

EWRT 1A/LART 250
Fall 2022
Sustainable Health Equity

Instructor: Sherwin Mendoza, mendozasherwin@fhda.edu

Class Meetings: Mondays and Wednesdays, 10:30 AM – 11:20 AM

Class Location: Room L82

Office Hours: Mondays, 12:00 PM – 1:15 PM, and Tuesdays, 1:00 PM – 2:15 PM

Office Hours Location: MCC-14 (the IIS Division Office)

Final Portfolio Due: Friday, December 9

EWRT 1A 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.

Sustainable Health Equity

The starting point for this course is the concept of health equity, the idea that everyone should have access to what they need to lead a healthy life. In the first part of the course, we will consider ways in which the physical infrastructure that we depend on to live our lives is failing due to climate change, and we will also consider how you might develop expertise so that you can contribute towards solving climate-related problems. From there, we will work to deepen our understanding of the concept of health equity and apply it to better understand how access to what we need to live healthy lives is often not available due to differences along lines of gender, class, race, sexuality, and immigration status. Finally, we will evaluate what California elected officials have decided to do this year to promote health equity and mitigate climate change.

Assignments for this course will hopefully allow you to draw connections between your own experiences and the worsening climate crisis. You will begin by writing a personal narrative about a time when a lack of important infrastructure impacted you. In the next two essays, you will need to do substantial outside research that will hopefully allow you to connect your personal concerns with wider social movements. Midway through the quarter, you will write an essay in which you trace the development of movements within the field you plan on working in that aim to address climate change. The other research-based essay will be a certain kind of persuasive essay - a policy brief - in which you evaluate a specific action that the government of the State of California decided to support through its 2022-2023 budget.

This course bundles together a section of EWRT 1A and a section of LART 250. Because you are enrolled in LART 250, you should expect more individualized attention than you would receive in a standalone EWRT 1A section. Furthermore, you should expect tutoring support from the Writing and Reading Center at De Anza, and you will have access to English Performance Success counselors. You will receive two separate grades, a letter grade for EWRT 1A and a Pass or No Pass grade for LART 250.

Textbooks

All of the course texts will be free and available online. This course will have four major texts:

1. *English Composition: Connect, Collaborate, and Communicate*
2. *2021 Report Card for America's Infrastructure*
3. *Climate Change and Health: Understanding How Global Warming Could Impact Public Health in California*
4. Selected chapters of the 2022-23 California State Budget Summary.

Additionally, you will read articles and web pages that will help you to learn about the concept of health equity, the state of the field that you intend to major in, and publications that will help you to evaluate the State of California's 2022-2023 budget. As necessary, we will also use resources for improving specific writing skills such as those provided by the De Anza English Department, the Writing and Reading Center at De Anza, and the Purdue OWL.

Short Schedule of Polished Writing Assignments

Week 3: Personal Narrative (600-800 words)

Week 5: History of professionals in your academic discipline addressing climate change (900-1200 words)

Week 8: Research-Based Persuasive Essay/Policy Brief (1200-1500 words)

Week 11: Reflective Essay (600-800 words)

Short Schedule of Timed Writing Assignments

Week 1: Timed Writing Assignment 1

Week 6: Timed Writing Assignment 2

Week 10: Timed Writing Assignment 3

Detailed Class Schedule

Week 1: 9/26 - 10/2

Timed Writing Assignment 1

English Composition Chapter 1

Using a rubric

Week 2: 10/3 - 10/9

Begin personal narrative

English Composition Chapter 2

Writing process

Week 3: 10/10 - 10/16

Personal narrative due

English Composition Chapter 3
Essay structure

Week 4: 10/17 - 10/23

Begin the history of professionals in your academic discipline addressing climate change
English Composition, Chapter 5

Week 5: 10/24 - 10/30

History essay due

Week 6: 10/31 - 11/6

Timed Writing Assignment 2

Week 7: 11/7 - 11/13

Begin the policy brief

Selected chapters of the proposed 2022-23 California State Budget

Review *English Composition* Chapter 5

11/11: Holiday

Week 8: 11/14 - 11/20

2/25 Last day to drop with a “W”

