

Course Information

Fall 2022

ENGL-2A-V3470 Critical Thinking and Writing

Justin Egan

Asynchronous/Distance Learning. No In-Person Meetings.

Course units: 3.0

Instructor Contact Information

Office Location: TBD

Office hours: By Appointment

Email address: Justin-egan@Redwoods.edu

Catalog Description

Study argumentation and critical thinking in this second-semester composition course focused on reading and writing across multiple academic communities. Practice critical reading and research strategies, examine and evaluate primarily nonfiction texts, and craft responses through argumentative writing. Strengthen your information literacy and documentation skills and satisfy both the full-year composition and the critical thinking transfer requirements.

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

1. Write logical, well-developed thesis-driven essays that respond to questions raised primarily by nonfiction works
2. Evaluate, use, and document evidence from primary and secondary sources to support, develop, or validate judgements

Statements Regarding Online Class

- I will reply to messages across email and Canvas as soon as I can. As an extremely online person, you can expect short turnaround times for feedback and responses.
- I am hosting a Discord server for the use of both online and in-person sections of this course. This may be a good space to discuss class and assignments outside of Canvass.
- All scheduled activities, assignments, and discussions are subject to change.

- **I will meet with you in person by appointment or over Zoom.**
- **I will monitor and respond to your responses in Canvas discussions.**
- **I will post weekly announcements to remind you of upcoming assignments.**
- **I will provide all reading materials at no cost to you**

Inclusivity in the online space:

While we do not meet in person, I expect the same kind of respect for your classmates online as I would in a classroom. This includes respecting the backgrounds and experiences across spectrums of identity. I will not tolerate hateful language or bigoted views expressed in Canvas posts and may raise questions if they are found in your written submissions.

Evaluation & Grading Policy

A Note: Content for this course will be posted weekly. You can complete these assignments and discussions at your own pace and try to not get too far behind, especially before major assignments such as essay drafts.

1. Canvas Meditations 40% of Your Grade

Every week, I will at least 2 assignments or discussion responses on Canvas. These “Meditations” are generally responses to assigned readings, and class lectures shared with the in-person section of this course. Responses can range anywhere from 1-2 paragraphs to 2+ pages. Async/Distance learning students should expect to be assigned more Canvas assignment in lieu of in-person discussions and lectures

2. Attendance and Class Participation 10% of Your Grade

While you will not be meeting with me and your classmates for in-person classes, I can still see how often you log into Canvas and interact with the pages and discussions online. I expect your regular participation and engagement with assignments, readings, quizzes, and all other responses will make an impact on your final grade.

3. Written Assignments 50% of your grade

This is above all else, a composition course. Writing is the primary activity and skill to develop and practice in and outside our classroom.

Success in this course requires a great deal of writing and critical thought. Throughout the semester, you will write 3 essays, each of varying topics. All essays will require clear thesis and integration of outside sources, including readings and other media, as well as reasoning and analytic language. Every essay cycle will emphasize peer review and revision as key aspects of the writing process. This includes online students, who will be assigned a classmate to correspond with through email and Canvas. You can expect to submit at least two drafts and an optional second draft. This is meant to emphasize the importance of process, revision, and peer review in academic writing. Prompts and assignment details for each essay will be posted over the course of the semester. Watch out for announcements and to-do notifications on Canvas.

I will accept late work and encourage you to continue to revise your drafts over the course of the semester. Do not take advantage of my lenience.

Some Rules to remember for ALL assignments: Use size 12 Times New Roman Font, Double Spaced. Use Grammarly to check for writing errors—but don't depend on a computer to catch everything. I strongly recommend using a works cited generator when needed.

All essays can be submitted via Canvas or shared through Google Docs. I highly encourage the use of Google Docs for Peer review.

Late submission policy, grading, and extra credit:

I am a very lenient instructor. I have been a student for a long time, and I understand that sometimes, things just don't work out and life gets in the way. I tend to focus more on personal feedback on your writing than grading until it's necessary to submit. If you attend the classes, participate, and put in the effort to fulfill the requirements for each assignment, you can be assured that you are within the A-B Grade range. I will accept proposals for extra credit work. This might take a variety of forms, including short writeups, short presentations, or other multimedia projects.

Student Support

Good information and clear communication about your needs will help you be successful. Please let your instructor know about any specific challenges or technology limitations that might affect your participation in class. College of the Redwoods wants every student to be successful.

Admissions deadlines & enrollment policies

Fall 2022 Dates

- *Classes begin: 8/20/22*
- *Last day to add a class: 8/26/22*
- *Last day to drop without a W and receive a refund: 9/02/22*
- *Labor Day Holiday (all campuses closed): 09/05/22*
- *Census date: 9/06/22 or 20% into class duration*
- *Last day to petition to file P/NP option: 09/16/22*
- *Last day to petition to graduate or apply for certificate: 10/27/22*
- *Last day for student-initiated W (no refund): 10/28/22*
- *Last day for faculty-initiated W (no refund): 10/28/22*
- *Veteran's Day (all campuses closed): 11/11/22*
- *Fall Break (no classes): 11/21/22 – 11/25/22*
- *Thanksgiving Holiday (all campuses closed): 11/23/22 – 11/25/22*
- *Final examinations: 12/10/22 – 12/16/22*
- *Semester ends: 12/16/22*
- *Grades available for transcript release: approximately 01/06/23*

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](#).

Setting Your 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. This does not change your legal name in our records. See the [Student Information Update form](#).

Canvas Information

If using Canvas, include navigation instructions, tech support information, what Canvas is used for, and your expectation for how regularly students should check Canvas for your class.

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://webapps.redwoods.edu/tutorial/>

Canvas online orientation workshop: [Canvas Student Orientation Course \(instructure.com\)](#)

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.

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](#) offers assistance to students in need of professional counseling services such as crisis counseling.

Learning Resource Center includes the following resources for students

- [Academic Support Center](#) for instructional support, tutoring, learning resources, and proctored exams. Includes the Math Lab & Drop-in Writing Center

- [Library Services](#) to promote information literacy and provide organized information resources.
- [Multicultural & Diversity Center](#)

Special programs are also available for eligible students include

- [Extended Opportunity Programs & Services \(EOPS\)](#) provides services to eligible income disadvantaged students including: textbook award, career academic and personal counseling, school supplies, transportation assistance, tutoring, laptop, calculator and textbook loans, priority registration, graduation cap and gown, workshops, and more!
- 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