

Course Syllabus

EWRT 2-59Z: “Critical Reading, Writing, and Thinking” (CRN 44401)

Spring 2023

Instructor: Dr. Alexis Cattivera (cattiveraalexis@fhda.edu)

Class Meets: Online (via Canvas)

- The week’s lessons for EWRT 2 will be posted in “Modules” on Tuesdays by 6:00 pm, with exception.
- The work for that week must be completed by 10 pm the following Tuesday.

Online office hours (via Canvas Messages): Tuesdays 9:00-10:00

Course description: Develop critical thinking skills and the ability to apply these skills to reading and writing; develop analytical and argumentative academic essays based on reading of complex texts; and the use of outside research leading to analysis, comparison, and synthesis and a documented research paper

Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs): Apply critical thinking skills to writing and complex readings; demonstrate academic (analytical, argumentative) writing based on complex texts; demonstrate analysis, comparison, synthesis, and documentation of independent research

Required texts (the first two are available through our [campus bookstore](#) and you can use either hard or electronic copies):

1. *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest* (Ken Kesey)—the Penguin Classics edition (black and red cover)
2. *Critical Thinking, Reading and Writing: A Brief Guide to Argument*, 10th edition (Barnet, Bedau, O’Hara)
3. *Far from Heaven* (dir. Todd Haynes), rented from YouTube or another streaming platform

Accessing the course: Our class will be conducted through our Canvas course page. Typically, on Tuesdays by 6:00 pm, I will post the materials—the class lesson, discussion board(s), assignments, quizzes, etc.— for the upcoming week under “**Modules.**” Please complete each component in the order it is placed in the weekly module: from top to bottom. You must complete these components by the

following Tuesday at 10:00 pm of that week or late penalties apply (see below). *If the scheduling poses a challenge to you during a certain week or two (let's say you had to work overtime one week or you had essays due the same week for three classes), please communicate with me that same week.* I am willing to adjust a few due dates here and there *if you communicate a reasonable request.* If you do not communicate with me during the week you are struggling, you risk falling too far behind, and I cannot help you. *If you are granted an extension on an assignment, it is expected that you submit that assignment within five days of its original, posted due date unless you and I have agreed to a different, specific due date.*

Communicating with me: I will hold scheduled online office hours on Tuesdays (see above for hours). During this time, you can send me any questions you have through Canvas messages (click on the “Inbox” and create a new message at the top) and you will receive an almost immediate response from me. You are, of course, welcome to send me questions outside of these office hours, but my responses will not be immediate. On weekdays, I will respond to your questions within 24 hours. On weekends (including Fridays), I will respond to your questions within 48 hours. If you don't hear from me within those timeframes and your message requires a response, please resend your message. You can also send me an email (see above for my address). If you prefer, we can arrange a phone call to chat about the class as well. I will also use “**Announcements**” on Canvas to send general class announcements, adjustments to the schedule, etc., so always read those announcements when they are posted.

Participation: Regular and substantial weekly participation in this course is *mandatory*: you must submit course assignments, engage in discussion groups, follow along with the course material provided, and write all four essays. Students are also required to engage with each other and me in an appropriate, respectful, and positive manner. If you do not show regular and substantial participation *every week*, you will be dropped from or receive an “F” in the class. Regular and substantial weekly participation requires that you not just log in to Canvas but also complete at least three assignments by their due date each week, including discussion boards, draft workshops, quizzes, reading guides, grammar work, and final drafts of papers, etc.

Fulfilling this participation policy will help you keep up with the work of the course without falling irrevocably behind, which can happen in online courses.

Disabled Support Program and Services: The Disabled Support Programs and Services (DSPS) at De Anza College is designed to help students with disabilities to achieve success by providing specialized assessment instructional programs and support services. Please contact the DSPS office through its webpage to arrange a confidential discussion regarding equitable access and reasonable accommodations if you have, or think you have, a disability in any area such as mental health, attention, learning, chronic health, sensory, or physical (<http://deanza.edu/dsps/>).

If you are already registered with DSPS and have accommodations set by a DSPS counselor, please be sure that I have received your accommodation letter from Clockwork early in the quarter to review how the accommodations will be applied in the course. Students who need accommodated test proctoring must meet appointment booking deadlines:

- Exams must be booked at least five (5) business days in advance of the instructor approved exam date/time.
- Finals exams must be scheduled seven (7) business days/weekdays in advance of the instructor approved exam date/time.
- Failure to meet appointment booking deadlines will result in the forfeit of testing accommodations and you will be required to take your exam in class.

Please let me know if you require any accommodations as soon as possible and always *let me know if and how I can make online assignments and material more accessible for you*. I want to help you succeed!

Student Success Center: De Anza's Student Success Center is open Spring 2023 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.

De Anza College Mental Health Statement: Life at college can get very complicated. You may sometimes feel overwhelmed or lost. You may experience stress, anxiety or depression, or struggle with relationship difficulties. Psychological Services helps students cope with difficult emotions and life

stressors. Psychological Services is staffed by experienced, professional psychologists and counselors, who are attuned to the needs of college students. The services are FREE and completely confidential. Find out more [here](#) or by calling 408-864-8868.

Academic dishonesty aka plagiarism: Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to in-class cheating, plagiarism, knowingly assisting another student in cheating or plagiarism, or knowingly furnishing false information to college staff, faculty, administrators, or other officials.

