

Course Information

Semester & Year: Fall 2021
Course ID & Section #: ENGL-1A-E1974
Instructor's name: Ms. Shannon Mondor (she/her/hers)
Day/Time: Monday and Wednesday from 2:45 pm to 4:50 pm
Location: Humanities Room 114
Number of units: 4

Instructor Contact Information

Office location: online
Office hours: Time to meet individually can be arranged as needed, either outside or on Zoom while the mask mandate is in effect. I will also be working regular hours as a faculty tutor through the Academic Support Center. Starting in Week 2 (August 30), I will be in the ASC space in the CR library from 10:30 am to noon every Monday and Wednesday. You are welcome to drop-in or make an appointment in advance, in person or on Zoom.
Phone number: N/A. Please contact me via email using the address below or through your Canvas inbox.
Email address: shannon-mondor@redwoods.edu

Catalog Description

This is an introductory course that offers instruction in expository and argumentative writing, close reading, cogent thinking, research strategies, information literacy, appropriate and effective use of language, and documentation.
--

Course Student Learning Outcomes *(from course outline of record)*

1. Demonstrate the capacity to read, analyze and evaluate non-fiction texts in support of academic inquiry and argumentation.
2. Utilize flexible strategies for writing expository and argumentative college-level essays.
3. Incorporate primary and secondary sources into essays using appropriate documentation format.

Accessibility

Students will have access to online course materials that comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and College of the Redwoods policies. Students who discover access issues with this class should contact the instructor.

College of the Redwoods is also committed to making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you have a disability or believe you might benefit from disability-related services and accommodations, please contact your instructor or [Disability Services and Programs for Students](#) (DSPS). Students may make requests for alternative media by contacting DSPS based on their campus location:

- Eureka: 707-476-4280, student services building, 1st floor
- Del Norte: 707-465-2324, main building near library
- Klamath-Trinity: 530-625-4821 Ext 103

Support for online learners during COVID-19

In response to COVID-19, College of the Redwoods moved the majority of its courses online to protect health and safety. As the faculty and students adjust to this change, clear communication about student needs will help everyone be successful. Please let me know about any specific challenges or technology limitations that might affect your participation in class. I want every student to thrive.

Admissions deadlines & enrollment policies

Fall 2021 Dates

- *Classes begin: 8/21/21*
- *Last day to add a class: 8/27/21*
- *Last day to drop without a W and receive a refund: 9/3/21*
- *Labor Day: 9/6/21 (all campuses closed)*
- *Census date: 9/7/21*
- *Last day to petition to file P/NP option: 12/17/21 (extended by order of Chancellor's Office)*
- *Veteran's Day (all campuses closed): 11/11/21*
- *Last day to petition to graduate or apply for certificate: 10/28/21*
- *Thanksgiving Break (no classes): 11/22/21 – 11/26/21 (campus closed 11/24-11/26)*
- *Last day for student-initiated W or faculty-initiated W(no refund): 10/29/21*
- *Final examinations: 12/11/21 – 12/17/21*
- *Semester ends: 12/17/21*
- *Grades available for transcript release: approximately 1/7/22 (viewable on WebAdvisor 1 day after instructor enters grade)*

Students who have experience extenuating circumstances can complete & submit the **Excused Withdrawal Petition** to request an Excused Withdrawal (EW) grade instead of the current Withdrawal (W) or non-passing (D, F & NP) grades. The EW Petition is available from the Admissions and Records Forms Webpage. Supporting documentation is required.

Evaluation & Grading Policy

There are no plus or minus grades in this class. Students must earn a final grade of 70 percent to pass the class. No Ds are awarded.

<u>Major Essay Grades and Final Course Grades</u>	<u>Point Values</u>
A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
F	0-69

Your final course grade includes all the required reading and writing assignments. Details about expectations and evaluation are provided later in the syllabus, and on Canvas in specific assignment directions and Weekly Announcements and Assignments pages.

- **Major Paper #1: Essay and Working Portfolio** based on *Between the World and Me* **15%**
- **Major Paper #2: Persuasive Research Project (Annotated Bibliography required)** based on *The Sum of Us* **25%**
- **Critical Reading, Writing, Discussion, and Engagement Practices** **60%**
(Includes all shorter formal and informal reading and writing assignments such as freewriting, MRLs, discussion posts, short formal analysis papers, peer review, participation, brainstorming, reflections, etc...)

English 1A: College Composition Mondor/Fall 2021

IDENTIFYING AND CONTACT INFORMATION:

- **Course meets:** (E1974) Monday and Wednesday from 2:45-4:50 pm, August 21 through December 8
- **Final Exam Time Slot:** Monday, December 13 from 3:15 to 5:15 pm in HU 114
- **Instructor:** Ms. Shannon Mondor (Pronouns: she/her/hers)
- **Email:** shannon-mondor@redwoods.edu
- **Office Hours:** Please email me with questions when they arise. I will be working as a faculty tutor through the Academic Support Center 3 hours a week, where you'll be able to find me each Monday and Wednesday from 10:30 to noon starting in Week 2 (August 30). You can drop in or make an appointment for up to 60 minutes in advance. I will be available on Zoom for ASC conferences as well. If these hours do not work with your schedule, I can hold individual conferences, in person outside or on Zoom.

