



EWRT 1A Composition and Reading
Fall 2023
Section – EWRT 1A 63Z

Instructor : RUTH TRIMBLE, M.A.

Office hours: Tues. 6 – 7 p.m. or by appointment. Email: trimbleruth@fhda.edu M - Th. 9 – 5 p.m. or by appointment.

Course work: 5 hours a week On Line through CANVAS Web site & Zoom;

Holidays: 10 Nov. 2023 Veteran's Day; 23-26th Nov. Thanksgiving. Finals 11-15 Dec.

Course Description: Introduction to university level reading and writing with an emphasis on analysis. Close examination of a variety of texts (personal, popular, literary, professional, academic) from culturally diverse traditions. Practice in common rhetorical strategies used in academic writing. Composition of clear well-organized, and well-developed essays with varying purposes and differing audiences, from personal to academic.

1. **English 1A Course Content:** EWRT 1A is the first course in a two-semester sequence designed to equip the students with the skills necessary for writing college-level English compositions. The course emphasizes expository writing, critical reading, and research techniques. Students are required to produce a series of academic essays. Analysis of readings and the practice of writing processes create the basis for student essays.
2. **EWRT1A:** Access to the Internet is required. The online class is conducted via the **Canvas Online system**.

Required: *To a God Unknown* by John Steinbeck (novel) Penguin, 1995. ISBN 9780140187519 *not digital copies – paperback only.

Recommended: *MLA 9 Simplified: Easy Way Guide to MLA Handbook Appearance Publishers.2021.* ISBN: 9798505819418

(De Anza bookstore or via on-line bookstores. Other materials are in Canvas, your campus web classroom)

Prerequisite: Eligibility for college-level composition (EWRT 1A or EWRT 1AH or (EWRT 1AS and EWRT 1AT)) as determined by college assessment or other appropriate methods.

4. Student Learning Outcomes : 1.Practice writing as a multi-step process including planning and revising with attention to varying purposes, audiences, and rhetorical strategies.

2. Read and analyze rhetorically and culturally diverse narrative and expository texts from a variety of perspectives.

- A. Analyze college level texts and discourse that are culturally and rhetorically diverse.
- B. Compose Essays drawn from personal experience and assigned texts.
- C. Utilize MLA Guidelines to format essays, cite sources, and compile a works cited page.
- D. Create syntactically varied sentences that are free of mechanical errors.
- E. Distinguish, compare, and evaluate the multiplicity and ambiguity of perspectives.

5. Course Content : English 1A is an essay-oriented course with a final Portfolio submission that will determine passing ability; students will be expected to write at least five essays both timed and untimed and write journal entries for a total of 6,000 words of finished writing.

Writing assignments shall give students repeated practice in all phases of the writing process: Prewriting, organizing, writing, revising, and editing. Writing will include two types of writing, formal and informal. Formal writing is planned, organized and handed in as a final revision. It might include timed essays, typed essays written outside of class as part of the writing process, answers to essay questions, or responses to essays or articles. Mid Term and Final exams are essays based on literary appreciation and involve timed written essay responses. Informal writing is timed, as an informal response to an essay, video or picture. This will be evaluated for length, thoughtful and insightful responses. Both types of writing contribute to students writing and critical thinking.

Quizzes will ensure that certain grammar and rhetorical methods are acquired.

Reading will consist of various texts, points of view, and genres at the college level. Reading for the course shall be extensive and intensive and include useful models of writing for academic, general, and specific audiences.

6. Learning Outcomes

Students at the end of this course will be able to:

- a. Examine the various forms and occasions of written language, as well as other kinds of discourse, and consider them potential subjects and, in some instances, models for academic writing.
- b. Read rhetorically and culturally diverse narrative and expository texts and analyze them from a variety of perspectives.
- c. Generate ideas and topics for essays.
- d. Formulate and support a clear thesis
- e. Integrate and organize ideas
- f. Develop personal style/voice appropriate to purpose and audience
- g. Identify and practice common rhetorical strategies used in academic writing
- h. Practice writing as a multistep process, with particular attention to planning and revision
- i. Compose essays with varying purposes, audiences, and rhetorical strategies, from personal to academic.
- j. Ability to review peer essays and provide constructive feedback. This does not mean editing or copyediting, but constructive insights, concepts and ideas.

And will include:

1. A range of academic and literary writing.
2. Obtaining information (support) from reading, experiences, and research
3. Revising drafts of essays at the thesis, essay and paragraph levels
4. Writing clear sentences that demonstrate college level skills & variety
5. Organizing and developing introductory, conclusive and body paragraphs effectively
6. Using vocabulary appropriate to the topic of the essay & demonstrating standard usage
7. Demonstrating conventional mechanics (e.g. punctuation, spelling, grammar)
8. Demonstrating critical thinking skills in written work and interactive groups
9. Demonstrating the ability to incorporate and integrate other material, showing appropriate awareness of plagiarism with the MLA system
10. Demonstrating summarizing and reading skills indicating grasp of the reading material

7. Course Activities: Student attendance for the **MidTerm and Final** are required during the times when these are open, but once closed, these tests **do not reopen**. Notice will be given ahead of time with fair warning of dates to be in attendance.

