



**CRITICAL READING,  
WRITING & THINKING**  
EWRT 02 67Z –Fall 2025. CRN 38120

**Instructor : Ruth Trimble, M.A.**

**Office hours:** on Zoom: Thurs. 6 p.m. – 7 p.m: On line Email M/T/W/Th/ 9 a.m. – 5 p.m./ or Zoom by appointment. Email: TrimbleRuth@fhda.edu

**Holidays :** 19th Jan. Last day to Add/Drop. 20th Jan. MLK Holiday. Presidents Day: 14-17 Feb.\* Feb. 28th last drop date. FINALS: 24 -28th March. No weekly meetings.

1. **Course Description:** Develops 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.

2. **Texts**

required : a) ***Thank You for Arguing. 4th Ed.* by Jay Heinrichs. 2020. isbn: 9780-593-23738-0**

b) ***The Biology of Belief: Unleashing the Power of Consciousness, Matter and Miracles* by Dr. Bruce Lipton. 2015.10th Anniv. Edition. Isbn: 978-1-401-95247-1**

*BOTH \*Available in the De Anza College Bookstore.*

3. **Prerequisite:** English Writing 1A, 1AH or ESL 5

4. **Expanded Description:** Student Learning Outcomes:

- i). Apply critical thinking skills to writing and complex readings.
- ii). Demonstrate academic (analytical, argumentative) writing based on reading of complex texts.
- iii). Demonstrate analysis, comparison, synthesis and documentation of independent research.

A. Students will develop critical and analytical skills in the reading and analysis of a variety of texts, including visual images and other non-verbal material.

B. Develop a sequence of argumentative and analytical essays with integrated reading that demonstrates the interdependence of reading writing, language and thinking.

C. Also: Synthesize the writing process in essay development: gather, plan, draft, revise, edit. Analyze and interpret, applying critical reading skills, analyzing one's experience, organizing and expressing the results of analysis. Argument: Propositions, Support (evidence and opinion), Synthesis, Claims, Assumptions, Persuasion, and alternative approaches to solving problems. Integrate multiple sources and views.

5. **Assignments:** Reading: Challenging college-level works that reflect and examine cultural topics, 21st Century concepts, socio-economic, scientific and other diverse issues. Emphasis on analytic and argumentative works. Writing: 6000 words of

formally evaluated writing involving analysis and synthesis. Includes informal writing, such as journals, critiques, response writing. Timed essays, exams, and quizzes. Progressive sequence of at least 4 analytical/argumentative essays totaling 4000 words at least, and a major research paper of 1500 words. Final exam or project may be a research paper.

**6. Learning Outcomes:** Students at the end of this course will be able to:

a. Examine the various forms and occasions of written language, as well as other kinds of discourse, and consider them for academic and argumentative writing:

a. Read culturally diverse arguments and expository texts and analyze them from a variety of perspectives that indicate understanding of implicit and explicit arguments, attitudes, claims, biases, fallacies, and assumptions

b. Understand and be able to explain and to use statistical evidence, diagrams, charts etc.

c. Develop an argument or analysis with a clear thesis, using relevant details, specific evidence and unambiguous claims

d. Formulate a clear thesis that is supported throughout an essay

e. Develop methods for writing, clear, cogent arguments, including definition, summary, induction and deduction, synthesis and analysis

f. Learn to read secondary sources purposefully by annotation, notes, quotes, paraphrasing and summarizing

g. Understand the critical role of voice, tone and style in argumentation including connotations, appeals, avoiding vagueness, ambiguity, jargon etc.

h. Write clear sentences that demonstrate variety, college-level skills and show a clear understanding of standard American English grammatical usage

i. Incorporate source material through paraphrase, summary and quotation correctly and legally without plagiarizing.

j. Demonstrate familiarity with the laws of plagiarism, the MLA conventions and the citation style for Bibliography and Works Cited list.

k. Acquire facility with the College Library databases for research and be aware of the validity of source material.

l. Demonstrate summarizing skills indicating grasp of the reading material and ability to reproduce the main ideas in his/her own words.

**7. Course Assignments:** Students who wish to obtain credit in EWRT 02 must complete all of the following with an average score of 75% (C ) or better:

1. Essay #1 Description Analysis (50pts /750 words) 5%

2. Essay #2 Synthesis and Annotated Bibliography 15%

{Annotated Bibliography (500 words) 5 %

{Synthesis with Thesis (1000 words) 10%

{Includes: Works Cited list with LIBRARY research

3. Essay #3. Classical Argument (1000 words) 15%

4. Essay #4 Rogerian Argument – (1000 words) 15%

5. Reading Journal (submit by week 9) 10%

7. Writing Journal (submit by week 10) 10%

8. Quizzes (submit by week 9) 5%

9. Mid Term TIMED 90 mins. 10%

10. Final TIMED. 15%. TOTAL : 1000 pts./ 100%

## 8. **Grading Policy:** - Minimum Required 6000 Finished words

A passing grade (75%+) in the course signifies that the student is a capable college-level writer and reader of English. It is important that students fulfill the minimum requirement for pages in the Reading Journal, in-class essays and typed essays for this class (6000 words). In the Reading Journal (300 words each) and Writing Journal (300 words each) students will be required to write for each entry –See Schedule for details. Grades will be based on student writing, successful completion, and understanding of material read.