REQUIRED TEXTS AND MATERIALS (All are available at the online CR Bookstore & Amazon.com):

Required Texts (See links to these books in Canvas):

- **Academic Writing Now: A Brief Guide for Busy Students**, David Starkey, Broadview Press, 2017, ISBN 978-1-55481-380-3. (About \$24 new. Please be sure you get the edition with the 2016 MLA updates.)
 - **Between the World and Me**, Ta-Nehisi Coates, Spiegel & Grau, 1st edition, July 14, 2015, ISBN 978-0-8129-9354-7. (About \$14 new.)
 - **The Sum of Us: What Racism Costs Everyone and How We Can Prosper Together**, Heather McGhee, One World, 2021, ISBN 978-0-52550-956-1. (About \$18 new hardcover.)
 - All other course texts, videos, and readings will be made available via Canvas or distributed in class.
- **Both *Between the World and Me* and *The Sum of Us* are available as e-books through the CR library for one student at a time to read; print copies of *Between the World and Me* are on reserve at the CR library and can be checked out for 2-hour time blocks.**

Required Materials and Attitude:

- **Daily access to a computer and the Internet** (Access Canvas *at minimum* three days each week.)
- **An active CR email account** that you check regularly for messages and announcements
- The ability to post/submit **Microsoft Word** compatible documents or .pdfs (**I can't open .pages files, and they don't work well with Canvas. Incorrect files will earn a zero and an invitation to resubmit assignments in a readable format. Future assignments that do not comply with required file types will earn a zero).
**Students can obtain a free [Office 365 license](#) (includes Word, Excel, PowerPoint and more) with a valid CR email. Please download this program in Week 1 if you need it.
- A **USB Flash drive** for archiving your work. Back up all your files in a few different ways and develop a good naming and organization system so you can find the appropriate files when needed.
- Dedicated chunks of **time** set aside in your weekly schedule/planner to devote to completing the work of our class—doing some work each day will help prevent you from feeling overwhelmed.
- A **growth mindset**, which will allow you to take risks, try new things, and stretch your abilities through experimentation, dedication, commitment, trial & error, feedback, and reflection. You can do this. I believe in you. You need to believe that you can succeed in this course as well, especially when it gets tough.
- Willingness to ask questions, offer insights and observations, think out loud, write in your books, share ideas still in process, and figure out where you stand on issues through class discussion and writing. **Be present and engaged.**

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OVERVIEW:

Students will develop and refine their abilities to read critically and to recognize and recreate the qualities of effective writing appropriate for the college level. Students will produce writing based on observation, experience, discussion, analysis of texts and readings (including videos), reflection, and research. Students will analyze and produce diverse genres, with attention to how reading and writing strategies and techniques may be used to achieve intended purposes in different rhetorical situations. Students will develop skills associated with the collaborative nature of writing and critique, which will include understanding writing as a recursive, rhetorical, and social process. Meta-cognition and reflection form the core elements of this course, since they deepen our insights and critical abilities with language. Active and informed participation of all students is essential to our work. Lectures will be scarce, so come prepared to engage, debate, think deeply, and discuss a variety of perspectives in this class. Ideally, students in this course should form a community of supportive, engaged writers who take responsibility for learning, who make appropriate and effective rhetorical choices, who compose strong, relevant arguments featuring analytic claims supported with credible evidence and intended rhetorical appeals, and who are committed to improving each other's writing and thinking. Your engagement and contributions are going to make this course what it is. Please don't plan to skate by, expect lectures from me that tell you what to think, or think lurking will allow you to succeed. Show up.

Our course theme for fall 2021:

Citizenship in America—What Racism Costs Everyone and How We Can Prosper Together

In this course, we will examine and write about race and citizenship in American life. Many recent tragic events highlight the disconnect between our nation's noble democratic ideals of equality and fairness and the lived experience of many of our citizens and residents, especially those who are poor and people of color. Race and racism remains a topic that concerns, interests, frustrates, unnerves, and even confuses many people in this country. Over one hundred and fifty years after the end of the Civil War (in 1865) and more than fifty years since the Civil Rights Movement made its major legislative achievements dismantling Jim Crow (in the early 1960s mostly), it is still exceptionally challenging for most Americans to talk about race: openly addressing issues involving race and deepening our understanding of racial inequality, its causes, and consequences makes many (white) people feel personally uncomfortable or threatened and potentially vulnerable to accusations of racism or prejudice. People of all colors feel anger, pain, resentment, guilt, shame, blame, confusion, or denial while thinking about issues of racial inequality, which only contributes to the silence and exaggerates the awkwardness of our often ill-informed attempts to talk about it. We need to get better at talking and writing about sensitive issues from an informed perspective. The course theme has been chosen to help us do that. This course theme has been my choice of focus for over 5 years now, and the brutal events of the past year have demonstrated how badly we need to improve our ability to discuss race.

The enduring legacies of both past and ongoing wrongs complicate how we each feel about who should be considered responsible or to blame, who has benefitted (and continues to), and what can and should be done to repair and rectify the inequalities, injustices, mutual mistrust, and continued pain and suffering Americans experience due to persisting systemic racism, unconscious and implicit bias, unearned privilege, micro-aggressions, and personal prejudices. Our course texts and our own experiences and backgrounds will help us have informed conversations on these crucially important current issues. This topic is an ideal focus in a

course devoted to analysis and critical thinking because there's such a pressing need to figure out where we stand and provide solid reasons for those positions. It's a ripe topic for academic inquiry and argumentation.

We will need to be gentle, kind, and respectful to each other as we examine these sensitive issues, but we will also need to push beyond our comfort zones to achieve new intellectual and empathetic insights. It is okay to feel uncomfortable as we navigate these conversations; that discomfort and uncertainty is an expected and important part of learning and challenging ourselves in new ways that will ultimately foster deeper compassion, awareness, and understandings of complex experiences regarding race, effects of social inequality, and mass incarceration. Taking risks can lead us all to valuable new insights, perspectives, and relationships, so I encourage you to be brave and participate as thoughtfully as possible. College is the place to hone these skills, where critical analysis and credible information is key to making and supporting sound arguments about issues that matter in our daily lives.

It is my hope that looking critically at how race functions in our current society (and how race intersects with other aspects of our identities, such as gender, class, sexuality, etc...) can help us better understand how to actively work for and promote the freedom, equality, integrity, and justice for all as promised in our country's founding documents. Analyzing persistent racial and social inequality, unconscious biases, conscious prejudices, micro-aggressions, and unexamined power dynamics together using critical academic, rhetorical, and intellectual inquiry can allow us to begin to know how to intervene positively in our daily personal, social, and institutional lives, should that be or become a goal.

