

Syllabus for: English 1A	
Semester & Year:	Spring 2015
Course ID and Section Number:	English 1A 06832
Number of Credits/Units:	4.0
Day/Time:	Monday, Wednesday 2:50 to 4:55
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. 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. 	
<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>	
<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>	

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. 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, double-spaced. All work that is more than one page must be stapled. I will not accept pages that are not stapled.

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 sessions of each class in which they are enrolled. Census February 2. If you are not actively participating (attending class meetings and 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 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 4. 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).

Please check your MyCR email regularly.

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.

Classwork Bring the MR and the BH to each class. 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. We will practice many important skills during our in class workshops. Often, these activities will carry over from one class to the next. Sometimes, we will start the exercise in class, and you will finish it as homework. All of these exercises and activities counts as 10% of your overall grade, so keep track of them and turn them in.

Homework: The reading assignments are challenging, requiring extra effort for full comprehension. The writing assignments about the readings will help you develop reading strategies and critical thinking skills. The reading homework will form the foundation for the formal essays you will be writing. If you do not fully digest and understand the readings, you will have difficulty synthesizing them into your own analytical and argumentation writing. 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 for not completing homework may differ. Late homework must be turned in by the next Monday.

Essays: All essays must 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. Although you may be permitted to revise a disappointing essay, it's better to **revise** your drafts before the final draft is due rather than after you have received a poor grade. And revision of an essay will require a discussion with me and a plan for how you will improve the 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. In addition, you will need a two-pocket folder for turning in compositions (**the entire process plus the final draft must be turned in**).

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. Being even five minutes late for class may mean you have missed a quiz or important information on an assignment, or instruction for the activity of the day. 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.

Responding to Writing: You will, at times, 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%
	Rhetorical Analysis	10%
	Essay #2	15%
	Research Essay	25%
Homework	Reading Homework	10%
	9 Research Log assignments	10%
	Other in class exercises and activities	10%
Exams and quizzes		10%

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. If you wish to know what assignments you may be missing, turn in the grading sheet that accompanies this syllabus. The last week of class or after final grades have been posted it too late to wonder about missing assignments.

Emergency Procedures

Please review the campus evacuation sites, including the closest site to this classroom (posted by the exit of each room) and review www.redwoods.edu/safety.asp for information on campus Emergency Procedures.

During an evacuation:

- Be aware of all marked exits from your area and building. Know the routes from your work area to the nearest exits.
- Once outside, move to the nearest evacuation point outside your building.
- Keep streets and walkways clear for emergency vehicles and personnel.

- Do not leave campus, unless it has been deemed safe by the Incident Commander or campus authorities. (Be aware CR's lower parking lot and 101 frontage are within the Tsunami Zone).

RAVE – College of the Redwoods has implemented an emergency alert system. Everyone is entered already to receive a message at their CR email address. In the event of an emergency on campus, you can also elect to receive an alert through your personal email, and/or phones at your home, office, and cell. This emergency alert system will be available to all students, staff, and other interested parties. Registration is necessary in order to receive emergency alerts. Please go to <https://www.GetRave.com/login/Redwoods> and use the “Register” button on the top right portion of the registration page to create an account. During the registration process you can elect to add additional information, such as office phone, home phone, cell phone, and personal email. Please use your CR email address as your primary Registration Email. Your CR email address ends with “redwoods.edu.” We will test the system each semester to be sure that you are getting alerts at all of your destinations. Please contact Public Safety, [707-476-4112](tel:707-476-4112), security@redwoods.edu, if you have any questions.

English 1A/Dixon

Class Schedule for Spring 2015

MR= Mercury Reader
BH=Bedford Handbook

January

- 21 Course Introduction. Subjects, verbs, and prepositional phrases. Bring MR & BH. Close reading.
- 26 Read BH 109-19. Download and print the 8Qs template from MyCR. Complete subjects, verbs, and prepositional phrases exercise #2 (download from MyCR). Read “The Crito” (MR 60-73). Complete the Reading Comprehension assignment for “The Crito.”

- 28 Complete subjects, verbs, and prepositional phrases exercise #3 (Download from MyCR). 8 Questions due. Introduction to Integrating Quotations & Commentary. Introduction to the Elements of Argument.

February

- 2 IQ # 1 due. Complete subjects, verbs, and prepositional phrases exercise #4 (Download from MyCR). Read *MR* 90-110 “Civil Disobedience.” Complete the Reading Comprehension assignment.
- 4 Complete clause/phrase exercise #1 (Download from MyCR). Answer the eight questions about “Civil Disobedience.” IQ #2 due (download from MyCR).). How to Write a Summary.
- 9 MEET IN LRC 103. Four possible topics for Research Project due. Summary due.
- 11 Complete clause/phrase exercise #2 (Download from MyCR). Argument Analysis.

13-16 Holiday

- 18 Complete clause/phrase exercise #3 (Download from MyCR). Read *MR* 22-41 “Letter from Birmingham Jail” (*MR* 22-41). Complete the Reading Comprehension assignment Research Project Topic Rationale due. Download and print Punctuation Patterns from MyCR. Bring to class. Answer the eight questions about “Letter from Birmingham Jail.”
- 23 Complete clause/phrase exercise #4 (Download from MyCR). How to Write Synthesis.
- 25 Read *BH* 578-81. Research Log #1 due. Synthesis due. Begin Essay #1.

March

- 2 Read *BH* 515-53. Completed Prewriting due. Writing a thesis. Planning and Organizing Essay. Read *BH* 143-73. Writing the Introduction & Conclusion.
- 4 Read *BH* 582-95. Typed rough draft workshop. Bring typed draft to class.
- 9 **MEET IN LRC 103.** Bring questions for librarian. Essay #1 due in composition folder, with all drafts. Remember to [turnitin.com](https://www.turnitin.com).
- 11 Read “First Amendment Junkie” (*MR* 16-20). Assign Take-home Midterm: Rhetorical Analysis. Read *BH* 51-76. Important Lesson on MLA today.

Spring Break

- 23 Midterm due. 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! Complete Reading Comprehension assignment.
- 25 Answer the eight questions about “The Biological Basis of Morality.” Research Log #2 due. Introduction to Paraphrase.
- 30 Read “Faustian Economics: Hell Hath No Limits” (MR 147-157). Complete Reading Comprehension assignment. IQ#3 due (download from MyCR).

April

- 1 Answer the eight questions about “Faustian Economics: Hell Hath No Limits.” Research Log #3 due. Practice in Paraphrase.
- 6 Research Log #4 due. Begin Essay #2.
- 8 Thesis and planning for Essay #2. Counterclaim/refutation workshop. Research Log #5 due
- 13 Research Log #6 due. Typed rough draft workshop on Essay #2. MLA practice.
- 15 Essay #2 due. Research Log #7 due. Logic. MLA practice.
- 20 Research Log #8. MLA Practice.
- 22 Research Log #9 due. All logs must be completed by today in order to receive credit.
Begin Research Paper.
- 27 Planning the Research Paper. Organization and Coherence
- 29 Workshops on Research Paper: counterclaim and refutation. Typed Works Cited page due.

May

- 4 Typed rough draft of Research Paper due for Peer Review.
- 6 Integrating Quotations and MLA Exam. Optional: turn in Research paper.

Finals Week Monday May 11th 315-515 pm
Final In class Writing. Research Paper due.