**Grades** : 90 – 93% =A - ; 94 – 96% = A ; 97 - 100 percent=A+ ; 80-83% =B - ; 84 – 86% B; 87 – 89% = B+; 75 – 76% =C; 77- 79% = C+; 60-74 percent=D; under 60 percent=F.

## 9. **Methods:**

- a. Journals and quizzes – Reading Journal and Quizzes/ submit via Canvas. Quizzes may be short answer or short analytical paragraphs which evaluate Critical Thinking skills
- b. Essay-based compositions where students write essay length responses using the MLA style sheet.
- c. Analytical essays, including a major research paper.
- d. Mid term and final exams are responses to questions about Argument topics from Heinrichs and will be timed.
- e. Research in the library databases are required. *Google/Wikipedia searches are not reliable research. Any A I use for assignments when identified will be disqualified from credit. Credit is given for authentic abilities earned.*

## 10. **Course Expectations and Requirements:**

- a. Students who wish to pass EWRT 02 must complete all of the above with an average score of 75% or better.
- b. Participating: .
  1. Participation is required 5 hours a week evaluated through Canvas. If you miss participation in the first weeks of the class, you may be dropped so another student can have your space. Let your instructor know ahead of time if you are absent via EMAIL. (trimbleruth@fhda.edu) One week of non-participation is grounds to be dropped in the first weeks, and after two weeks of non-participation, the student can be dropped from Canvas. Keep in touch with your instructor with any problems at least once a week.
  2. There is no make up for missed timed exams. All due dates/times are FINAL! Deadlines are set to ensure everyone keeps up with the course material. The Calendar in Canvas shows the deadlines. Advice: keep a separate calendar for your time zone if different to California. .
- c. Mechanics: Keep copies of all work, essays, journals and all input to Canvas. Back up everything. Always check your Canvas work to be sure it is submitted. Trying to upload by cell phone or tablet to Canvas may not work. Sending from Google+, Pages, or Google Docs will not open in this system and must be CONVERTED to **DOC,DocX or RTF**. When typing use font size **12 /14 standard font Times New Roman/** double space /indent each paragraph and put your name, date and essay number on the top RIGHT hand of your essay.

d. Revising: If you do not pass an essay with a score above 75%, then you get an R (REVISE) which means the essay can be revised for a second chance of a passing grade with a 10% penalty *within ONE WEEK* firm.

e. Etiquette: We shall be sharing opinions, critiques and responses in a community type forum. Please be respectful of other students' assignments and comments. Everyone should feel free to express opinions but not at the expense of others. However, very personal experiences are best kept *private*.

f. Copying: Non-textbook essays, articles, facts and evidence found in published sources from RELIABLE sources in print or on line may be used in this course but must be found from our **LIBRARY initially and clearly shown to have been from library research.**

Your material will be: 1. your readings from the texts in the course; 2. your own experience, 3. personal interviews, 4. Data from dependable databases and approved by the instructor from sources in our Library. However, you must use the appropriate method of acknowledging the source of anything you borrow; we use the **MLA Conventions**. We do *not* use APA or other methods.

g. **PLAGIARISM** is the name given to stealing another author's ideas and passing them in as your own. (This is an Italian word meaning "to kidnap.") Do not use other people's essays, ideas, words, or writing or have them write your essay passing it off as your own. That too is Plagiarism and it is illegal in the United States. It is punishable in this course and in De Anza College See below. You will be given one warning and then reported for subsequent violations. It is important to learn the law regarding Plagiarism. It is illegal. We do not tolerate this.

\*\* For more information, please see **Students Rights and Responsibilities** in your Student Handbook. [www.deanza.edu/studenthandbook/studentrights.html](http://www.deanza.edu/studenthandbook/studentrights.html). Academic and/or administrative sanctions may be applied in cases of academic dishonesty. **From FHDA College System:** Academic consequences may include : Receiving a failing grade on the test, paper or exam; Having course grade lowered; Receiving a grade of F in the course ;Administrative consequences may include; Being placed on disciplinary probation; Being placed on disciplinary suspension; Being expelled; Students may also be subject to arrest and or heavy fines if the academic dishonesty offense violates state or federal law.

#### 11. **Campus Resources:** \*See On Line Education information about computers

**Disabilities;**For accommodations because of a disability contact: Phone: 408.864.8839 t: Kim Fuykyama Web site: [www.deanza.edu/edc](http://www.deanza.edu/edc) or. DSS : SCS 41 Phone: 408.864.8753 \* free campus resources **Writing and Reading Center:** <https://www.deanza.edu/studentssuccess/wrc/>

- Victoria Kahler, Instructional Support Coordinator 408.864.5753, [kahlervictoria@deanza.edu](mailto:kahlervictoria@deanza.edu)
- Diana Alves Delima 408.864.8485, [alvesdelimadiana@deanza.edu](mailto:alvesdelimadiana@deanza.edu)
- Melissa Aguilar, Student Success Center Co-Director 408.864.5422, [aguilarmelissa@deanza.edu](mailto:aguilarmelissa@deanza.edu)
- Disability Services : <https://www.deanza.edu/dsps/> [tovarmarco@fhda.edu](mailto:tovarmarco@fhda.edu) 408.864.8954
- Counseling: <https://www.deanza.edu/our-counselors/> (408) 864 5865 (includes psychological counseling.)
- Financial Aid: <https://www.deanza.edu/financialaid/> (Baldwin Winery: 408 864 8718)