Our inquiry this semester has very real consequences for ourselves and for our society. What we achieve on these fronts will largely depend on our individual and collective willingness to listen, learn, sit with discomfort, and confront our own experiences and preconceptions of what race means, what it does, and how it functions in our own lives and the wider world. I invite you to embrace what I expect will be a difficult and challenging process of questioning, learning, and discovery. There is room for each person to arrive at his or her own conclusions, and where each one of us ends up at the end of this semester will depend on where we're starting and how vulnerable and open we are willing to allow ourselves to be throughout this learning process as we interpret the arguments in our course texts and come to understand how the ideas conveyed by the authors connect to our own experiences and values and the country we want America to be.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

In college classes, for every hour spent in class, students should expect to spend a minimum of 2 hours working outside of class. For this 4-unit, 4-hour per week class, expect to spend **at least** 8 additional hours reading and writing to earn an average grade. That's a grand total of 12 hours each week devoted to this course work. Please dedicate enough time in your schedule to succeed in meeting the requirements. Earning excellent grades will likely involve investing more time and effort than the expected minimum.

Major assignments for English 1A include:

- Reading the 2 required books (*Between the World and Me* and *The Sum of Us: What Racism Costs Everyone and How We Can Prosper Together*) and using the 3rd book (*Academic Writing Now* or one of the free digital OER composition textbooks linked in Canvas) as support as needed for your writing projects. **The reading load is heavy and will range between 40-80 pages each week.
- (About 11) Metacognitive Reading Logs (MRLs)—notes of what you take away from your reading in a template to facilitate your understanding, retention, and ability to use the ideas in writing projects.

- (About 6) Reading Responses—(minimum 500 words) follow a template format of summary, rhetorical appeals, response, quote analysis. Posted to discussion boards.
- College Mindset & Intention Essay (500+ words) covering your educational history and current mindset
- Major Paper #1: 1250+ word essay & accompanying Working Portfolio (required process assignments) on a key lesson in *Between the World and Me*.
- Major Paper #2: 1250+ word Persuasive Research Project requiring a variety of genres (proposal, annotated bibliography, analytical paper featuring MLA style and a Works Cited) on a topic inspired by *The Sum of Us: What Racism Costs Everyone and How We Can Prosper Together*.
- Daily 10-minute focused freewriting sessions, plus other focused freewrites on assigned topics.
- Active, engaged, regular, thoughtful, and informed participation in class activities such as reading, taking notes, writing, reflecting, discussion, and research working alone, in pairs, and in small groups.
- 2 Peer Response Groups: participation in respectful, critical response to rough drafts in small groups.

Meeting Deadlines:

Due Dates for all assignments are in the semester assignment calendar, which will be distributed the first week of classes, and will also be available as a GoogleDoc on Canvas. **All assignments are due in properly formatted hard copy (paper) form at the beginning of class.** Most assignments prepared outside of class also need to be posted to the appropriate Canvas location (in that week's module and the assignments link) by 11:59 pm on the due date. Submitting work online by 11:59 pm will not substitute for bringing paper copies to class. While all the Canvas assignment reminders will have a default deadline of 11:59 pm, please bring your work to class each day so that it's available to use in class discussion. If you post work prior to the start of class, have a device available to access the electronic file during your independent and group work.

Though Canvas will mark assignments late if posted after 11:59, if they are submitted before the end of the next day, I will not consider them late or take away any points (you have a 24-hour grace period built in to submission deadlines). I do not want paper copies of any late assignments if there's a place to submit them online. It's easier to keep track of them if you submit them to Canvas.

All major papers must be posted to Canvas, where they will automatically be submitted to Turnitin.com as required by the English Department, in order to be eligible for a grade and feedback.

After the 24-hour grace period, missing deadlines could result in grading penalties or (once a week goes by), the inability to submit an assignment at all unless an extension has been granted in advance. Most assignments close to submissions one week after their due dates. Assignments not submitted by the end of the 24-hour grace period can lose anywhere from 10% to 100%. Assignments submitted more than one week after the due date or once the assignment submission window has been closed will not earn credit. Instructor feedback may not be provided on late work.

The late policy is a No Questions Asked (NQA) policy. You get an extra week to turn in almost any work (except for a rough draft of a major paper, peer review, or assignments due the final week of the semester), as long as you do 2 things: 1) Post a comment under where your assignment should be saying you'd like an extra week on the assignment. 2) Let me know in an email when you've posted the late assignment to Canvas. Also

include the assignment as an attachment to the email message. If the assignment is closed, and you have my permission to post your work anyway, add the file as an attachment in the comments section of that assignment, and let me know via email that you'd like me to grade your work.

Please communicate with me before due dates to request extensions or alternate due dates should the need arise. For students current on course work, occasional extensions may be provided beyond the one-week late policy. Such decisions will be at the discretion of the instructor and will be made on an individual basis.

Expectations—Stay on top of your work:

Because details of your homework and assignments will be explained and handed out in class when they are assigned, your **regular attendance is crucial** for success in the course and for understanding the expectations of individual assignments. Extensive independent reading and writing will be necessary for each class meeting, where you will often work individually or in small groups using the materials you've been asked to prepare. Often, you will generate or revise writing assignments during class using new techniques modeled for you. We will always discuss the reading assigned for each class. I expect you to have your own copy of the books, to write in your books, take notes while you read, have something to say or ask about the readings in class discussions, and to look up words and references you don't know yet or understand fully enough to help you really get what's going on in the reading. I also expect you to bring questions about what you want to understand more fully to your conversations with classmates and me. Coming to class prepared and having done active reading and reflection about the ideas that stand out to you is important. Doing this kind of work takes a tremendous amount of self-motivation and good organization skills. Build in accountability and a solid study schedule to keep yourself on track. Ask for help as soon as you need it.

Students are responsible for keeping up with the class, for being prepared, for knowing when things are due, for following the schedule and syllabus policies, for asking questions about things they don't understand, and for contributing to an energetic and respectful learning community. Your contributions will help create the vibe and community of our class. By enrolling in this section of English 1A, you are committing to meeting our course goals and must be willing to participate in the activities, assignments, and techniques involved. Don't just take up virtual space or check items off a to-do list: learn and grow. Put your stamp on our learning space.