Policy brief due

Week 9: 11/21 - 11/27

11/24 - 11/27: Holiday

Revisions

Week 10: 11/28 - 12/4

Revisions

Timed Writing Assignment 3

Week 11: 12/5 - 12/11

Reflective essay

Portfolio due Friday, 12/9

Class Policies

Please be aware of these course policies:

- Attendance at the Monday and Wednesday face-to-face meetings will be mandatory. Participation for each course meeting, including attendance, will be worth ten points.
- Late assignments will be automatically penalized by Canvas. If you turn in an assignment on the first day after it is due, then you will receive a late penalty of 10% of the possible points. For every day thereafter, you will receive an additional penalty of 10% up to a maximum penalty of 50%.

- You will need to turn in short writing assignments such as reading quizzes, proposals for topics, and outlines before you turn in major assignments. Those short assignments should allow me to check your progress in the writing process for each of the major assignments.
- I will drop you from the course if you fall more than two weeks behind. If you fall one week behind the assignments, I will e-mail you to try to make a schedule for you to catch up. If you have no contact with me for two consecutive weeks, I will drop you from the class.
- This course will abide by the college-wide policies of De Anza College with respect to academic conduct (honesty, respect for diversity, etc.).

Canvas

Canvas is the learning management system used by De Anza College. On Canvas you will be able to find written descriptions of assignments and links to readings. You will also turn in assignments on Canvas.

The Writing and Reading Center

This class has partnered with the Writing and Reading Center to offer Customized Support Activities (CSA) to help you this quarter. Options include tutoring sessions, skills workshops, counseling appointments, and writing, reading and grammar resources that you complete on your own time. You will be required to complete two CSAs this quarter, one by Week 3, the other by Week 6.

The Writing and Reading Center is part of De Anza's Student Success Center, which provides tutoring in not just writing but also math, science, and other subjects. I hope that this class will allow you to familiarize yourself with the tutoring services that De Anza offers.

Appointments and Rewrites

During Weeks 9, 10, and 11, you will have the opportunity to make 30-minute appointments with me to discuss revisions on your policy brief. If the grade for the revised essay is higher than the grade for the previous draft, the higher grade will replace the lower grade. If time permits, you will be able to revise your history essay as well.

EWRT 1A Portfolio

Your final grade in this course depends on two processes:

1. If you complete all of your work in the class, you will submit a portfolio of selected writing for review by members of the English Department at the end of the quarter. Your portfolio will contain your policy brief essay, either your second or third in-class essay, and your reflective essay. If the readers agree that your portfolio demonstrates the appropriate skills for a student who has completed this quarter of EWRT 1A, you will pass the class. If your portfolio does not demonstrate the appropriate skills, you will not pass the class.

2. If the English Department determines that you should pass, your actual final letter grade (A, B, C) will be determined by the points you earned throughout the quarter. For example, if you total 89.5% of the possible points on your assignments throughout the quarter and you pass the portfolio process, you will receive an A- in the class. However, if you do not pass the portfolio process, you still cannot pass the class. See the following section (“Grades”) for a discussion of how the points translate into grades, but remember those grades apply only if you pass the portfolio process.

This system means that, in order to pass this class with a good grade, you should complete all of the assignments and score as many points as possible during the quarter, and revise and polish one essay in order to assemble a strong portfolio at the end of the quarter.

Grades

<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Points</u>
Timed Writing (two highest grades)	200 (100 points apiece)
Personal Narrative (Week 3)	100
History of your field (Week 5)	200
Policy Brief (Week 8)	200
Short assignments/participation (10 - 20 points apiece)	About 250
Reflective Essay	50
Total	About 1,000

A failing portfolio will result in an “F” in the class.

Grade with a passing portfolio:

A	90%
A-	89%
B+	86%
B	80%
B-	79%
C+	76%
C	Below 76%

LART 250 Grade Calculation

To pass LART 250 you will need to acquire at least 75% of the possible points from participation and the short EWRT 1A assignments. Each short assignment will be worth 10 or 20 points. Participation at each course meeting will be worth ten points. If you miss a course meeting, you can get up to half of the participation points by doing the course participation assignment on Canvas.