

Syllabus for: Critical Inquiry and Literature

Semester & Year:	Fall 2013
Course ID and Section Number:	English 1B Sections: E4036
Number of Credits/Units:	3
Day/Time:	E4036: Tuesday, Thursday 01:15PM - 02:40PM, Humanities Bldg, Room HU213
Instructor's Name:	David Holper
Contact Information:	Office location and hours: Humanities 114, office hours TBA 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) :

- ◆ Analyze and employ appeals (e.g. logical, emotional, faulty, etc.) in written texts.
- ◆ Write logical, well-developed, thesis-driven essays that respond to questions at issue raised by literary works.
- ◆ Locate, evaluate, use, and document evidence from primary and secondary sources (both electronic and print) to support, develop, or validate judgments.
- ◆ Identify and evaluate rhetorical and literary devices as representational and persuasive tools.

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 1B

Dave Holper: Office #: 707-476-4370

Email: david-holper@redwoods.edu

Website: http://www.redwoods.edu/departments/english/instructors/Holper/english_1b.htm

Office Hours in Humanities 114:

Writing Center Hours:

College of the Redwoods

SYLLABUS

“Whoever undertakes to create soon finds himself engaged in creating himself. Self-transformation and the transformation of others have constituted the radical interest of our century, whether in painting, psychiatry, or political action.” [Harold Rosenberg](#)

◆ **COURSE DESCRIPTION:** A course using literature as a basis for critical thinking and composition. Students analyze issues, problems, and situations represented in literature and develop effective short and long written arguments (6000 minimum word total) in support of an analysis. This course is designed for those students who seek to satisfy both the full year composition and the critical thinking transfer requirements.

◆ **COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

- ◆ Analyze and employ appeals (e.g. logical, emotional, faulty, etc.) in written texts.
 - ◆ Write logical, well-developed, thesis-driven essays that respond to questions at issue raised by literary works.
 - ◆ Locate, evaluate, use, and document evidence from primary and secondary sources (both electronic and print) to support, develop, or validate judgments.
 - ◆ Identify and evaluate rhetorical and literary devices as representational and persuasive tools.
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PREREQUISITE: English 1A with a C grade or better or assessment recommendation for English 1B

REQUIRED TEXTS/MATERIALS:

- 1) *Mountains Beyond Mountains* by Tracy Kidder
- 2) *Bedford Handbook 8th ed* (note: earlier editions don't work well for this course).
- 3) *Outliers* by Malcolm Gladwell
- 4) Class booklet (with a binder to hold it)

Required Materials (daily):

- 1) A binder (for the class booklet) and binder paper.
- 2) Pen, pencil, and hi-liter.
- 3) Some method of computer backup: flash drive or CD.

Suggested Addition:

½ credit of English 52 strongly recommended (for tutorial help)

Welcome to English 1B! 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 more memorable reading and 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 analysis of literature and critical thinking. Beyond that--and perhaps more importantly--I want you to learn to write more powerfully, passionately, and naturally.

Rules for Classroom Behavior:

- 1) Turn off your cell phone in class.
- 2) Put away your phone. No texting in class. If I see you with it out, you'll need to put it on my desk until the end of class. Or leave.
- 3) Don't get up and go to the bathroom in the middle of the class, unless it is absolutely necessary.
- 4) Don't eat in class unless you're a diabetic.
- 5) Don't crinkle up paper when the writing isn't going well.
- 6) Don't come strolling in late or leave early
- 7) Don't schedule appointments during class sessions.
- 8) 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.
- 9) Don't ask me for information that is available by reading the syllabus.

Your Instructor: Dave has done a little of everything, including 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 then 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 number of places before coming to CR in 1999. Currently he lives in Eureka with his wife and three children. He continues to write and publish both fiction and poetry.

Emergency Response: in the event of an earthquake, whether upstairs or downstairs, we will wait in the classroom (duck and cover under desks) until the shaking has stopped. Then if it's clear that the deck is sound, we will exit in an orderly way and walk to the front lawn above the old bus stop. We will not go down to the parking lot until it has been determined that there is no tsunami risk. Cell phone use is fine, but keep in mind that cell phone circuits often overload in an emergency.

Dave's Office: The office is in Humanities 114. Please knock before entering.

Dave's Mailbox: TBA

Formal Essay Writing: three out-of-class, formal essays of approximately four-five pages on assigned topics, the last of which will be the Research Paper, which will be six-ten pages, plus a bibliography. (Note: these essays will advance in point value from 50-100-200.) These essays will include an introduction with a thesis at the end, body paragraphs governed by topic sentences, and a conclusion. Thesis and topic sentences must be underlined. Each essay must include at least two drafts. Please save all work that goes into papers! All papers (and all drafts) will be typed. The format will always be the same: use MLA format as described in your *Bedford Handbook*.