Genuine learning often involves discomfort with new and unfamiliar ideas and processes—expect to think deeply about challenging, complex issues concerning racial inequality, citizenship, implicit bias, and colorblindness—none of which have simple answers. You must be willing to think and write critically about these topics. Expect to stretch your intellectual, human, and rhetorical capabilities. I will be pushing you into unfamiliar territory as a matter of intentional design. How much you learn and how much your writing, reading, and critical thinking improves will depend on the intensity of your commitment, your willingness to interact and collaborate with each other, and your engagement in academic inquiry and personal reflection.

Members of this class are expected to show basic respect and tolerance for each other, but it is my hope you come to recognize and enjoy each other's unique strengths, quirks, and gifts as things to celebrate. We will undoubtedly hold and explore different views, but that should not prevent us from listening to and learning from each other in a respectful space that can embrace a wide variety of equally good and diverse ideas. Figuring out where we stand on issues and why is a foundational element of this course, of college, and of life.

Please conduct yourself in a respectful, professional manner appropriate for a college classroom. Students whose behavior becomes disruptive or disrespectful will be asked to leave or removed. A college classroom has very different norms and expectations than open online forums where trolling and insults can take the place of respectful and reasonable discussions. Please focus on interrogating ideas, not people, and keep your attention on reason—credible claims and evidence—over emotions. Give yourself space and time to be sure what you want to say is kind, respectful, and clear, and express yourself in rational and reasonable ways. You have the power and responsibility to delete and/or edit your own posts in discussion forums so that they comply with this very important academic community expectation of respectful dialogue. In class discussions in person, things can get heated and intense at times, but please prioritize respect and give each other grace as you encounter new concepts and ideas or share and hear about sensitive experiences and insights.

The Working Portfolios for MP #1 and MP #2:

The first two major papers will go through a process using many smaller assignments that will act as building blocks for your rough drafts and final versions of the essays. Save all of your work at least two different ways, such as email, a USB flash drive, GoogleDocs (in the Gmail Drive), Canvas, your computer hard drive etc... to protect against losing important thinking and writing to technology and software glitches or power failures.

The Working Portfolio serves to guarantee the intellectual integrity of your work by providing a record of your writing process—your ideas, labor, and efforts developing each assignment specifically for this course. Your essays in this class will go through a scaffolded process, not just be a one-shot deal you jam out the night before something is due. Students who do not produce preliminary work that is part of the process of each essay cannot earn credit on a final draft of the essay. The rough drafts are a required component and they will earn partial credit if they are submitted late or on the same day as the revised drafts are due. Commit to revising writing over time as your thinking and understanding of each book develops and deepens.

Formal Assignment Format & Word Counts:

Formal assignments you attach as downloadable documents should be typed using a standard 12-point font (Times, Calibri) with one-inch margins. Single spaced paragraphs are fine, as long as you skip a line between each paragraph to provide white space. Use a single-spaced heading that includes your name, the instructor's name, the course number, the assignment, the date, **and the word count**. Please type this heading on the **left side** of the first page of every assignment you attach. The heading does not need to be inside a header.

Example Heading: Student Name
 Ms. Shannon Mondor
 English 1A
 Reading Response #4—Coates, Part 2
 September 9, 2021
 Word Count: 523

Informal assignments that you complete in class do not need this special heading, but **most assignments do need to feature a word count**. Don't waste time counting the words yourself. Find the feature in your word processing program that tells you how many words are in your document.

Please include word counts for all assignments that provide a required minimum. Include the word count as part of the header on any assignment where I designate a word count. You can exceed the minimum requirements in all cases because it is meant to be a guideline not an exact length requirement, but stick to a reasonable range so that you don't ever submit more than twice the required minimum without first consulting me.

How this class works—face to face with Canvas playing back-up support

Our Canvas part of the course will be organized by weekly modules where you will be able to read explanations of your assignments, post assignments, participate in discussions, access copies of documents, and explore additional resources and links related to our course material. As each week passes, I will move that module to the bottom of all the modules, so that the current module is the first thing you see.

This face-to-face course is organized so that it's synchronous. We meet in person for two hours at a pop every Monday and Wednesday of the semester. This design is what everyone would have described as normal prior to March of 2020. But then we all had to retreat to our houses and go online for a year and a half... I will have extensive back up material on Canvas because that's the way I have always taught and because who knows what this semester is going to throw at us given the recent spike in the Delta variant of Covid-19. We're still figuring out how to conduct life amidst a raging global pandemic. Even though I have been vaccinated, there may be viable reasons why some folks in the classroom have not chosen that free, safe option. There are breakthrough cases where people are testing positive even though they have been vaccinated. Basically, any or all of us might get sick ourselves, or have a loved one who gets sick and needs us to be a caregiver. I want to be as flexible as possible this semester given that absences might be necessary to protect the health and safety of everyone enrolled in this class. However, please don't abuse this built-in flexibility by flaking on attendance or assignments. We are committing to be together, live, in person, twice a week. That time and space is golden, special, and demands a lot from each one of us, particularly me. Please do not have me show up to an empty classroom after working my tail off to make this an incredible in-person learning experience.

In addition to meeting with you twice a week for class, I will read and respond to email almost every day before noon. I will also check periodically throughout the day at other times to answer your questions as soon as possible to help facilitate your progress on assignments. Questions that come in a panic late at night will not likely get answers before your deadlines, so please plan ahead and leave time for communication to happen. I don't plan to be available to answer questions after 5 PM. But do send me questions when you have them. I'll wake up and answer your questions in the order I've received them in.

Every week, from the very first week, plan to spend 1-2 hours on this course each day: expect to read and take notes on what you're reading every day, freewrite and complete work and written assignments on Sunday and Tuesday, submit all work that's due each Monday and Wednesday in class and on Canvas. It's a lot

of work, but taking a 4-unit course means you'll need to be doing something pretty important related to this course essentially every day. It's not a sprint; it's a marathon. Slow and steady is key. Do your best to keep up.

