



Expository Reading and Writing Course

Tuesdays & Thursdays 1:00-1:55

Course Syllabus

Mrs. Fawn Ruby,

English, Leadership, & Personalized Learning Teacher

Teacher's Contact Information

Classroom: Chico Center, Room 221

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School Phone: (530) 894-3952

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Course Overview

This year-long course, Expository Reading and Writing (ERW) will satisfy 10 credits of CORE's English requirement for high school graduation, and is area "B" approved for college admission.

This course was originally designed by the California State University system to prepare high school students for the rigors of college-level reading and writing. The word "expository" is a broad term for informational and persuasive texts—it is these types of texts that will be the central platform from which students in this class will develop deeper literary and critical thinking skills. Throughout the course, students will engage with texts that deal with contemporary issues. Students will evaluate various authors' claims and writing styles, and then participate in thoughtful, text-based discussions in order to formulate their own opinions. Students will defend their viewpoints in numerous argumentative essays that will require multiple drafts. **It is expected that students in this course are ready and willing to engage in a rigorous intellectual challenge.**

ERW is a 5 credit/semester course; meaning students are expected to complete approximately five hours of class work per week. As we only meet in the classroom twice weekly (2 hours), students can anticipate dedicating approximately three hours per week outside of class on given assignments and reading.

College English Proficient Test (EPT) Credit

Seniors who received a Conditional Pass on their EAP test in their junior year AND receive a "C" or better in the ERW course are eligible to have the EPT test waived at the college of their choice and enter a college-level English course.

Curriculum Units (*Tentative*)

Each unit of study will include both fiction and non-fiction texts

Life After High School

Rhetoric of the Op Ed

Value of Life

August 19-September 11

September 16- October 2

October 7- October 23

Good Food/ Bad Food	October 28- November 13
<u>Into the Wild</u>	November 18- December 19
Racial Profiling	January 6- January 29
Bring a Text to Class- Bridging Out-of-School and In-School Literacies	February 3-February 19
Juvenile Justice	February 24-March 12
Language, Gender, and Culture	March 24-April 9
<u>Brave New World</u>	April 14-May 14

Attendance

1. Because we only meet twice weekly, class attendance is expected and extremely important. Students will receive 10 points for weekly attendance and participation. Students will lose points for being tardy or absent from class:
 - -2 points for arriving to class late
 - -5 points for not attending class
2. I do not distinguish between excused and unexcused absences.
3. It is the student's responsibility to find out what lessons and assignments he/she missed if tardy or absent.
4. Students will have the same number of days as missed to make up work without penalty.
5. If a student misses more than four class periods in a learning period, he/she will receive a Missing Assignment Report.

Expectations

- As your teacher, I will show you as much respect as you offer your classmates, yourself, and me.
- As your teacher, I will come to class on time and prepared to provide you engaging(!) Language Arts curriculum.
- As your teacher, I will explain and provide lessons and assignments orally and in written form.
- As your teacher, I will return all completed work in a timely manner and update grades regularly.
- Students are to come to class ON TIME, prepared, and willing to engage in the day's activities and assignments.
- Students are not copy or plagiarize another student or source's work.
- Students are not to prevent another student from learning in any way.
- Students are to keep all electronic devices turned off and out of sight unless given explicit permission to use them.
- Parents are to help their students arrive to class on time and prepared.
- Parents are to ensure that students retrieve and complete all work on time, even when a student is absent.
- Parents are to work closely with teacher to support students' success in the class.

****All school rules outlined in the student handbook are to also be abided by in the classroom.***

Grading

Course grades will be determined by the quality of work provided by students in the areas of class work and homework, tests and quizzes, essays, projects, presentations, and attendance. All course work will be assigned a point value. Points earned on each assignment will be averaged together to determine a percentage and according letter grade. Please remember grades are earned by students; not given by the teacher.

Late work and Missing Assignments

- All course work is required to be completed and turned in by the assigned due date.
- Failure to complete an assignment by the assigned due date will result in an automatic 30% grade deduction, and will only be accepted up to one class period late.
- Failure to submit one week's worth of work will result in a Missing Assignment Report.

Office Hours

Students: My number one goal as your teacher is to help you achieve your desired level of success. I am always available to offer you additional help on an assignment, essay, project, or concept we are learning in class. I will be available to you Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:00-4:30pm, Wednesdays 11:00am-1:30pm, and by appointment. Additionally, you can always email, text, or call me if you have a question or need help.

DETACH COMPLETED SIGNATURE SECTION BELOW AND RETURN TO MRS. RUBY

Both my parent and I have read through the course syllabus. We understand and accept the information, guidelines, and expectations presented.

Student's Name

Student's Signature

Parent's Name

Parent's Signature

Class Name: _____

Class Meeting Time: _____
Parent's Signature