

Welcome to
English 5
***Advanced Composition and
Critical Thinking***

Section # 8762

3-units

Summer 2019

ONLINE

Course Dates: June 17- July 28, 2019

This is a critical reasoning and advanced composition course designed to develop critical reading, thinking, and writing skills beyond the level achieved in English 1A. The course will focus on development of logical reasoning and analytical and argumentative writing skills.

**Online: Canvas
Ginny Buccelli**

Voicemail: 707-527-4999
Ext. 5068

vbuccelli@santarosa.edu

Virtual Office Hours:
Tuesdays 5-6pm

Required Texts

Cullen, Dave *Columbine*

Recommended Text

Hacker, *Rules for Writers*

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Describe principles of critical thinking.
2. Apply principles of critical thinking to texts, media, and everyday experience.
3. Write critical analysis and response papers.

Course Overview

We will spend the summer creating a virtual community complete with regular discussions and the opportunity to tackle interesting, and at times controversial, subjects. We will spend time with multiple platforms and writers, from theorists to videos to social media and online news agencies.

We are going to explore the world of news media; our goal is to learn to discern for ourselves what is important to know and what knowledge can be discarded. We will conduct an in-depth reading and discussion of *Columbine* then move into investigating the ripple effect of the attack, within mainstream media, of the incident. We will address theories of privacy and surveillance in order to more deeply explore human reactions. Together we will attempt to balance, or at least explore, the two ends of the media spectrum: frenzy and complacency.

We will pull way back and attempt to take a larger view of Social Media. This will be especially challenging as our culture is so immersed in virtual relationships. My hope is that you will find examining controversial topics without the benefit of emotional response to be an interesting exercise.

Contact, Communication and Virtual Office Hours

I can be reached via Canvas messaging, email or voice mail. I receive notifications and check my Canvas and email several times throughout most days. I will check voice mail at least twice per week. Be sure to have reliable contact information outside of Canvas for at least two of your classmates.

I try to respond to students within 12 hours, 24 for non-urgent issues. If I do not respond, you are welcome to gently remind me that you would like to hear back. I am usually up and working early in the mornings.

During Virtual Office Hours, I will be logged into our class and monitoring postings; I will also open a Conference or a ConferZoom window that will allow us to interact in real-time.

We can make arrangements, as needed, to talk on the phone or meet outside of posted hours. I live in Ukiah, but I can drive to the Santa Rosa campus on an as-needed basis.

Virtual Office Hours: Tuesdays 5-6pm

Email/Canvas messaging: I check email and messaging several times per day, so it is a fast and easy way to get a hold of me fairly quickly.

OFF-LINE: Saturdays I will not respond to emails or class postings.

Instructor Access and Communication

I expect that you will treat our communication with the same respect as any written work. **Please**, don't treat our Canvas or email conversations like text. *The initial email* should always have a clear subject, a proper greeting, accurate spelling, grammar, sentence structure and a respectful closing. Subsequent responses are more suitable for less formal stylings (much like a spoken conversation), and we can dispense with the greeting and salutations, but *I still expect full words and sentences, punctuation and grammar.*

The college communicates with students through email; most businesses rely heavily on email to function. Get used to checking your email daily. This is a habit and skill you will need in your working life.

Proof-read before sending!! Be careful of Auto-Correct!

Let's Keep it Real

I realize that you will already hear about Netiquette in the Orientation portion of the first week, but it bears repeating.

- Every module will require you to engage in written communication.
- Unlike traditional classes, where facial expressions, tone, voice, and body language accompany your speech or signs, in this class, only your words will speak for you.
- Before you post anything, review your comments to make sure your post accurately and clearly presents your ideas (and are well proofread).
- When disagreeing with someone, challenge the ideas, not the person. (Instead of using "you said" try to focus on "the point made") It's easy to misinterpret someone online and to misrepresent our own ideas, so be mindful of your communication.
- The online/social media world has evolved and become a much more volatile place to reside. Let's not add to the negative rhetoric.

I expect each of you to behave with complete respect towards other students and towards me. You can review the college's [Standards of Student Conduct](#). Conversely, you have rights and recourse if you have a grievance against the college or your instructor. You can find that information [HERE](#).

If you are disrespectful in my class, the following procedure will occur:

- 1) You will receive one warning about your behavior.
- 2) You will be expected to apologize to the individual or to the class as a whole.
- 3) You will not receive points for that Discussion posting.

A second offense means you are dropped immediately. **No exceptions.**

Life Happens Sometimes

Let's be honest, despite our best planning, incidents and issues sometimes gets in our way. If you have a personal problem that will temporarily preclude your participation, and you wish to remain enrolled and active in the course, you **MUST** contact me directly. In most instances, we can work something out. **BUT** you must be pro-active and responsible. If I can help, I will.

Attendance & Due Dates

Students who have not logged-in the class website by Monday, June 17 at midnight and completed at least one activity are considered no-shows and will be dropped from the course. Participation through discussions and completion of assignments are required each week. One full week of inactivity means you can be dropped from the course.

Due dates are set throughout the week. I strongly suggest that you keep up with the work during the week in order to stay on top of the required reading and responses. Once the due date is passed, you will not be able to post that week's work.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities who believe they may need accommodations in this class are encouraged to contact [Disability Resources](#) (527-4278) as soon as possible to better ensure such accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion. DRC is located on the 3rd floor of Bertolini Hall on the Santa Rosa campus, and in Jacobs Hall, Rm. 101 on the Petaluma Campus.

If you require accommodations, contact me privately as soon as possible. I will need a copy of your letter and time to make necessary preparations.