I will update grades regularly to allow you to keep track of your own progress. I use rubrics for most assignments. Reading the rubric grading categories and descriptions while producing your work will help you focus on what's important and be sure you cover requirements. Zeroes will damage your grade severely. It is always better to submit some work than skip entire assignments. I will generally grade shorter assignments within a week. Essays will generally take me about two weeks to grade and provide feedback on.

Preferred Name in Canvas:

Students have the ability to have an alternate first name and pronouns to appear in Canvas. Contact [Admissions & Records](#) to request a change to your preferred first name and pronoun. Your Preferred Name will only be listed in Canvas. It does not change your legal name in our records. See the [Student Information Update form](#).

Canvas Information

Log into Canvas at <https://redwoods.instructure.com>

Password is your 8-digit birth date

For tech help, email its@redwoods.edu or call 707-476-4160

Canvas Help for students: <https://www.redwoods.edu/online/Help-Student>

Canvas online orientation workshop: <https://www.redwoods.edu/online/Home/Student-Resources/Canvas-Resources>

Power Outage/Internet Outage Situations:

PG&E could potentially have planned or rotating power outages at some point in our semester together. Of course, if there's no power, there's no online part of the class, but f2f plans will remain in place. Our work is still going to chug along in basically the same order as planned, even if we have to adjust the pace or deadlines because of lack of power. I do not have Internet access when the power is out. That's likely the case for most of you. Try not to get stressed at these times and be assured that I am a flexible human being who wants people to succeed and not face negative consequences for events that are out of our control. But don't slack.

When the CR Internet or main website is out, I tend to still have Internet (as do other people using Suddenlink). Bookmark the direct link to Canvas so that you don't need to get there through the CR website (it's the address in the box at the top of your screen when you're in our course). I plan to be somewhat flexible with this issue, within reason. Don't use it as an excuse to avoid work or procrastinate. Keep in touch as possible to alert me of your situation if you're in special circumstances that prevent you from keeping up.

Grading Policy and Criteria:

This class does not have plus or minus grades. Students must earn a final grade of 70 percent to pass the class. No Ds are awarded for this section of English 1A.

Major Paper Grades and Final Course Grades	Point Values
A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79

Your final course grade includes all the required reading and writing assignments in the three categories below. Details about individual assignments, expectations, and procedures are provided in individual assignment directions and Weekly Instructions and Information pages on Canvas.

- **Major Essay #1 Working Portfolio** based on *Between the World and Me* **15%**
- **Major Essay #2: Persuasive Research Project (Annotated Bibliography required)** **25%**
- **Critical Reading, Writing, Discussion, and Engagement Practices** **60%**
 (This grade category contains all shorter formal and informal reading and writing assignments such as freewriting, metacognitive reading logs (MRLs), Reading responses (RRs), participation, In-class writing (ICWs), freewrites, discussion posts, peer review, brainstorming, reflections, and class activities, etc...)

Participation Requirements aka Engagement & ICW Points

Students must appear live, in person on day 1 (or contact the instructor if it is not possible) on Monday, August 21 to confirm a space in the course.

I will take attendance at every class meeting. If you are absent, make arrangements to submit your work on time, either electronically to Canvas or by sending work with another student. Email me to keep me informed. It's not necessary to tell me why you're absent, just that you're going to be missing class and when you plan to return. Also, make contacts and exchange information with a few classmates so that you can find out about any new work assigned or changes in the schedule before returning to class to avoid missing assignments or falling behind. If you anticipate needing to miss a lot of classes, for whatever reason, please consider registering for an online section of this class. You need to be present regularly to accomplish our goals. Students who go missing and do not submit work for more than two weeks without contacting me may be dropped for non-participation, especially if it occurs before week 10 and your efforts have been spotty or sporadic up until that point. Communicate any planned extended absence from course participation or assignment submission in advance of your absence from the course. I don't need details or a justification, just a date you plan to return and resume your work.

Chronic lack of preparedness or a pattern of not completing or submitting work on time will reduce your progress and achievement substantially. Being ready to submit and share your work on time, with the reading done carefully and your writing assignments complete, is a crucial aspect of being successful in this course.

This is not an online class you can do independently and on your own schedule. This section of English 1A is a traditional face to face class, not a self-paced/independent study class. The activities we'll be doing—discussing readings and sharing drafts of writing assignments with each other—depend on interaction with your classmates. To make this work, you will be expected to attend most class sessions and engage with the course several times each week. Assignments that other people (your peers) depend on you for will not earn credit if submitted late. So be mindful of others counting on you to show up and do your part so that they can do theirs in our learning community. If you have to be absent from class, it's on you to figure out what's going down and keep up with us as well as post your work to Canvas. Find a buddy for help with this.

Participation is evaluated as part of your course grade through two main informal activities: independent freewriting on your choice of prompts about the readings and in-class independent and small group activities. There will be many opportunities to work in pairs or small groups where you have a task but also some freedom to ask each other questions, share observations, work through tough parts of a text, figure out what a quote means, etc...The point of these activities is not to try to sound smart or outperform each other, but to discuss, explore, wonder, critique, and help each other figure things out. There is no pressure to have it all understood yet, just to participate and generate meaning and ideas together. Having genuine conversations about what you're reading and how you're reacting to it, and offering ideas as they come to you, will help you earn engagement points each day as well as generate good ideas and evidence for your writing assignments.

- **Informal In-class Activities:**

Class will typically involve individual, partner, or small group work and activities involving reading, discussing, and writing. All of these activities are designed to help students gain skills needed to be successful in meeting the class outcomes; to become stronger in their self-advocacy, confidence, and independent learning; to engage in inquiry; to become better at collaborative learning; and to improve habits of the mind and behaviors used by effective and successful college students. Embracing these activities and being prepared to do so in a way that leads to the intended learning, production, and sharing of ideas will help determine the number of engagement points you earn out of 3 each day. If you're absent, you miss out on these points.

