



Division: Language Arts

Course name: English 28: Intermediate Reading and Composition (3 Units)

Section: 3954 / **Semester:** Fall 2013

Instructor Name: A. Minami

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Office Hours: Tue 6:10-6:40

School Website: www.wlaac.edu

Class Hours: Tue 6:45-10pm

Location: GC 140

Course Description: Welcome to English 028. This is an intermediate course in written composition and critical thinking. It is a prerequisite to English 101. The course focuses on *writing as a process* and emphasizes academic writing based primarily on critical reading. Prerequisite: Completion of English 21 or appropriate placement. Upon successful completion of this course, **STUDENTS WILL BE ABLE TO:**

- Identify and evaluate focal ideas and structures of entry-level college texts.
- Synthesize and compare ideas and concepts encountered in different kinds of reading selections. Apply note-taking techniques (dialoguing, scanning, and highlighting) to the reading process.
- Write organized papers that present well-focused responses to academic readings and have well-structured introductions, bodies, and conclusions.
- Use quotations, detailed reference to texts, and effective paraphrase as forms of paragraph development. Write essays that analyze, compare, question, synthesize and evaluate main ideas of readings.
- Apply working knowledge of the writing process (brainstorming, clustering, free writing, and other pre-writing techniques) to the planning, drafting, and revising of formal academic papers.
- Use a variety of sentence structures, including compound and complex sentences employing coordinate and subordinate clauses.
- Use all verb forms and tenses correctly, and punctuate sentences effectively, avoiding comma splices, sentence fragments, and run-on sentences. Use a variety of sentence structures, including compound and complex sentences employing coordinate and subordinate clauses.

Required Texts (bring to every class):

Rosa, Alfred and Paul Eschholz *Models for Writers*, Eleventh Edition. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's. 2012.

Krakauer, Jon. *Into the Wild*. New York: Anchor Books. 1996.

Classroom Etiquette: Let's review some of the obvious, so we don't run into trouble in the future. There is no food or drink (except water) in the classrooms—this is the school's policy, not mine. Please make sure to eat beforehand or to bring snacks for the break. It is very difficult to concentrate when you are hungry! Cell phones and all other electronic devices should be turned off and put away. In this class, you will not need your laptop, and I ask that you not use it.

Rather, this course demands a significant amount of discussion and peer interaction. I aim to treat my students with the utmost respect for their thinking and their learning process. I hope that you will do the same for each other, so that we may all feel safe to express our ideas and questions freely. Consider this space a learning community where we can practice effective communication and meaningful dialogue and where we can all be each other's students and teachers.

Attendance and Participation: Attendance in class is mandatory. It is when a student misses more than two classes that his or her grade will drop by a half grade for every subsequent absence. If there is irregular attendance or a pattern of absences, **the instructor has sufficient cause to drop a student from the class.** If a student is absent the first class meeting of the first week of the semester, then the student will be dropped from the class. Alternatively, if you have **PERFECT** attendance (You are never late and have zero absences), you will receive an additional 3pts. to your final grade score. Do not be deceived; that's 3% automatic add-on, which can raise a grade from C to B or B to A, depending on total point scores.

If you aren't in attendance, then you can't participate fully or benefit from the discussion and writing that happens in class. If you come late, it's your responsibility to get marked present. If you are more than 30 minutes late or have to leave early, I will mark you down as an absence for the day. You should still come so that you don't miss out on important information that will help you learn to be a better writer.

That said, I know that emergencies and illness happen. By all means, in those cases, I respect your need to take care of yourself. If you can't be in class, be sure to check with a classmate for any notes, assignments, etc. This policy accommodates emergencies and any legitimate reasons for being absent or tardy.

Contacting The Instructor: My office hours are before class. You may also arrange another time or email me. However, please keep your communication appropriate (Ex. can you find the answer from another source?) and know that I generally check email once a day.

Late Assignments: A late essay will go down a third of a grade for every day (not class) that it is late. It will not be accepted more than a week after the due date unless you have made prior arrangements with me. If you are not going to be in class when an essay is due, **it is still your responsibility to turn in the essay on the due date** via Turnitin.com AND email. **No other assignments will be accepted late**, though students are still expected to complete necessary work leading up to final essays. In-class work, homework and quizzes that are missed may not be made up.

Writing Assignments: Rough drafts due on scheduled peer review sessions will be counted as quiz grades and must be typed (1pg. = 3pts., 2pgs. = 6pts., 3pgs. = 10/10pts.) All *final* drafts **must** be formatted in MLA style. **A paper copy must be submitted to me with a complete process packet of drafts and accompanying worksheets. Essays should be 3-4 pages typed.**

We will use Turnitin.com this semester. More on that later. Follow these basic parameters *to avoid deductions*:

- use ONLY Times New Roman, 12 point font (NOT in bold, italic or script form)
- double space writings with 1 inch margins all around
- do not skip spaces between paragraphs
- all essays should also be originally titled in the same font/size as noted above
- all writings must include a header in the upper *left* hand corner of the first page listing your name, the instructor's name, the course and section number (English 028/Section 3954) and the date.
- also include a header in the upper *right* hand corner on each page of your essay with your last name and the page number
- when turning in essays with drafts, packets should be stapled (not paper clipped)

Please retain hard copies of all your work, including outlines, notes, drafts, and worksheets. I recommend you buy a binder that is designated solely for this course.

Course Grading:

Essay #1 - 15%

Essay #2 -15%

Essay #3 - 15%

Essay #4 - 15%

Midterm Exam (In-Class Essay) -15%

Final Exam (In-Class Essay) -15%

Homework (Reader Responses, Annotations, Outlines, Etc.), Quizzes, Participation 10%

Grading Scale: Letter grades: A=89.5-100%. B=79.5-89.4%. C=69.5-79.4%. D=59.5-69.4%. F=below 59.4%.