Cheating and Plagiarism

I cannot stress strongly enough how important it is for you to understand and abide by the SRJC academic policy regarding classroom conduct and academic integrity, specifically plagiarism. By not citing a source (within the work and on a Works Cited page) you are by default claiming that what you have written is your idea in your own words. Whether you are quoting or paraphrasing, give credit where credit is due. [SRJC has strict policies](#) in place; don't jeopardize your academic success because you forgot the name of the website where you found some information or a quote. Write your own work and cite sources properly.

- Copying something from the Internet and pasting it into your essay/response/document without identifying the original source IS plagiarism.
- Recycling a friend's/siblings/classmates or your own paper from a previous semester IS plagiarism.

My online sleuthing skills are quite good. Don't take a chance. Write your own original work and if you use someone else's ideas or word, give credit where credit is due.

Any paper with plagiarized work
will receive an F.
THIS IS NOT NEGOTIABLE!

The first incident involving non-citation of source information will result in a failing grade for that paper. A second incidence will result in a formal referral to an administrator.

Class Participation

This is a student driven course, which means that your input is an invaluable learning tool. It is imperative that you participate in discussions to ensure that you have a voice in our classroom community. I expect that everyone will enter the classroom with an open mind and respectful attitude. Different opinions are welcome and expected. Together we will explore the truths that we find and share our diverse opinions. Keep in mind that word choice can be very important; slang and swearing are not always necessary to get your point across.

I have set up discussions each week for all the required readings. You are required to post a response (as indicated in the directions for each) and then respond to two classmates' postings. Participation in these discussions will constitute the bulk of your class participation grade. Review minimum length and due dates carefully.

Grading

Each activity and essay grade is based solely on points accumulated

90%-100%= A

80%-89%= B

70%-79%= C

60%-69%= D

59% and below = F

General Grading Rubric

For formal writing assignments, the following offer general guidance as to how papers will be graded. Each assignment will also include a rubric to aid you in completing the paper with the best possible grade.

C- The assignment is complete and every part of the prompt is addressed including minimum length and adherence to the subject matter. Grammar and/or punctuation errors do not detract from the clarity of the argument.

B- In addition to the criteria for a C, the writing must be above average in most respects. This paper examines the material beyond our class discussions, shows a depth of analysis and has few grammar/punctuation errors.

A- In addition for the criteria for a B&C, the writing must exhibit an analysis and extended insight; also the writing shows a clear mastery of grammar and the paper has few or no punctuation errors.

D- The assignment is partially fulfilled, but the writing is understandable if not completely accurate.

F- The assignment was largely ignored or not completed at all and/or there are extensive grammar and punctuation errors that hinder understanding; OR the paper does not meet the minimum page requirements; OR there is no Works Cited page (if required).

R- The paper meets most of the assignment requirements, but has issues at the sentence or structure level that hinder a clear analysis. The student will be allowed a revision (but the revision guidelines must be followed **exactly**). A Revision Guide will be provided.

Grammar, MLA and General Writing Tips

Once you have reached the English 5 level, I expect that your sentence structure and grammar are fairly strong. If you hand in a paper with multiple surface errors, you will have one brief opportunity for revision.

There are numerous online sources to aid in sentence level issues in addition to the required textbook, *Rules for Writers*.

Additionally, online resources such as the OWL at Purdue .

https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/general_writing/grammar/index.html (Grammar)

https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/general_writing/mechanics/index.html (Mechanics)

I expect that you will follow standard MLA format for essays written outside of Canvas and uploaded. This includes the following:

1" margins

A header with your last name and page number on every page (.5" from the top)

12-point font

Times New Roman or Courier font

Double spaced

NO extra spaces before or after paragraphs

First page information listed as follows:

Your first and last name Jane Doe

My name Ms. Buccelli

Class Information English 5

Date (day month year) 12 July 2019

Papers that are turned in without meeting these requirements will automatically lose points.

About Your Instructor

Statistically speaking I am a first-generation college student. My mom managed to finish high school, but my dad opted to drop out at fifteen and join the circus. Without guidance or sufficient social capital, I should not have succeeded in college. At first I didn't.

I attempted college the first time immediately after finishing high school. When that didn't work I tried again two years later. When that didn't work, I put off finishing college until after I had children and multiple jobs. I now hold an Associate of Arts degree, a

Bachelor of Arts degree in English and a Master of Fine Arts degree in Creative Writing. I am also a freelance writer and editor. So much for statistics!

Extra Credit

You may earn extra credit a number of ways.

1) Identify (in a private message to the instructor) any proofreading errors on the Canvas page. These instances will earn you one point each, BUT you must be the first person to contact me. (And yes, I will purposely leave a few for you to find.)

2) Attend a current literary event and write a minimum of two pages (500 words) that include the following:

- An introduction of the author/title/venue (include date)
- What you knew in advance about the author/title/venue
- What you learned
- Your impression of the author/experience

The properly (MLA) formatted and proofread paper must be emailed or sent attached to a Canvas message.

A literary event can be a poetry reading, open mic, or a question and answer session with an author. Feel free to share literary event opportunities with your classmates in the General Class Discussion. If you are unsure if an event will qualify for extra credit, ask.

All extra credit is due no later than July 13. I will accept up to 5 Literary Event papers; each is worth up to 10 points each.

WRITING CENTER

The Writing Center at the Santa Rosa Campus will be open for summer school, **June 24 through August 7!** It is a great opportunity to be able to work one-on-one with instructors and instructional assistants to help you with your writing. I cannot recommend this resource highly enough. *All writers get help from other writers.* It is completely appropriate to get help from our amazing faculty no matter what your writing level. The hours are listed here. **The Writing Center is located in Emeritus 1629. The hours are: Monday-Wednesday, 10am-1pm.**