- **Daily In-class Writing (ICW):**

The first 10 minutes of class will usually involve students writing in response to a prompt. The classroom door will be closed during this time to avoid interruption of our concentration and focus. If you arrive late, I will let you in after the ICW is complete, and you will not earn points for the ICW that day. Please do everything in your power to arrive on time each day. These points can be made up by completing the ICW on your own time and submitting the work to Canvas as an attachment to a comment in the assignment for participation.

- **Participation, Preparedness, and Persistence:**

Unlike in high school, where you may not have needed to work much outside of class time to produce strong enough work to pass, this class has high expectations and will require extensive time outside of class to be successful. Not everything will be easy or fun, but every activity and assignment has a purpose designed to help you improve. None of it is busy work. With time, I hope you will come to see learning challenges as fun, and meeting them as deeply satisfying. Learning is power. Every day, you should arrive on time, having done the homework, read the assigned pages, written and printed the required materials, and after all of that, be ready to talk about the ideas in the texts and in your head, connecting them to your experiences. Persistence is hanging in there through all of the tough spots, not giving up when you feel like it's too hard, asking for help when you know you need it, and pushing through obstacles and challenges, understanding that coming out the other side of them will mean you are growing, learning, and making something valuable happen from the time you invest in our course. These attitudes and behaviors are what separate success and failure in college, so make it your goal to practice them like you've never done before. Doing a little work each day will help you keep on track.

Earning engagement and ICW points: Participation/engagement is evaluated as part of your course grade on a daily basis by earning up to three points for each class meeting. To earn 3 points, a student must arrive on time, fully prepared with any assignments due printed out and properly formatted, having read and thought about assigned reading or writing, and contribute in positive ways to the class discussion, activities, and community. Deviation from full punctuality, preparedness, or positive contributions will result in fewer points,

as will negative types of participation such as having side conversations, or being on the phone or off task. Participation points cannot be made up or earned in any way except by being present, prepared, and participating during regularly scheduled class times.

Two points each day are earned by completing the in-class writing activity (ICW) that occurs during the first 10 minutes of each class. If you're absent, you can do the ICW on your own time and submit them to Canvas for credit. ICW assignments close for submission at the end of every weekly module.

Other Important Matters:

Unplug: Please leave your personal electronic equipment turned **OFF and out of sight** while this class is in session—unless you are using devices to enhance your learning or success in the course. Texting is not allowed in this class. Neither is listening to music, unless I indicate students can do so if they choose during a specific activity. Please remove headphones or earbuds during class. Disrespecting this policy may result in a request to surrender your phone for allowing dependence on technology to distract from or interfere with our work together. Repeated problems with this issue may result in me asking you to give up your phone to an empty desk or to leave class. Focusing on the tasks at hand is crucial for success; cell phones tend to be a huge distraction for the user and everyone else. Please avoid that common pitfall. We are in a unique situation where after having to shelter in place and squirrel away from Covid-19 for a year and a half, we have beautiful two-hour chunks of time to spend with each other twice a week. Let's focus on each other, not social media.

Write for a Public Audience: All graded writing done for this course should be of a public nature, meaning that you should feel comfortable sharing it with your peers, the instructor, and a wider public audience. Expect your writing to be read and responded to in diverse ways by a variety of readers. The instructor is not the only person who will read your work in this class. Your peers are an important audience and source of feedback on your work. You can tell who can see your electronically submitted assignments by paying attention to the icons in Canvas. Anything you post to a "discussion" can be viewed by other students. Unless you stipulate otherwise, I may use work produced in this class for professional purposes (as anonymous examples for future students or in conference presentations).

Get Connected: If you have questions or comments about the course, please share them with me. If you send an email, identify yourself by your name and the class section you are in and provide a context for your question or message so that I have enough information to give you a solid answer. Email is the best way to communicate with me. I check it daily. I'm usually thrilled to see questions from students. To me, that means you're taking things seriously and have the desire to do well and know how to ask for the kind of help and support that can facilitate your success and development as a writer and critical thinker. It may take me up to 24 hours to respond, especially if your question is complex or if I'm offline for the day, so please be patient. Please make it a habit to follow professional Netiquette in our electronic communications.

I am open to negotiate *some* course policies and due dates, but you must communicate with me in a timely manner in order for that to happen. Asking for extensions or different arrangements in advance is always better than missing deadlines and trying to get back up to speed. It's very tricky to complete worked you've

missed and also keep up with current work coming your way. Most of the time, I will suggest leaving the missed assignments behind so you can concentrate fully on what's ahead of you.

Stay Connected: Check Canvas regularly. Activate your CR email account and check it several times each week, including the days we don't have class. Set up notifications in Canvas so that they work for you and give you just the right amount of information about who is posting and what needs to be done. Don't hesitate to send an email whenever you have a question. I don't want confusion or lack of clarity to slow you down or keep you from producing your best work. Also, seek connections with your peers! They are in this with you, and communicating outside of formal channels or assignments can be really helpful. You can email anyone or everyone in the class by using the Canvas Inbox. Forming your own informal online or f2f study groups might be a lifeline and provide important accountability. You can even Zoom together without me around!

Please write down the contact information of three classmates, in case you need to find out what happened in class—or add them right into your cell phone contacts, if you're comfortable with that. You can also email peers using the Canvas Inbox—email addresses are already there for all students in our section.

Name:

Phone:

Email:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Academic Honesty: Please do not cheat or submit work that's not yours.

Turning in work you did not produce will not help you grow intellectually, nor will it satisfy the requirements of the course. Any student who submits work that is not his or her own or that has not been written expressly and exclusively for this course will fail the assignment. Do not find existing writing online and copy and paste these words or ideas into your own work. Do not submit assignments that your friends produced for their English classes. Do not submit work you wrote last semester for another class. Do not submit identical work as someone else from this class.