Academic Integrity: In accordance with code 9803.28, **academic dishonesty is prohibited and will not be tolerated in this class.** Violations of academic integrity include, but are not limited to, the following actions: cheating on an exam, plagiarism, working together on an assignment, paper or project when the instructor has specifically stated students should not do so, submitting the same term paper to more than one instructor, or allowing another individual to assume one's identity for the purpose of enhancing one's grade. In written work, no material may be copied from another without proper quotation marks, footnotes, or appropriate documentation. If you are suspected of academic dishonesty, you will be subject to disciplinary sanctions, ranging from a lowered grade to failure in the course, and you WILL be reported to the Dean of English.

Disability Accommodation Statement: Students with a verified disability who may need a reasonable accommodation(s) for this class are encouraged to notify the instructor and contact

the Office of Disabled Student Programs and Services in HLRC 121 at 310-287-4450 as soon as possible. All information will remain confidential.

Basic Skills Enrollment Limitation: Title 5, California Code of Regulations, limits student from taking more than 30 units of “remedial” course work, which is defined as “non degree-applicable basic skills courses.” For more information on the limit and alternative noncredit courses that provide basic skills services, please contact a college counselor and the Matriculation website.

Writing Lab: I encourage students to visit the Writing Lab, located on the first floor of the library, to get help in writing their papers or online at <http://library.wlac.edu/writinglab.html>. Writing tutors can help you in sharing your response to the instructor’s assignment. They do not, however, proofread or edit your writing. They also expect you to bring in clear directions for the essay assignment.

***All readings are to be completed in advance of the class for which they are listed. This schedule may change at the discretion of the instructor. Major writing assignments are listed. In addition, periodically you will be given quizzes or short homework assignments to ensure that you are completing the reading and are prepared for class participation. Reader Responses are subject to random checks. Reader Response = Questions Before the Essay “Reflecting on What you Know” and Questions After the Essay “Thinking Critically About this Reading”

Week 1: Tuesday, August 27 <i>Introductions, Writing Assessments, Course Overview</i>
Week 2: Tuesday, September 3 Read: <i>Baldwin Letter; Rilke Letter</i> Due: Annotate Text. Select excerpt from each and paraphrase.
Week 3: Tuesday, September 10 Read: Pg. 43-51; <i>White Lies</i> , Murphy (381); <i>Childhood</i> , Walker (222); <i>Becoming a Writer</i> , Baker (203) Due: Essay #1 Rough Draft Reader Response#1 on Baker
Week 4: Tuesday, September 17 Read: On Thesis: pg. 81-83; Chapter 19 (483-487); <i>Two Ways of Belong in America</i> , Mukherjee (493) Due: Essay #1 Final Draft Reader Response #2 on Mukherjee
Week 5: Tuesday, September 24 Read: On unity: pg. 99-101; <i>That Lean and Hungry Look</i> , Britt (499); <i>Who Says a Woman Can't be Einstein?</i> , Ripley (505) Due: Reader Response #3 on Britt OR Ripley
Week 6: Tuesday, October 1 Read: On Organization pg. 119-123; <i>Two Ways of Seeing a River</i> , Twain (488); Due: Essay #2 Rough Draft Reader Response #4 on Twain
Week 7: Tuesday, October 8 Read: On paragraphs pg. 172-175; <i>Anxiety: Challenge by Another Name</i> , Collier (94); <i>The Meaning of a Word</i> , Naylor (113); <i>What's in a Name</i> , Gates (376) Due: Essay #2 Final Draft Reader Response #5 on Collier
Week 8: Tuesday, October 15 Read: <i>What is Crime?</i> , Friedman (447); <i>What Happiness is</i> , Porter (456); <i>What are Friend For?</i> Winik (470) Due: Reader Response #6 on Porter or Winik
Week 9: Tuesday, October 22 Read: <i>In Praise of the F Word</i> , Sherry (564); <i>The English Only Movement</i> , Jamieson (261); <i>Me Talk Pretty One Day</i> , Sedaris (294) Due: Essay #3 Rough Draft Reader Response #7 on Sherry
Week 10: Tuesday, October 29 Read: <i>Condemn the Crime, Not the Person</i> , Tangney (569); <i>Shame is Worth a Try</i> , Kahan (574);

<i>Petty Crime, Outrageous Punishment, Cannon</i> (579) Due: Essay #3 Final Draft Reader Response #8 on Kahan
Week 11: Tuesday, November 5 Read: <i>The Truth About Torture</i> , Krauthammer (616), <i>The Abolition of Torture</i> , Sullivan (629) Midterm Examination**Bluebook Required Due: Reader Response #9 on Krauthammer OR Sullivan
Week 12: Tuesday, November 12 Read: <i>The Piracy of Privacy: Why Marketers Must Bare Our Souls</i> , Kanner (587); <i>Marketing Ate Our Culture—But it Doesn't Have to</i> , O'reilly (594) Due: Reader Response #10 on Kanner or O'reilly
Week 13: Tuesday, November 19 Read: Chapter 10 (238-254); ITW Chapters 1-5 (1-46)
Week 14: Tuesday, November 26 Read: Chapter 21 (539-546); ITW: Chapters 6-9 (47-98) Due: Essay #4 – Rough Draft
Week 15: Tuesday, December 3 Read: Chapter 22 (642-668); ITW: Chapters 10-15 (99-156) Due: Essay #4 – Final Draft
Week 16: Tuesday, December 10 Read: ITW: Chapters 16-Epilogue (157-203) Final Exam

You Made It! Congratulations! Have a Great Holiday!