof
- Grammar Exercises and other handouts downloaded and printed from MyCR
- 1 pocket folder for Compositions
- Highlighters—at least 2 colors, a set of four is even better
- Students in this class must be willing and able to register with and use Turnitin.com (an anti-plagiarism data base on the web)
- Class ID Password: dixon

Schedule

Assignments and in class exercises, and dates are subject to change.

Homework: do before class

August

- 27 Course introduction. Introduction to Critical Thinking.
- 29 *Log on to MyCr and review site. Read Introduction (PA 3-17).*
What is Argument? Bring PA text. Bring composition folder.

September

- 3 *Read Chapter 1 (PA 19-50). Read PA 661-668. Check into WC Register with Turnitin.com*
Begin PM work. Writing the Expository Paragraph.
- 5 *Homework due. Expository Paragraph, typed double-spaced, due. Print and bring Grammar*
Exercises (from MyCR). Making claims.
- 10 *Read Chapter 2 (PA 33-45, 48-49). Writing Argument.*
- 12 *Homework due. Read "Is College Worth the Money? (PA 28-50). Create a for/against matrix.*
In class work on Argument #1.
- 17 *Read Chapter 7 (189-211). Complete all prewriting. Outlining the Argument. Integrating*
Quotations.
- 19 *Homework due. Typed thesis and 2 body paragraphs due. Writing the Refutation, Introduction &*
Conclusion.
- 24 *Typed 5 paragraph essay due. Revision Workshop. **Unit test 1a.***
- 26 *Homework due. Analyzing visual arguments.*

October

- 1 *Read Chapter 8 (PA 275-283). Revise Argument #1 and get Writing Center conference.*
- 3 *Homework due. Using definitions in argument.*
- 8 ***Argument #1 due.** Topic Brainstorm for Argument #2.*
- 10 *Homework due. Choose topic, do readings. Come to class with Q@ Issue. Begin Argument #2.*
- 15 *Heuristics and Prewriting. In class argument analysis. **Unit test 1b.***

- 17 *Homework due.* Outline due. Understanding Cause & Effect.
- 22 Writing Summary and paraphrase.
- 24 *Homework due.* Writing Summary and paraphrase.
- 29 *Read Chapter 5. Argument #2 due.* Begin Argument #3. **Unit test 2a.**
- 31 *Homework due. Read articles for topic and answer questions.* Prewriting for Argument #3.

November

- 5 *Outline due.* In class work on Argument #3.
- 7 *Homework due.* Logic. **Unit test 2b.**
- 12 More about Logic.
- 14 *Homework due.* More about counterclaim and refutation.
- 19 **Argument #3 due.** Revision workshop. **Unit test 3a.**
- 21 *Homework due.* Revision workshop
- 26 Revision workshop: Revised draft due for peer review and editing.
- 28 Holiday

December

- 3 **Revised Paper due.** Read Chapter 4 (PA 89-102). Writing a Rhetorical Analysis.
- 5 *Read "Letter from Birmingham Jail" (PA 799-813)* Writing a Rhetorical Analysis.
Unit test 3b.

Final Exam Date _____ Time _____

NOTE: The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the schedule.

Class Policies

Please check your MyCR email regularly.

The English Department Attendance Policy: Attendance is mandatory. Since regular attendance is a critical factor in student success, students at the College of the Redwoods are expected to attend all session of each class in which they are enrolled. Census is June 25. If you are not actively participating (attending both class meetings and the writing center hours, turning in assignments) in the class as of that date, you will be dropped. If you are still enrolled after the census, you must continue to attend regularly. Students may not miss more than two weeks of class (in the 8 week summer session, each week = 2 weeks in the regular

semester). For instance, our class meets four days a week; therefore, any more than four absences for the semester would be considered “excessive.” If a student exceeds the limit on absences before July 18 of the semester, an instructor will notify the student that he or she has been dropped. After that date, excessive absences will likely result in failure. The last date to withdraw from a class is July 18th. Also please note, English 150 may only be repeated 3 times. Both failure and withdrawal count as attempts. If you are not here, you cannot learn. If you are absent, you are still responsible for all work that is assigned (check the syllabus).

MyCR: The materials for in class grammar review are posted on MyCR. You must download and print these pages for use in class. In addition, supplemental materials, information, handouts, are also posted on MyCR. Access MyCR by logging in with the first part of your CR email address [BBaggins111] and your birthday [011481]. This class, and all English classes, use the MLA format for papers. A template for this format is available on MyCR. Download this template and use it for all papers and homework.

Homework: All homework assignments must be typed, double-spaced in MLA format and due by the Thursday class of each week. **No late Homework will be accepted** without a legitimate excuse.

Make-up work and exams: It is your responsibility to contact me and arrange for a make-up test. All make-up tests must be completed within one week. If you miss more than 2 exams, no other make-ups will be given without a legal or medical documented excuse. If you do not take a make-up test that I have arranged for you, I will not offer you another.

