

Course Information Sheet

Fall 2010

EWRT 1B

Section 17

Hours: T, W, Th 12:30-1:20

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Instructor Becky Roberts

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Course Topic: Freedom

Once basic survival needs are met, freedom is what we really want, isn't it? We want the freedom to find out who we really are, to explore the world, to create a life that is meaningful. In this course, we will look at how people across the ages have expressed this drive to free their bodies, minds and communities. Our journey will start with the fundamental question of slavery versus freedom, then turn to the issues of political self-determination and psychological freedom.

Course Objectives: Students will

- Read critically to distinguish between surface, "literal" reading and interpretation
- Discover connections, patterns and analogies in order to compare and evaluate alternative points of view, values and meanings, including those from research sources.
- Write clearly, logically and self-reflectively, articulating analyses, interpretations and arguments.
- Practice writing as a complex, cyclical process of discovery, planning, drafting and revising
- Develop effective strategies for researching, documenting and analyzing multiple sources in a research paper.

Required Materials: available at De Anza College Bookstore

Douglass, Fredrick. *Narrative of the Life of Fredrick Douglass*.

Gillman, Charlott Perkins. *The Yellow Wallpaper*. Dover: New York 2004

The Brief McGraw-Hill Handbook.

Course Reader (buy voucher at bookstore and pick up at the copy center)

Writing Requirements: Students will write about 6000 words, including

- Three essays 3-4 pages long (two in-class and one out-of-class) based on the course readings.
- A 5-8 page essay that uses independent research
- Process work (outlines, drafts and workshops)
- Notes and Research Source Credibility reports for four research sources
- Three Reading Responses
- Written preparation for an in-class presentation.

Keep copies of all your work, including graded work.

Reading: Most weeks, you will have six to nine hours of reading or research homework, less when there is a paper due. In order to participate in class and benefit from each meeting, you must read the assignments listed in the schedule and write your Reading Response **before class**.

Participation: Class discussion gives you the opportunity to explain your ideas to potential readers, developing and refining material for your essays in the process. Presenting ideas to a group is also a crucial job skill. I ask the quieter students to challenge themselves to break out of their safety zone and become more engaged; likewise, those who always talk in discussion need to be aware of making room for others.

Attendance: You must be present and participating in order to learn the material. You cannot learn the content of this course by reading a textbook at home. To succeed in the class, attend every meeting, arrive on time, bring the textbooks, be prepared to write and talk, take notes on lecture and discussion, and stay for the whole class. In addition:

- If you miss 3 class meetings before week eight, you will be dropped from the course.
- If you miss 3 or more meetings but it's too late to drop the class, you will lose 25-50% of your participation grade.
- Arriving more than 5 minutes late or leaving early will count as half of an absence.
- If you must miss class, send **email** to let me know.

Late work: Any paper turned in after I collect them in class will be considered late and it will lose one letter grade. **Late essays and homework can be turned in for ONLY one week after the deadline.** I do not accept student essays via email and I will not make up quizzes, but I will drop one quiz. **In-class essays MUST be written on the date they are listed** in the schedule. However, if there are circumstances beyond your control we might be able to work out an extension of writing deadlines if you discuss the issues with me before the due date and if the situation warrants an exception.

Student Resources: Feel free to visit my office or email me. I enjoy helping students, so don't be shy. If your schedule conflicts with my office hours, I can make an individual appointment. Tutoring is available to you in the WRC (Writing and Reading Center, ATC 209) or at the Tutorial Center, L46 (408) 864-8682.

Equal Opportunity: If you need an accommodation for any disability, such as vision, hearing, learning disabilities, psychological or other medical conditions, you should discuss this with me within the first two weeks of school. I am happy to work with you to meet your needs.

Academic Integrity: Plagiarism and cheating include copying someone else's test or homework, borrowing sentences without quoting, and any small or large act of academic forgery. The penalty is, at **minimum, a "0" on that assignment**, and it could result in an "F" in the course. In addition, **all** cases of cheating and plagiarism will be reported to De Anza College administrators who may expel habitual cheaters.

Grading:	2 In-class essays (#1 and#3) with outline	210	Total Points: 900 Grading Scale: A= 90-100% B=80-89.5% C=70-79.5% D=60-69% F=below 60% Of 900 points
	Essay #2 with process work	120	
	1 typed research essay with process work	220	
	4 Research Source Credibility Reports	80	
	Research Proposal	15	
	4 Quizzes (one dropped)	60	
	3 Reading Responses	60	
	Presentation	25	
Participation	100		

Be aware that missing or plagiarized work receives a "0" grade, much lower than an "F." Therefore, **missing essays have the effect of two failing grades.**