

Syllabus for: English 1A	
Semester & Year:	Spring 2014
Course ID and Section Number:	English 1A 4876
Number of Credits/Units:	4.0
Day/Time:	Monday, Wednesday, Friday 1:15 to 2:30
Location:	SS109
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* 9th 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 two-pocket folder for your compositions. 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.

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 February 3. 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. For instance, our class meets three days a week; therefore, any more than 6 absences for the semester would be considered “excessive.” If a student exceeds the limit on absences before April 4th, 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 April 4th. 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 grammar homework are posted on MyCR. You must download and print these pages and complete them before 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.

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 and put away, 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, 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. 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. For the most part, you must bring the Reader and the Handbook to each class. Keep a notebook, a 3-ring binder, with all completed and ongoing work, retain all handouts. Organize your notebook so that you can easily and quickly find materials needed for class work.

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. Late homework must be turned in by the next Monday. 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. In this class, the writing process is important. Your participation in each step of the process will improve the quality of your papers. Proof of the process must be included in your composition folder along with the final draft of your paper. It's better to **revise** your drafts before the final draft is due rather than after you have received a poor grade. However, you will have the opportunity to revise your final draft of essay #1 for a higher grade. 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	Essay #1	10%
	Essay #2	15%
	Research Essay	25%
	In-class Essay	10%
Homework	Reading Homework	10%
	9 Research Log assignments	10%
	Other in class exercises and activities	5%
Exams and quizzes		15%

Grading: The instructor uses letter grades and grade points for all assignments:

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

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.

Homework Assigned reading must be completed before class the day after the reading is assigned. With a few exceptions, Paraphrases will be due on Mondays, Eight Questions, on Wednesday, and *MR* Questions, on Friday. Check the syllabus to be sure when the reading assignments, grammar assignments, Research Log assignments and essay assignments are due. Finally, your answers to all the *HRP* Eight Questions and all the *MR* Questions must be written in complete sentences to receive credit for your homework. Please see me if you believe this requirement will be difficult for you.

Classwork Bring the *MR* and the *BH* to each class. The *HRP* will only be required in class in the first couple of weeks. You are required to keep a notebook for this class. A 3-ring binder is best since you must retain all completed and ongoing work as well as all handouts. I recommend section dividers for reading, grammar, essay assignments and for the research paper project. In addition, you will need a two-pocket folder for turning in compositions (the entire process plus the final draft must be turned in).

January

- 22** Course Introduction.
- 24** Read “Changing a Man’s Mind” (handout). Read *HRP* 1-19. Complete subjects, verbs, and prepositional phrases exercise #1 (download from MyCR).
- 27** Read *MR* 60-73, “The Crito” in *MR*. Be prepared to start the paraphrase in class. Complete subjects, verbs, and prepositional phrases exercise #2 (download from MyCR).
- 29** We will begin the eight questions on p. 54 of *HRP* in class, then you will complete them and type your answers to hand by Friday. Bring either *HRP* or download and print the 8Qs template from MyCR. Complete subjects, verbs, and prepositional phrases exercise #3 (Download from MyCR).
- 31** Complete *MR* 74 Answer Questions on Meaning 1-3 and Questions on Rhetorical Strategy and Style 1-3. To receive credit, your answers must be written in complete sentences. For example, the last part of question 3 under Questions on Rhetorical Strategy and Style asks, “Why is that definition important?” Instead of beginning your answer with “Because ...,” begin this way: “Plato’s definition is important because...” or answer in a similar manner that will result in a complete sentence. Please remember this requirement is for all the answers. Complete subjects, verbs, and prepositional phrases exercise #4 (Download from MyCR).

February

- 3** Read *MR* 90-110 “Civil Disobedience.” Use the close reading technique for this essay; it’s difficult. Typed paraphrasing of this essay due at the beginning of class. Complete subjects, verbs, and prepositional phrases exercise #5 (Download from MyCR).

- 5 Answer the eight questions on p. 54 of *HRP*. Complete subjects, verbs, and prepositional phrases exercise #6 (Download from MyCR).
- 7 *MR* 111 Answer Questions on Meaning 1-3 and Questions on Rhetorical Strategy and Style 1-3. Complete clause/phrase exercise #1 (Download from MyCR).
- 10 Five possible topics for Research Project due. Read *MR* 22-41 “Letter from Birmingham Jail.” Use the close reading technique for this essay; your typed paraphrases are due at the beginning of class. Complete clause/phrase exercise 2 (Download from MyCR).
MEET IN LRC 103.
- 12 Answer the eight questions on p. 54 of *HRP*. Complete clause/phrase exercise #3 (Download from MyCR).

14 & 17 Holiday

- 19 Research Project Topic Rationale due. *MR* 42 Answer Questions on Meaning 1-3 and Questions on Rhetorical Strategy and Style 1-3. Complete clause/phrase exercise #4 (Download from MyCR).
- 21 Complete clause/phrase exercise #5 (Download from MyCR).
- 24 Research Log #1 due. *BH*-Read 9-49. Complete clause/phrase exercise #6 (Download from MyCR).
- 26-28 Workshops on Essay #1.

March

- 3 Read *MR* 124-145 “The Biological Basis of Morality.” WARNING: This is probably the longest and most difficult essay in the *Mercury Reader*. DON’T WAIT to begin your homework! Use the close reading technique for this essay.
- 5 Answer the eight questions on p. 54 of *HRP*.
- 7 Essay #1 due (in composition folder with entire writing process). Don’t forget turnitin.com. *MR* p.146 Answer Questions on Meaning 1-3 and Questions on Rhetorical Strategy and Style 1-2.
- 10 Read *MR*, pp. 84-87 “Beauty.” Use the close reading technique for this essay. *MR* p. 88
MEET IN LRC 103.
- 12 Answer the eight questions on p. 54 of *HRP*.
- 14 Research Log #2 due. Answer Questions on Meaning 1-3 and Questions on Rhetorical Strategy and Style 1-2. Important Lesson on MLA today.

17-21 Spring Break

- 24** Research Log #3 due. Read *MR* 147-157 “Faustian Economics: Hell Hath No Limits.” Use the close reading technique for this essay.
- 26** Answer the eight questions on p. 54 of *HRP*
- 28** Research Log #4 due. *MR* p. 158 Answer Questions on Meaning 1-3 and Questions on Rhetorical Strategy and Style 1-3.

April

- 31** Choose topic for Essay #2. Read BH 141-74.
- 2 & 4** Research Log #5 due. Workshops on Essay #2, focusing on argument, counterclaim and refutation.
- 7** Read *MR* 76-81 “The Importance of Work.” Use the close reading technique for this essay. Review Essay #1 in preparation for revision work. Bring essay and process to class.
- 9** Research Log #6 due. Answer the eight questions on p. 54 of *HRP*.
- 11** Essay #2 due. *MR* p. 82 Answer Questions on Meaning 1-3 and Questions on Rhetorical Strategy and Style 1-3.
- 14** Research Log #7 due. Preparation for in class essay. Make sure you have completed all work on “The Importance of Work.” Bring to class.
- 16 & 18** In class essay on “The Importance of Work.” Research Log #8 and Revised Essay #1 due Friday.
- 21 through 25** Read BH 557-82. Research Log #9 due Monday. Workshops on writing the research paper. All logs must be completed by the 25th for credit.
- 28 through 2** Workshops and conferencing on Research Paper. Rough draft of Research Paper due on Monday.

May

- 5** Rough draft of Research Paper due for Peer Review.
- 7** Integrating Quotations Exam.
- 9** MLA Exam
- 12-16 Finals Week** Final In class Writing. Research Paper due.