Late Papers: There is a one-week grace period, after which you will need to negotiate with the instructor and a penalty may apply. I reserve the right to declare that an assignment has passed its usefulness.

Academic Decorum: Be early or on time for class. Come prepared. Take care of personal needs before class. Leaving and reentering the classroom is disruptive, distracting, and disrespectful to others. Please do not walk in front of me when I am talking. If you absolutely must leave briefly, wait until there is an appropriate, non-disruptive moment. If, for a legitimate reason, you must leave class early, you **MUST** discuss this with me **BEFORE** class. It is not okay simply to get up and leave the class room.

No eating in the classroom. Inappropriate language, cursing, racial, ethnic, sexist, or heterosexist epithets will not be tolerated. No talking is permitted during exams or quizzes. If you finish early, turn your exam paper over and read a book.

Turn off and put away your cell phones. Do not answer your phone or text in class. Do not leave class in order to answer your phone or text. This is inappropriate behavior. Using or accessing a cell phone during an exam will cause you to receive a zero for that exam. Student Conduct: 8. *Unauthorized use of cell phones, pagers, and other communication devices in all instructional areas and Library, including all labs and classrooms during instructional sessions* (2009-20210 Catalogue, page 133). After a verbal or written notice and giving the student an opportunity to respond, *any faculty member may, for good cause, order a student removed from his or her class for the day of the removal and the next class meeting* (Education Code 76032). Digital devices of any and all kinds are not permitted. Any type of disruption of the class and the learning process is not permitted.

Academic Honesty: Students are expected to observe the school policy on cheating and plagiarism. Plagiarism is the act of claiming another writer’s work or ideas as your own. Whenever you borrow an idea or a sentence from someone else, you must acknowledge the source. Not properly acknowledging a source is

a serious breach of academic conduct. Any student who submits as his or her own work the words or ideas of another writer will fail the assignment and possibly the course. Students are responsible for uploading the three formal essays to Turnitin.com—you can do this in the Writing Center or anywhere you have access to the Internet.

NOTE: The syllabus is a contract between instructor and student. If you choose to remain in this class, you are agreeing to abide by the class policies as outlined above.

Tools for Success

When you email me, be sure to write something on the subject line—English 150 is enough. Also be sure you sign your email since many people have email addresses that give no clue as to their identities.

Bring notebook, textbook, and highlighter pens to each class. Download and print the needed materials from MyCR for classroom use. I will not bring extra copies. Be on time. Refer to the syllabus regularly so that you always have the appropriate materials and completed assignments.

Notebooks: Keep your work organized and filed so that you can find your assignments easily. Keep the Syllabus in the front of your notebook and refer to it daily so that you know what assignments are due. Using a three-ring binder and keeping all work filed in your notebook will help keep you organized and facilitate your learning. Complete all assignments in a timely manner to ensure an effective learning experience. Keep all graded work until you receive your final grade.

Reading: Read the assignments in a timely and thorough manner. Do the assigned homework in a timely and thoughtful manner to optimize your learning process.

Writing: Start writing assignments immediately, giving yourself plenty of time to complete the entire writing process. Do each part of the assignment when it is due. Seek help when you need it. Although I accept late papers, you should always try to turn them in on time since we will begin the next paper immediately.

Writing Center: Complete the assigned exercises in Practical Mechanics BEFORE the grammar Unit Tests. Get help from writing instructors in the WC with any concepts you do not understand. Taking the grammar test without doing the homework is self-defeating. The completed exercises and score sheet are due at the beginning of class on the day of the test. I will assign credit for completed exercises while you take your test. This homework counts as part of your grammar grade. Complete your hours in the Writing Center weekly. If you get behind in your hours, it means extra time in the WC in subsequent weeks. Eventually, students reach the point where it is impossible to make up all the hours. Remember the Writing Center is all or nothing, pass or fail. 22.5 hours plus 3 writing conferences must be completed in order to get credit. The Writing Center component is worth 10% of your grade—this can make a significant difference to your final outcome.

Grading: In class essays and formal essays will be graded according to the Rubric For English 150 Essays, Record your grades on the Student Grade Sheet provided for you. Keep track of your progress. The instructor uses letter grades and grade points for all assignments:

A = 4.0 A- = 3.7 B+ = 3.3 B = 3.0 B- = 2.7 C+ = 2.3 C = 2.0 C- = 1.7 D = 1 F = 0

Grading Criteria

WRITING

Expository Paragraph	_____ 5%
3 Formal Arguments (4-5 pages each)	_____ 35%
Revised Essay	_____ 20%
Grammar	_____ 5%
6 unit tests, PM homework, in class exercises, editing and correction of essays	

CRITICAL THINKING & READING _____ 25%

WRITING CENTER ATTENDANCE (22.5 hours) _____ 10%

TOTAL _____ 100%