I will not award points or credit to work that's not yours or to work that's already earned you credit for another course. If it happens, you earn a zero on the assignment. Depending on the severity of the offense, you could ultimately face more serious disciplinary action from the college—sometimes people get expelled from college for plagiarizing. It's serious business. You may be referred to the Behavior Intervention Team if the problem persists. I also may regrade your other course work if any assignments are verified as plagiarized to be sure it's all your own original writing created for our course assignments.

Learning how to blend others' voices into your own work is an important academic skill that you will use in this course and throughout your academic and professional careers. We will devote class time to proper MLA documentation and citation of sources so that you develop confidence in these skills. Ask me if you're unsure

of how to bring ideas into your writing in a way that is credible and responsible. I'm happy to help you become good at this part of writing in the academic world.

****Sources included in your writing must be documented, whether sources have been required as part of the assignment directions or not. Be responsible. Have integrity. My brain is unique in that I remember extremely well what I read. I always know when I see a string of words again that I've already seen in print. It's not exactly a super power, but it does make me upset and disappointed when quotation marks are missing where I know they should be or when a student is pretending to give me their own ideas in writing but those ideas were actually written or published by someone else.**

www.Turnitin.com: Each major paper will be automatically sent to Turnitin.com, which is a website that vets your work for authenticity and plagiarism. This service will identify where outside words have been used in your work as well as links to the original websites, whether cited properly or not. Don't be afraid of this tool. I can often tell when another voice enters your work without its assistance, as I read the work you produce all semester long. You will have a style and consistent voice that sounds like you—not like professional or published writers who have analyzed our course texts. Do your best to think for yourself. Don't cave to pressure or try to find something brilliant online. I am most interested in hearing what you think and how you interpret and relate to the course material. There is no substitute for that.

Final Exam Policy / Plans:

Our scheduled final exam slot is on Monday, December 13 from 3:15 to 5:15. There will not be an actual exam to take, but instead your final reflection paper (MP #3) and other final work for the course will be due. No work will be accepted for credit after 11:59 PM on Wednesday, December 15.

Institutional Policies and Support Services: CR is here to help in so many ways. Use these free services!

[Student Support Services](#)

The following online resources are available to support your success as a student:

- [CR-Online](#) (Comprehensive information for online students)
- [Library Articles & Databases](#)
- [Canvas help and tutorials](#)
- [Online Student Handbook](#)

[Counseling and Advising](#) offers academic support and includes academic advising and educational planning

Learning Resource Center includes the following resources for students

- [Academic Support Center](#) for instructional support, tutoring, learning resources, and proctored exams.
- [Library Services](#) to promote information literacy and provide organized information resources.
- Multicultural & Diversity Center
- Math Lab & Drop-in Writing Center via the Academic Support Center (through Zoom)

Special programs are also available for eligible students include

- [Extended Opportunity Programs & Services \(EOPS\)](#) provides financial assistance, support and encouragement for eligible income disadvantaged students at all CR locations.
- The TRiO Student Success Program provides eligible students with a variety of services including trips to 4-year universities, career assessments, and peer mentoring. Students can apply for the program in [Eureka](#) or in [Del Norte](#)
- The [Veteran's Resource Center](#) supports and facilitates academic success for Active Duty Military, Veterans and Dependents attending CR through relational advising, mentorship, transitional assistance, and coordination of military and Veteran-specific resources.
- Klamath-Trinity students can contact the CR KT Office for specific information about student support services at 530-625-4821

Community College Student Health and Wellness

Resources, tools, and trainings regarding health, mental health, wellness, basic needs and more designed for California community college students, faculty and staff are available on the California Community Colleges [Health & Wellness website](#).

[Wellness Central](#) is a free online health and wellness resource that is available 24/7 in your space at your pace.

Students seeking to request a counseling appointment for academic advising or general counseling can email counseling@redwoods.edu.

Academic dishonesty

In the academic community, the high value placed on truth implies a corresponding intolerance of scholastic dishonesty. In cases involving academic dishonesty, determination of the grade and of the student's status in the course is left primarily to the discretion of the faculty member. In such cases, where the instructor determines that a student has demonstrated academic dishonesty, the student may receive a failing grade for the assignment and/or exam and may be reported to the Chief Student Services Officer or designee. The Student Code of Conduct ([AP 5500](#)) is available on the College of the Redwoods website. Additional information about the rights and responsibilities of students, Board policies, and administrative procedures is located in the [College Catalog](#) and on the [College of the Redwoods website](#).

Disruptive behavior

Student behavior or speech that disrupts the instructional setting will not be tolerated. Disruptive conduct may include, but is not limited to: unwarranted interruptions; failure to adhere to instructor's directions; vulgar or obscene language; slurs or other forms of intimidation; and physically or verbally abusive behavior. In such cases where the instructor determines that a student has disrupted the educational process, a disruptive student may be temporarily removed from class. In addition, the student may be reported to the Chief Student Services Officer or designee. The Student Code of Conduct ([AP 5500](#)) is available on the College of the Redwoods website. Additional information about the rights and responsibilities of students, Board policies, and administrative procedures is located in the [College Catalog](#) and on the [College of the Redwoods website](#).

Gender-Inclusive Language in the Classroom

College of the Redwoods aspires to create a learning environment in which all people feel comfortable in contributing their perspectives to classroom discussions. It therefore encourages instructors and students to use language that is gender-inclusive and non-sexist to affirm and respect how people describe, express, and experience their gender. Just as sexist language excludes women's experiences, non-gender-inclusive language excludes the experiences of individuals whose identities may not fit the gender binary, and/or who may not identify with the sex they were assigned at birth. Gender-inclusive/non-sexist language acknowledges people of any gender (for example, first year student versus freshman, humankind versus mankind, etc.), affirms non-binary gender identifications, and recognizes the difference between biological sex and gender expression.