Plagiarism means passing off someone else's work and ideas as your own, whether this is copying from a published source, downloading papers from the Internet, or purchasing papers from any source. Plagiarism also occurs when someone else writes any part of your paper for you. **DO NOT PLAGIARIZE. Consequences of plagiarism will include an automatic zero on the first assignment that is plagiarized. If you plagiarize more than once, you will be dropped from the course (if the plagiarism occurs within the drop period) or be given in F in the course (if the plagiarism occurs after the drop period) and the department dean be notified, and you will be referred to the Vice President of Student Services for disciplinary action.** If you're unsure about the boundaries of plagiarism and your own work, talk to me before you turn in your work, and we'll address the issue together. All of your essays will be submitted to Turnitin, a plagiarism detection site. [You may also refer to "Academic Dishonesty" in the Student Handbook.](#)

A simple way to avoid plagiarizing—and jeopardizing your standing in the class—is by citing every source you use to write or come up with ideas for your paper. *Without exception, if you read anything as you prepare and write a paper, you must then include a properly formatted works cited page and acknowledge the sources for your ideas in your properly formatted in-text citations.* If you need help understanding what a works cited page and/or in-text citations are, ask me or check out information on these in your *Critical Thinking* textbook.

How to turn in assignments: Assignments—whether they are quizzes or reading guides or essays—must be uploaded to Canvas by their due dates. Formal essays need to follow MLA formatting standards (see below).

Required Paper Formatting: All writing assignments must be typed using standard MLA format: 1” margins, titled, 12-point Times New Roman font, double-spaced, black ink, no title page, heading in upper left corner (your full name, your instructor’s name, the name of the course, the due date of the assignment), last name and page number in upper right corner, and carefully edited for grammar and spelling mistakes. If you use any source to write your paper, you must also include a works cited page as well as properly cite all sources within your essay.

Late work: If you turn in an essay late, two points are deducted for every day it is late. Late essays will not be accepted after two weeks from their original due dates. You must turn in all four essays, or you will earn an “F” in or be dropped from the course. *In other words, you must write all four essays for this class, and you must turn them in within fourteen days of their due dates (preferably on time, of course), or you will be dropped from or earn an “F” in the class.* If you turn in small assignments up to two days late, you will receive half credit; if you turn in a small assignment three or more days late, you will earn zero credit for that assignment. *If there are unique circumstances preventing you from turning in an assignment on time, please speak to me early in the week (soon after that week’s materials have been posted), and we will try to work something out. It is always better to communicate with me rather than give up— remember I want you to succeed!*

Checking your grades: Your ongoing grades for assignments will be posted on Canvas. Make sure you are given the correct score and that I see and grade any late work you may have turned in (sometimes late assignments can be overlooked and I don’t want that to happen, so send me a friendly reminder!).

Grading comments: I will usually comment on your work—on the actual assignment as well as in the comment section of your individual, submitted assignment—beyond just giving you a grade, especially on major assignments. Please read my comments so that you can apply what I say to your future work and let me know if you ever have questions about my comments.

Grading breakdown (subject to change):

- Paper 1: 12%
 - Paper 1 outline: 2%

- Paper 2: 14%
 - Draft workshop for paper 2: 2%
- Paper 3: 16%
 - Formal notes for paper 3: 2%
- Paper 4: 20%
 - Draft workshop for paper 4: 2%
- Assignments: 20%
- Participation: 10% (You must fully and regularly—at least weekly—engage with the course on Canvas by completing quizzes, assignments, discussion, boards, essays etc. in a timely manner as well as have a positive attitude during that engagement to earn full participation in the course.)

A= 94-100%

B= 84-85%

C= 70-75%

A-= 90-93%

B-= 80-83%

D= 60-69%

B+= 86-89%

C+=76-79%

F= 59% and below

Course schedule (subject to change):

*Please note our more detailed schedule will be on our Canvas page, under each weekly module.

Week 1 (4/10):

Introduce ourselves, analyze images, get textbooks, read *Critical Thinking* (or *CT*)

Week 2 (4/17): ***Please note 4/22 is the last day to add a class**

Analyze images (continued), explain paper #1, prepare for paper #1, (re)view texts in preparation for paper #1, create and submit outline for paper #1

Homework: Read *CT*, work on paper #1

Week 3 (4/24): ***Please note 4/23 is the last day to drop a class without a “W.”**

Turn in paper #1, discuss cultural codes, intro *All That Heaven Allows* (1955), view *Far from Heaven* and then discuss, explain paper #2, prepare for paper #2

Homework: Work on rough draft of paper #2 for workshop, begin *One Flew over the Cuckoo’s Nest* (1962) (introduction and pages 3-24), complete *One Flew* reading guide (ongoing)

Week 4 (5/1):

Submit rough draft of paper #2 for workshop, discuss *One Flew* (ongoing)

Homework: Work on final draft of paper #2 due next week, read *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* (25-90)

Week 5 (5/8):

Discuss *One Flew*, turn in paper #2

Homework: Read *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* (91-213)

Week 6 (5/15):

Discuss *One Flew*, explain paper #3

Homework: Read *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* (214-260)

Week 7 (5/22):

Discuss *One Flew*, explain paper #3, prepare for essay #3

Homework: finish *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* (260-end)

Week 8 (5/29): ***Please note 6/2 is the last day to drop a class with a "W."**

Discuss *One Flew*, turn in outline for paper #3

Homework: Work on final draft of paper #3, find an article with a topic that interests you, read my article and respond to questions

Week 9 (6/5):

Turn in paper #3, explain paper #4, evaluating sources, discuss my article and yours and brainstorm ideas for paper #4, create works cited page for my sources, work on final draft of paper

Homework: Work on paper #4

Week 10 (6/12):

Work on paper #4

Homework: Work on rough draft of paper #4

Week 11 (6/19):

Submit rough draft of paper #4 for workshop

*Please note, no assignments—including late papers— other than the final draft of paper #4 will be accepted after this Monday.

Homework: Work on final draft of paper #4

Week 12 (6/26):

Submit final draft of paper #4 by posted deadline. You cannot submit this essay late or you will fail the course (this is considered your final exam).