

EWRT 1A: Reading and Composition

Spring Quarter 2023

Instructor: Jill Quigley

Class: Mondays, 10:30-12:20, L36

Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays and Fridays 11:30-12:30 via Zoom (***Recurring Meeting ID 227 088 6794*** and Passcode: **33** in my Zoom Personal Meeting Room), or message me anytime via Canvas for an appointment. :) Or speak to me after class! :))

Contact Info: Canvas message is my preferred form of contact, but if you have an urgent matter text is the fastest.

Email: quigleyjill@fhda.edu

Phone/Text: 650-703-3307

Course Description:

EWRT 1A is a course focused on the development of reading, writing, and critical thinking. Through the process of interpretive, analytical, creative, and reflective writing we will critically explore themes of social inequities and the power of resistance. As writers, you will practice a multi-step process including planning and revision with attention to varying purposes, audiences, and rhetorical strategies. While reading multiple genres of literature (poetry, fiction, non-fiction) and theoretical lenses, you will be responsible for active class discussion, group work, a presentation, and multiple forms of academic and creative writing. This is a challenging course (and you can expect to work hard), but we'll also have a lot of fun in the process.

Course Goals:

1. Write focused and well-developed essays based on an analytical thesis and supported by textual evidence.
2. Analyze college-level texts and discourse that are culturally and rhetorically diverse.
3. Distinguish, compare, and evaluate the multiplicity and ambiguity of perspectives
4. Approach writing and reading as multi-step processes.
5. Develop awareness of individual writing and reading processes.
6. Effectively cite the course readings to support your own ideas; develop MLA literacy.
7. Draw from your own experiences to help develop an understanding of the material; develop a sense of your own voice and metacognition skills.

8. Create interesting introductions, great conclusions, strong body paragraphs, and engaging titles.
9. Learn the use of cool academic vocabulary; learn how to write different kinds of sentences.
10. Develop an eye for uses of tone, style, humor, metaphor, and irony (both as a reader and writer).
11. Create syntactically varied sentences that are free of mechanical errors.
12. Build a community of learners within our classroom by working in small peer groups where you will share your ideas and give constructive feedback on class assignments

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.

Required Texts:

All course texts (poetry, fiction, and non-fiction) will be provided on our Canvas page *except* for the following 2 texts:

1. *The Book of Delights: Essays* by Ross Gay
2. *Clarity and Connection* by Yung Pueblo

Assignments:

Your grade for the course will be based on the following points. **600** possible points

1. Discussion Posts: **150 points total**
2. Reading/Writing Exams: **100 points total**
3. 4 Essays: **300 points total**
4. Class Participation: (weekly attendance and engagement, in-class writing exercises, group work, and extra credit): **50 points**

Late Policies:

Late work is accepted *for reduced points* up until *one week after the due date*

Exams close at the deadline and can only be made up with permission.

Late essays will lose half a letter grade for every day late and must be submitted within one week of the due date when the assignment closes.

If you have a substantive and compelling reason for submitting work late, please message me in Canvas as I usually allow for extensions and exceptions if students are committed to completing the work.

Except in emergencies, requests for extensions will not be granted on the day an essay is due.

Attendance and Participation:

Attendance is required for our weekly in-person lectures and Canvas course engagement is required each week via discussion posts or assignments. Your class presence is essential to your success. Please don't disappear. **If you don't attend our first class or complete the first assignment, I will assume you are NOT in the course and give your spot to a waitlisted student by the end of the first week of instruction.** EWRT 1A participation includes reading and writing every class and sharing your real-time ideas in class. In order to succeed, you must remain engaged in the classroom community—individually or collectively, but always consistently. I take attendance and call on students because I want them to know I see them and that their presence is valuable. **In addition to these factors, your course participation grade is calculated via the Canvas data of your pages viewed and hours logged in our course.**

Student-Centered Classroom:

Be prepared for every class by reading the assigned content and reviewing the Canvas module because the class will involve sharing your ideas within the classroom discussion space and with your peers in breakout rooms. This doesn't work if you haven't done the reading and don't know what's going on. Since EWRT 1A is a student-centered class, it will be evident if you haven't done the reading. Plus the reading is cool and class is more fun (and productive) when everyone can share individual ideas against the backdrop of the lectures and curriculum. The good news about literature is there's rarely "one right answer" so we can play, debate, and figure out how we feel within the academic atmosphere of exciting learning.