English 1A Fall 2021 Semester at a Glance (subject to change)

Week	Monday	Wednesday
1	8//23 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Course Overview & Theme: Anti-racism Freewriting about you Interviews & Introductions Handout “How to Succeed in School” 	8/25 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Syllabus Q & A Canvas Overview & Demo of posting documents Post a profile picture to Canvas Watch Angela Duckworth’s “Grit” TEDtalk Discuss “How to Succeed in School” MRLs (metacognitive reading logs) explained
2	8/30 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MRL Week #2A DUE on Dweck Discuss “Brainology,” Mindsets, & Success <i>Academic Writing Now</i> Intro. & Ch. 1, 2, 3 (15-64) Writing Process Freewriting 	9/1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MRL Week #2B DUE on Adler Discuss “How to Mark A Book” Personal Reading History Introduce College Mindset & Intention Essay Rhetoric—ethos, pathos, logos & kairos
3	9/6 NO SCHOOL: Labor Day Holiday	9/8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> College Mindset & Intention Essay DUE Analyze Richard Wright poem “Between the World & Me” Close Reading of a Text handout Types of Racism/Inequality Prep. for reading Coates—preview cover & TOC, freewriting
4	9/13 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss Coates Part 1 (5-39) MRL Week #4 DUE (5-39) Introduce Reading Responses (RR) Practice/review RR guidelines 	9/15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss Coates Part 1 (39-71) RR Week #4 DUE (5-71) Survival vocabulary: what words do we need to know? Lessons Coates teaches Samori
5	9/20 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss Coates Part 2 (75-99) MRL Week #5A DUE Part 2 (75-99) 	9/22 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss Coates Part 2 (99-132) MRL Week #5B DUE Part 2 (99-132)
6	9/27 (**CR President visits 12:30 class section) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss Coates Part 3 (136-152) MRL Week #6 DUE (Part 3 136-152) RR Week #6 DUE (Part 2 pp. 75-132) Introduce MP #1 & Brainstorm topics 	9/29 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MP #1 Key Concept Definitions Due <i>AWN</i> Ch. 4 (69-80) & Ch. 6, 7, & 8 (103-149) Thesis, Paragraph, & Essay Structure MP #1 Topic selection/thesis work
	10/4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MP #1 thesis development In class work with MP #1 Zero draft—bring a 500-word draft with a working thesis Quote analysis & integration practice Topic sentence development Handout—“10 Response Techniques” 	10/6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss “10 Responding Techniques” for peer review Develop MP #1 zero draft into MP #1 rough draft Independent composing time/conferences as needed Be sure you have a copy of <i>The Sum of Us</i> by next week
8	10/11 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MP #1 Draft DUE/Peer Review Bring 4 copies of your 1000-word rough draft Descriptive Outlines & Revision Techniques Post MP #1 working thesis & topic sentences to Canvas for Shannon’s feedback 	10/13 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MP #1 Peer Letters DUE In class work with MP #1 draft 3 Revision Techniques for MP #1 DUE Revision Tips for MP #1 (Bring latest draft) Preview of <i>The Sum of Us</i>—cover, TOC, freewriting

Week	Monday	Wednesday
9	10/18 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revised MP #1 DUE • Postwrites for MP #1 • Introduction of <i>The Sum of Us</i> pp. xi-xxiii 	10/20 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 1 & 2 of <i>The Sum of Us</i> pp. 3-39 • MRL Week #9 on Ch. 1 & 2 of <i>The Sum of Us</i>
10	10/25 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RR Week #10 DUE on Ch. 1 or 2 of <i>The Sum of Us</i> • Ch. 3 & Ch. 4 of <i>The Sum of Us</i> pp. 41-100 • MRL Week #10 DUE on Ch. 3 & 4 	10/27 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RR Week #10 DUE on Ch. 3 or Ch. 4 of <i>The Sum of Us</i> • Introduce MP #2: Persuasive Research Project
11	11/1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 5 & Ch. 6 of <i>The Sum of Us</i> pp. 103-164 • MRL Week #11 DUE on Ch. 5 & 6 • <i>AWN</i> Ch. 5 (83-98) & Appendix II (213-223) • MP #2 Topic Brainstorming & Development 	11/3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RR Week #11 DUE on Ch. 5 or Ch. 6 of <i>The Sum of Us</i> • In-class Revision Plan for MP #1
12	11/8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 7 & Ch. 8 of <i>The Sum of Us</i> pp. 167-218 • MRL Week #12 DUE on Ch. 7 & 8 • MP #2 Topic Proposal DUE • Annotated Bibliographies • Credible Sources: CRAAP Test • Searching Databases Demo/practice AB template 	11/10 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RR Week #12 DUE on Ch. 7 or Ch. 8 of <i>The Sum of Us</i> • MP #2 Topic Approval • Review Database Demo & AB Templates • Independent research on MP #2 topic to begin building AB
13	11/15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 9 & Ch. 10 of <i>The Sum of Us</i> pp. 221-289 • MRL Week #13 DUE on Ch. 9 & 10 • 1 Annotated Bib. Entry Draft DUE 	11/17 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RR Week #13 DUE on Ch. 9 or Ch. 10 of <i>The Sum of Us</i> • Developing MP #2: Cubing • Feedback on AB Entry drafts/research & MLA tips
Thanksgiving Break 11/22-11/26		
14	11/29 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annotated Bib (5 entries) & Works Consulted DUE • Research Update (MP #2 Zero Draft 750 words) • Post MP #2 Working Thesis to Canvas 	12/1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MP #2 Rough Draft DUE/Peer Review • Bring 3 copies of your 1000-word draft. Include Works Cited. • 3 Revision Techniques overview
15	12/6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peer Response Letters DUE • 3 Revision Techniques DUE on MP #2 • Review MLA Considerations • In-class work on MP #2—bring your draft • Integrating Quotes 	12/8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watch & discuss DiAngelo videos on White Fragility • Freewriting • Thesis Workshop: Bring a typed thesis and 2 topic sentences • Revision Tips for MP #2
Final Exam Week	12/13 2:45 section meets today from 3:15 to 5:15 PM <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MP #2 Revised Draft DUE • Postwrites DUE • Watch & discuss <i>The 13th</i> by Ava DuVernay 	12/15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Last day to submit any work for credit in the course.