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. Attendance is the only dependable way I have of (a) helping you improve your draft; and (b) protecting you against plagiarism. It is not acceptable to bring handwritten drafts to draft workshops. Late paper coupons cannot be used to excuse late first drafts! Also, excessively short drafts will not be credited for draft workshops.

Emailing Completed 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. However, if you cannot see me for a draft conference and want input, you can email me the work as an attachment. I'll comment using the "insert comment" feature in Microsoft Word, which will show up in your document as yellow text: when you roll your mouse onto the yellow, a text window will appear with my comment in it. Do note, however, that face-to-face conferences work better than email feedback.

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, 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, as there will not be time; thus, you should plan on drafting several times before it's due.

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. This is particularly important for the research paper: anything below the minimum will automatically receive a D. Always go beyond the minimum to be safe.

Reusing Texts: In order that you write about a range of material, you will not be able to write about an essay, book, story or poem twice, nor are you allowed to use the midterm story for a paper.

Late Work/Freebies: You will be allowed one late final draft for this course; however, you may not use this on your last paper, nor is it good on any first draft. There is a late coupon in your class 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. Again, this does not apply to the last paper we do.

Plagiarism: If you copy someone else's work, and I catch you, you automatically will fail the course. In addition, we will be using Turnitin.com for turning in an electronic copy of every paper to insure original work. Do note that I will give you a zero on a paper if it is not turned in to turnitin.com, so turn in the paper to the website before you turn it in to me. If you turn in the paper to me but do not have it in to turnitin.com, you'll lose five percent of the paper grade—and you'll still have to turn it in to turnitin.com. There is a link on our class website to turnitin.com, as well as directions on how to use it. I will supply you the class ID and password on the syllabus calendar before your first paper is due. I strongly recommend you write down your email address, your password, the class ID number, and class password on a printed copy of the directions, so you don't forget how to get into the system.

Required Reading: We'll read as much as we can understand and discuss during the semester, roughly two books, numerous short stories and essays.

PDFs and Printing: This semester the readings will be provided as PDFs or Word documents through the class web calendar. You'll need to find these documents, print them, and read and prepare for class.

Reading Quizzes and Exams: In order to improve our critical reading of the stories/ poems, as well as other material we cover in class this semester, we'll have quizzes and exams to test your knowledge and skills. Reading quizzes will typically be 5-10 pt. quizzes on the day following your reading assignment and will focus on character names, plot, setting, etc. If you come in late, you'll miss the reading quizzes, so do be on time. Longer exam format will be introduced as we cover this material. Also, do note that I'll drop your lowest quiz score for the semester (that's a quiz you took, not an absence). Absences for reading quizzes (other than the books) will earn a zero and may not be made up. If you have an extenuating circumstance (with written justification) for the absence(s), you can talk to Dave about it, and he will consider whether or not to let you make up the reading quiz(zes).

Make-up Quizzes/Tests: You may not make up reading quizzes. The low score (for a quiz you're present) will be dropped. With tests, if you're absent on the test day and you don't have a doctor's note or an accident report, 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. It will be your responsibility to contact me about arranging a makeup exam in the ASC section of the library. (Remember, you need a photo ID to use the ASC.)

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. Your responses will be written in paragraph format (with paragraphs of approximately one page). Be sure to start with a topic sentence and underline it. Remember, journals should be a minimum of one page double spaced. These journals are due at the next class; however, if you do miss a journal assignment, you may turn it in to my box no later than the Friday of that same week. Beyond that, the journals have no point value.

Attendance/Promptness: Students at the College are expected to attend all sessions of each class in which they are enrolled. Students may not miss more than two weeks of class. 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 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 ½ 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.

Before Census (Week 3): Be aware that if you've missed two classes and have not turned in work, your name will be cleared from the class roster following Thursday of Week 3 (Census Week). If you're in this boat and haven't talked to Dave yet about your situation, you should do so as soon as possible. It's fairly easy to be reinstated if you're accidentally dropped, but it's easier still to avoid being dropped in the first place. Also, if you're a DSPS student (or if you have a disability and need accommodations), please make sure to get over to the DSPS office, get the necessary paperwork, bring the paperwork to Dave and to the ASC, or you cannot be given accommodations for testing.

Study Groups: Right now, find two other people who are sitting near you and write down their names, phone numbers, and times available. This will be your immediate study group; however, do note that I encourage you to form other groups, as people form friendships or drop out of the course.

Name: _____ Phone: _____ Available: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____ Available: _____

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.

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

Grading/Points:

- 370 pts. formal essays
- 100 pts. final (timed essay)
- 90 pts. tests (short answer and written questions)
- 100 pts. reading quizzes
- 100 pts. journals
- 2.5 % of grade will consist of class participation

780 total points

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.

**Eng. 1B
Holper**

FREE LATE PAPER COUPON

Note: Don't turn this coupon in instead of a late paper; rather, turn it in as the cover sheet to your late paper. Also, please make sure it's filled out!

Name: _____

Paper: _____

Original Due Date: _____

Extended Due Date (only one week): _____