Classroom Environment:

Consider this classroom a safe space, and please do your part to keep it safe. My job is to create a container for deep intellectual inquiry and emotional expansion—none of which happens without safety. I am both the bouncer and the hostess of this space. You are invited to share your ideas and express yourself--from the heart and mind--without judgment, and I will do my part to keep the inspiration flowing with cool content and

ideas. If anything is unclear, feel free to ask. Probably other students have the same question. In this course, we will discuss many sensitive topics regarding race, gender, and sexuality—and basically the cumulative Now-ness of 20/23's vision. Everybody in this class has a right to be heard. Please be mindful that each person brings a different perspective based on their own experience. If you wish to counter a specific argument or claim, you must do so intelligently and respectfully. When your classmates are talking during the discussion, you are asked to respect them with your focused attention and encourage them—if you feel moved—in the chat and discussion spaces. Vulnerability and courage are synonymous and key to learning. Remember that our course goal is to learn from each other. With that in mind, be aware of whether you tend to dominate classroom conversations. Although I encourage active participation, it is important to remember to leave space for others to participate as well.

Spring Schedule of Important Dates [De Anza Academic Calendar](#)[Links to an external site.](#)

4/10/23: First day of Classes

4/22/23: Last day to Add Classes

4/23/23: Last day to Drop **without** a W

5/27-29/23: Memorial Day Holiday (no classes, offices closed)

6/2/23: Last day to Drop **with** a W

6/19/23: Juneteenth Holiday (no classes, offices closed)

6/26-30/23: Final Exams

7/1/23: Graduation!

[De Ana's Policy](#)[Links to an external site.](#) on Academic Integrity:

I am here to help you overcome the difficulties each of you may face as readers and writers and turn those challenges into gifts. Please contact me ahead of time if you are having any difficulties with an assignment, and I will do my best to assist you. Resorting to cheating should NEVER be an option. I am happy to spend time outside of class to help you in any way that I can. I reserve the right to fail a student if caught plagiarizing an assignment. **ChatGPT is considered plagiarism and is not an acceptable tool in substitution for your own writing. I can tell the difference, so don't risk failing the assignment for this shortcut. ;)**

Additional Notes and Resources:

1. This is an adult-level course; therefore, the language and subject matter of readings, film clips, and discussions will contain adult material and will not be censored. Trigger warnings will be given for any explicit content.
2. If grades are important to you, make sure to do all the reading, attend every class and participate actively, expand, research, and synthesize your thinking about the texts in connection to historical and theoretical contexts, and ask questions of me/your classmates/the world around you, study for the exams, turn in all assignments on-time, and be engaged in the community and inquiry of the class. *NOTE: when calculating your grade in Canvas, make sure to INCLUDE *ungraded* assignments in order to get an accurate scope of your final grade. Please adjust your Canvas student preferences. *You can speak to me about your grade at any point during the quarter.*
3. **Academic Support: Tutors and Directed Learning Activities at the Writing and Reading Center (WRC)** [http://www.deanza.edu/studentsuccess/wrc/ Links to an external site.](http://www.deanza.edu/studentsuccess/wrc/Links%20to%20an%20external%20site) The WRC has both drop-in tutoring and weekly peer tutors via Zoom--and workshops and other online tools There are also **Directed Learning Activities(DLAs)** on the WRC website that offer additional practice on reading and writing strategies
4. **Disabilities Services:** (<http://www.deanza.edu/dsps/index.html>)[Links to an external site.](http://www.deanza.edu/dsps/index.html) De Anza College views disability as an important aspect of diversity and is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for all students. Disability Support Services (DSS) is the campus office that collaborates with students who have disabilities to provide and/or arrange 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, please contact DSS to arrange a confidential discussion regarding equitable access and accommodations. **If you are registered with DSS and have accommodations set by a DSS counselor, please be sure that your instructor has received your accommodation letter from **Clockwork** early in the quarter to review how the accommodations will be applied in the course. *If you have a disability, we will create a learning environment that works for you. :)
5. **Psychological Services:**[https://www.deanza.edu/psychologicalservices/Links to an external site.](https://www.deanza.edu/psychologicalservices/Links%20to%20an%20external%20site) De Anza's Psychological Services offers a variety of support to all students. You are welcome to **stop by in person**, join an **online support group**, or **drop in for an online session** with a Psychological Services counselor. They also take appointments for **one-on-one sessions**, held online.

I look forward to working with and learning from all of you! My goal is to challenge, support, and inspire you. As an equity educator committed to your success, I identify as a [Warm DemanderLinks to an external site.](#), which means that I will expect great things from you, convince you of your own brilliance, and help you reach your potential in a disciplined, structured environment. :) Please ask me any questions you have about our work. Jill