Students who wish to obtain credit in ENG 1A must complete all of the following with an average

score of 75% (C) or better:

| | | | |
|---|--------------------------|---|------------------------|
| 1. diagnostic | 0% | } | |
| 2. Five essays | (approx.1000 words each) | | |
| #1 Description/Narration | 10% | } | |
| #2 Compare/Contrast | 15% | } | |
| #3 Causes and Effects (MidTerm). Timed | 15% | } | |
| #5 Timed analysis essay | 10pts. | } | |
| #4. Argument | 15% | } | |
| & MLA | 5% | } | |
| 3. Reading Journal | (all completed) | | 10% |
| 4. Writing Journal | (all completed) | | 10% |
| 5. Exercises/Quizzes, | | | 10% |
| | | | <u>Total =1000 pt.</u> |

8. Grading Policy - Minimum Required ; 6000 Finished words 1A.

A passing grade (75%+) in the course signifies that the student is a capable college-level writer and reader of English. Passing students will pass the Portfolio evaluation of the English Dept, and fulfill the minimum requirements such as attendance and completion of assignments. In the Writing Journal students will be required to write at least 300 words for each entry under a timer. Reading Journals will be 300 word responses to questions about readings. Essays will be at least 1000 words (4 typed pages).

Grades : 90 – 93% = A-; 94 – 96% A ; 97%+ =A+: 80 – 83% = B- ; 84 – 86% = B ; 87- 89% B+; 75 – 79% = C (pass); 0 – 74% D - F (no pass);

9. Course Expectations and Requirements:

a. Students who wish to pass EWRT 1A must complete all of the above with an average score of 75% or better.

b. 1. Participation weekly is required. Student participation is evaluated each Monday. If a student fails to contact the instructor in the first 2 weeks of the class, that student may be dropped. Students missing more than 2 weeks of Canvas activity will be dropped. Contact (trimbleruth@fhda.edu) to explain absence issues. **Keep in touch with the instructor at all times.**

2. There is **no make up** for missed timed essays. **All due dates are final.** The MidTerm and Final timed essay dates will be announced ahead of time with the hours when they are available. Students are required to complete these in the set times or lose these points. Neither will be reopened after the close date for exam security. There is no * late* assignment. Assignments must be turned in on time per the Canvas schedule as set by the instructor. See the notes about **due dates and close dates** which may change.

c. Mechanics: Digital books are not recommended as during timed essays, they are difficult to navigate and accredit. Keep copies of all work **including rough drafts**. When typing use font size 12 /14 Times or Helvetica. Submit essays in double space. USE WORD Doc, RTF, TXT or DOCX. For Canvas submissions. **(Google Docs must be converted)**. Indent each paragraph and put name, date and essay number on the top RIGHT hand of the essay. Pages need 1" margins on both sides with 2" margin at top on first page.

d. Revising: If you do not pass an essay with a passing score then your essay has an **R** grade which means the essay has **no grade and** should be **revised**. This means you can rewrite it within **ONE WEEK**. Submit the revised essay within one week. *It is advised that you contact your instructor before you revise.* Contact the tutors on campus. If the instructor does not receive the **Revised** paper within a week of the return date, it may receive a **ZERO grade**.

e. Etiquette: Please respect your fellow students' private/personal information, entries and email addresses. Any reports of nuisance or harassment should be reported to the instructor as soon as possible. Thank you.

f. Copying: Essay material will be your reading research from the assignments in Canvas, from your own experience, and some other materials approved by the instructor at the web site. We use the MLA method of recognizing the source of anything you borrow and we use the MLA Conventions. **PLAGIARISM** is the name given to stealing another author's ideas and passing them in as your own or incorrectly citing. Plagiarism is illegal in the United States. It is punishable in this course by your **failing the activity**. You will be given one warning. If you do not understand, contact your instructor, or see the librarians. Repeated instances of plagiarism will be reported to the dean. Ignorance of the law does not exempt you from responsibility.

g. Appointment office hours. See the **Office Hours** in Canvas. Appointments are arranged by appointment on Zoom in CANVAS. To be arranged. Chat is also available by arrangement

h. The Course Activities: On Line activities, critical thinking methods, discussions of readings, Timed essays, video exercises, on line-forums, peer reviews, independent work, proofreading and analysis and group discussion.

9. Campus Resources:

11. **A. Disabilities :** If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, contact EDC: LCW 110 Phone: 408.864.8839 as soon as possible. Program Contact: Kim Fuykyama Web site: www.deanza.edu/edc or. DSS : SCS 41 Phone: 408.864.8753 TTY: 408.864.8748: Patricia Whelan.

B.Student Success. *See the web site for Zoom access to workshops and tutors.

<http://deanza.edu/studentsuccess/> Access Zoom links by following the instructions at the top of the page, and connect at the time listed-- no advance sign-up required.

C. Skills Workshops: Skills Center: 408 864 8253

D. On Line Tutoring: Tutor Center : (408) 864 5840.

<http://deanza.edu/studentsuccess/onlinetutoring/>

Good luck!

Fully on Line: **WEEKLY REQUIRED ASSIGNMENTS:**

1. **ESSAYS** –Homework time: = 3+ hours a week.) There are five essays to be submitted through the 12 week term, so that means you will be writing a draft or a final essay every week. To prepare to write about these topics, students will watch short videos on line, and read short articles from research. **Rough Drafts** will be exchanged with other students and the instructor before a final copy is submitted. This rough draft is **very important** as you will be able to REVISE it after critiques from the instructor and other students. The timed MidTerm, timed Essay #5 and Final essay will be based on the novel by **John Steinbeck**.

2. **WRITING JOURNAL** -(Worth 100 pts.)Homework time:=30 minutes per week. Requires watching a video of approx. 5 minutes and writing 300 words for 25 minutes during Zoom classes. *Only the instructor views these entries.* They are spontaneous writing to determine participation.

3. **READING JOURNAL** –(Worth 10 % of course. Homework time:= 30- 40 mins a week.) Usually one reading or two per week to prepare for a writing assignment topic. Submit answers to shared DISCUSSION on Canvas before deadline expires. *All answers are open to other students.*

4. **QUIZZES** – (Worth 10%. Homework time 30 minutes a week) requires reading the quiz and submitting answers on Canvas.

5. **MLA documentation** is used in this course and follows the MLA 9 or MLA 8 system.