De Anza College -- Fall 2017 EWRT 1A-61 -- Composition and Reading

Classroom: MQ3 -- MW 5:30-7:45 p.m. Office Hours: M 5:00-5:30 p.m. in MQ2,

Instructor: Kimberly Braasch W 7:45-8:15 in classroom

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Course Description:

This course focusses on skills required for effective writing in personal and academic contexts with an emphasis on narrative, exposition, and analysis. The course will also foster critical thinking skills so students can focus on a topic and use reason and logic to craft a thesis statement and supporting details appropriate for the audience and assignment. Students will interpret and incorporate ideas from a variety of cultural perspectives into their writing projects, analyzing and evaluating those ideas as well as their own. Students will produce essays that are organized and sufficiently developed and employ correct grammar, punctuation, and diction.

Student Learning Outcomes:

* Practice writing as a multi-step process including planning and revising with attention to varying purposes, audiences, and rhetorical strategies.
* Read and analyze rhetorically and culturally diverse narrative and expository texts from a variety of perspectives.

Course Textbook:

Laurie G. Kirszner and Stephen R. Mandell, *Patterns for College Writing*: *A Rhetorical Reader and Guide*, 14th edition (2017)

The book will be available on Wednesday 9/27 at the De Anza Bookstore. Make sure you get the 14th edition, as the content has changed from earlier editions. Buy/rent it in hard copy only; **no e-books allowed**. Any supplemental readings will be provided by the instructor.

Course Goals:

Students will practice writing as a multi-step process, including planning and revising with attention to varying purposes, audiences, and rhetorical strategies. Students will read and analyze rhetorically and culturally diverse narrative and expository texts from a variety of perspectives.

Course Requirements: Students will compose several short writing assignments, four formal essays, and an in-house final exam. Some prewriting, composing, and revising of essays will be done in class. Classes will include quizzes, exercises, and collaborative work, as well as feature workshop sessions on writing and grammar in addition to discussions on the assigned reading.

Course Grades:

Essay 1 10%

Essays 2-4 45%

Final exam 15%

Participation (quizzes/in-class writing/discussions/homework) 30%

Grading Scale: A=93+; A-=90-92; B+=87-89; B=83-86; B-=80-82; C+=77-79; C=70-76; D=60+

Attendance and Participation:

Regular class attendance is essential. Students may be excused from up to four classes without impacting their grade, not including the impact of missed quizzes, in-class writing, and paper deadlines on one’s grade. Habitual tardiness (15+ minutes late) will result in one or more absences. **Over four absences may result in the student being dropped from the class**. It’s highly recommended that you trade contact information with other students to obtain notes for any class you must miss. Students are expected to do the assigned reading and be prepared to discuss the material. Joining class discussions and enhancing group sessions is mandatory for those students wishing to receive higher than a C for class participation.

Classroom Etiquette:

Respect your classmates and their viewpoints. Everyone will have different skillsets, varying levels of knowledge, and diverse personal voices, so be a thoughtful, not judgmental, participant in the free exchange of ideas in the classroom. Anticipate adult themes and sensitive issues in the college-level reading materials and respond accordingly. **No cell phones, laptops, tablets, cameras, etc. are to be used in class without prior permission from the instructor**.

Late or Missed Deadlines:

All drafts and essays are due on the specified dates. In case of an emergency, notify your instructor **before** the work is due to discuss other arrangements. Unauthorized late papers will be penalized and not accepted after one week’s time. Quizzes and in-class writing count toward your participation grade and may not be made up due to absence.

Revised Essays:

One out-of-class essay with a grade of “C” or below may be rewritten. You must submit your original graded paper along with your rewritten work within **one week** of getting back the graded essay. Highlight all changes on the revised essay; it must be at least 25% different from the original in order to receive additional credit.

Cheating/Plagiarism:

Cheating includes any attempt to defraud, deceive, or mislead an instructor in arriving at an honest grade assessment. Plagiarism is a form of cheating that occurs when students present as their own the ideas, language, or work of others. **Cheating and plagiarism of any kind will result in penalties, ranging from a failing grade on the assignment to a failing course grade to administrative disciplinary action up to suspension or expulsion.**

Academic Support:

De Anza offers a variety of academic support services. If anyone feels s/he would benefit from extra help, check out the college’s Student Success Center programs, the helpful tutors at the Writing & Reading Center, or live-chat tutoring, available via the Smarthinking link on MyPortal. For the latter, you can ask specific questions or submit an essay and receive feedback on it.

If you are a student with a disability and would like to discuss special accommodations, please let me know as soon as possible.

If anyone is having difficulties in the class, please do not hesitate to contact me by e-mail or set up a conference with me during office hours.

Course Calendar:

The instructor reserves the right to amend or augment this schedule as the quarter progresses. Assigned readings taken from *Patterns for College Writing*.

9/25 Welcome and orientation to the course; Chapter 1, “Reading to Write” overview

9/27 Chapter 2, “Invention” and Chapter 3, “Arrangement” (bring textbook with you and we’ll cover these chapters in class)

10/02 Chapter 6, “Narration”; skip Yackel and Orwell

10/04 Chapter 7, “Description”; skip Chopin

Last day to drop with no recorded grade – Oct. 8

10/09 Chapter 8, “Exemplification”; skip Rhode and Kincaid

10/11 Chapter 4, “Drafting and Revising”; writing workshop

10/16 Essay #1 due; Chapter 5 “Editing and Proofreading” (not homework; we’ll cover it in class) DID PEER REVIEWS; ACCEPTED PAPER ON THURSDAY

10/18 Chapter 9, “Process”; skip Fish

10/23 Chapter 10, “Cause and Effect”; skip Koerth-Baker and Cottee

10/25 Chapter 11, “Comparison and Contrast”; skip Catton, Chua, Tanner

10/30 Chapter 12, “Classification and Division”; skip Segal and Tan

11/01 Essay #2 (in-class paper)

11/06 Chapter 13, “Definition”; skip Posner

11/08 Chapter 14, “Argumentation,” read pages 517-547

11/13 Chapter 14, “Argumentation,” read pages 632-666

11/15 Bring in draft for Essay #3; peer review sessions; Chapter 15, “Combining the Patterns” (not homework; we’ll cover it in class)

Last day to drop with a “W” – Nov. 17

11/20 Chapter 16, “Finding and Evaluating Sources” (not homework; we’ll cover it in class); electronic devices allowed in class for last three weeks

11/22 Essay #3 due: Chapter 17, “Integrating Sources and Avoiding Plagiarism” (not homework; we’ll cover it in class); quoting, paraphrasing, summarizing workshop

11/27 Bring in one hard-copy article; Chapter 18, “Documenting Sources: MLA”; (not homework; we’ll cover it in class)

11/29 Bring in thesis and outline; writing workshop

12/04 Bring in polished rough draft for review, proofreading and edits

12/06 Essay #4 due; review for final

12/11 Final exam 6:15 - 8:15 (bring large blue book)