EWRT 1A, Spring 2023, Todd Gutmann

Office hours: MW 1:20-1:50, in the classroom (L73A)

Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)

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

Doing Well

To do well in this class you will have to work at it regularly, attend class regularyly and on time, participate in online class activities, keep up-to-date on the readings and assignments, and write four formal essays.

Students who do best in this class:

- •keep up with the assignments, including the reading
- •spend approximately 15 hours per week on this course, fewer some weeks, more others
- •familiarize themselves with the Syllabus and the Modules
- •ask when they are confused or need help, including when they need help with grammar

Required Texts

The Compact Reader, 12th ed., edited by Jane E. Aaron and Ellen Kuhl Repetto
Geek Love, by Katherine Dunn

Reserve copies of both books are available for limited-time borrowing at the DeAnza library.

Grades

Grade breakdown

Argumentative Essay 20%
Interpretive Essay 20%
Midterm In-class Essay 5%
End-of-Term In-class Essay 10%
Final Exam 10%
Written Assignments (online and in-class) 15%
Reading Quizzes 15%
Participation 5%

Mechanics of grade calculation

Quizzes and other work for which points are assigned will be graded on the following scale: 90-100% = A range; 80-89% = B; 65-79% = C; 50-64% = D; less than 50% = F. Missed work counts against you. For other work: Excellent = A, Good = B, Satisfactory = C, Unsatisfactory = D, Failing = F.

At the end of the quarter, each item will be assigned a number on the following scale: A = 4; A- = 3.7; B+ = 3.3; B = 3 etc. and that number will be multiplied by its percentage. (For example, a C+ on the midterm will be 2.3 x 10%.) The numbers will then be added together to determine the quarter's grade.

Passing

To pass EWRT1A a student must have a minimum quarter's score of 1.7; an exception might be made if all essays have earned grades of C or higher (and other aspects of the grade lower it slightly below 1.7). Further, to pass the class at least one essay must have earned a grade of C or higher. Rewrites count toward fulfilling this requirement.

Learning your current grade

You can learn your current grade any time you ask. Cumulative grades are calculated on my home computer, I can't give the information on demand in class; I can send it by email.

Important note regarding Canvas grade calculation

Canvas does some automatic grade calculation which does not always include all of the work that goes into your grade and may not group assignments according to our grade breakdown; do not trust Canvas's grade calculations.

Quizzes

Whenever reading is assigned, class will begin with a quick quiz. The goal of the quiz questions is to be very easy to answer if you've done the reading and impossible to answer if you haven't. The purpose is to encourage regular reading, which is important to writers' development.

Essay assignments

Essays are due at the beginning of the class period on the days they are assigned. Submit them before coming to class to TurnItIn.com. (For the class id# and enrollment code, click here.)

Revision

Each paper, except for the timed in-class ones, should go through at least one major revision before it is turned in.

Essay Grading Policy

A's are for excellent work. B's are meant as compliments; they mean you did good work. Passing work earns a C, and there should be no shame in such a grade. To give A's for anything other than excellent work would remove one incentive for you to do the excellent and difficult work you all can do.

Plagiarism and Academic Integrity

Any time you use writing or ideas that are not your own you must cite your sources. Using others' words or ideas in part or whole without acknowledgment is plagiarism; it will result in a failing assignment, and could be reported to the college. (http://www.deanza.edu/studenthandbook/academic-integrity.html.) Any time you use someone else's words, you must put them in quotation marks and give credit to the person or source who wrote or said them. Any time you use someone else's idea, you must make clear that that particular idea came from a source, and which source it came from.

And, while it's always fine to seek help with your writing from the Writing and Reading Center, it is not acceptable to have anyone else correct your errors for you. You need to be able to correct them yourself.

If you fail an essay due to plagiarism, you will not be able to rewrite it.

Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Except when the class is specifically working with AI, students are encouraged not to use AI in writing essays and doing other classwork.

All AI use must be tracked and acknowledged. This will include in-text citations when appropriate and always an entry on the Works Cited list.

Because what AI provides is often less straightforward than what is provided by more traditional sources, full acknowledgement is likely to require a description of what was provided. This description should appear at the bottom of the Works Cited list. The description might include "I used ChatBotGPT to brainstorm topics for this essay," or "I used ChatBotGPT to write the first draft of the final paragraph, and I revised the paragraph."

When you use AI to generate text which you revise, include as part of the post-Works-Cited-list description the exact AI-generate text (in quotes) for comparison with the final version.

Dropping

If you choose to drop the course, it is your responsibility to let the admissions and records office know this. The instructor will not make the assumption that you want to drop. The only reason the instructor will drop a student is to make room for another student who wants to enroll

Student Success Center

De Anza's Student Success Center is open Spring 2020 and available for Zoom tutoring and workshops.

All SSC Zoom links and schedules are located in one convenient place. Go to https://www.deanza.edu/studentsuccess/ and follow the links in the Service Updates to add yourself to the non-course SSC Resources Canvas site, then click on Modules to find current schedules and links. This is updated frequently, so please, ALWAYS access SSC Zoom tutoring and workshops from within SSC Resources.

There is also a new info video about the Student Success Center:

https://youtu.be/cHgTex-RrIo (Links to an external site.)

Student Success Center Tutoring is available to all De Anza students on Canvas:
https://deanza.instructure.com/enroll/MAF7Y8

Canvas Resource Library for Students

https://deanza.instructure.com/courses/3382

Resources for Help with Non-Academic Issues

Food insecurity, housing insecurity, and other life issues can make it hard to succeed as a student. De Anza College and other local institutions offer help. Here are links you may find helpful. If you need help you don't find here, I may be able to find other resources.

Resources for Basic Needs (De Anza page includes food assistance, housing resources, emergency funds, transportation options, and shelter-in-place resources.)

English Performance Success Program (EPS)

There are college counselors whose aim is to help you succeed here at DeAnza. They would come to class if we had class meetings. This presentation offers some information, including how to contact them.

EPS Counselor Presentation .pdf

Final Note

If you feel stuck, or need help at anytime, please come talk to me. Please let me know anytime you have a problem or a question about our work, or want to discuss ideas for one of your essays. Feel free to use my office hours or make an appointment for a time that works better for you. I also aim to respond to any email message within 24 hours (possibly slower over the weekend) and in practice, during the week I am usually able to respond faster than that.