

**De Anza College      EWRT1A Composition and Reading      Winter 2017**

EWRT 1A:28 in MW 4-6:15 PM at L82

**Instructor:** Dr. Husne Jahan **E-mail:** [jahanhusne@fhda.edu](mailto:jahanhusne@fhda.edu) **Office Hours/ Place:** Mondays 1:15 to 3:45 PM in the Writing and Reading Center at ATC 309.<sup>1</sup> In case of a Monday holiday, the office hour will be transferred to Wednesday for that week only. You can also e-mail me with questions. Note that you can drop in for help from tutors with writing at the Writing Reading Center (WRC). Visit the WRC website at <https://www.deanza.edu/studentsuccess/wrc/> for more information. Their hours are **Monday-Thursday: 9:30 am - 6:30 pm**, Friday: **9:30 am - 12:30 pm** and **closed on Saturday & Sunday. They open in the second week of the quarter and are closed in the finals week. Tutoring in other subjects is also available at various locations on campus from the Student Success Center. A link to their web site:** <https://www.deanza.edu/studentsuccess/>

**Course Information and Objectives:** EWRT1A is a 5-unit transfer-level course open to students who have passed the prerequisite courses (English Writing 211 and Reading 211 or Language Arts 211) or have earned a qualifying score on the English placement tests. EWRT1A focuses on introduction to university level reading and writing, with an emphasis on analysis, close examination of a variety of texts (personal, popular, literary, professional, academic) from culturally diverse traditions, and practice in common rhetorical strategies used in academic writing and composition of clear, well-organized, and well-developed essays, with varying purposes and differing audiences, from personal to academic. You are expected to practice rhetorical strategies used in academic writing and compose well-organized and well-developed essays based on clear theses that express your points-of-view. You will be assigned readings from our required textbooks and you will get several types of writing assignments, both take-home and in-class. The assignments will focus on the areas of reading comprehension, critical analysis, paragraph development, sentence craft, essay writing, creating dialogue with other texts, and conducting and incorporating some research in writing.

**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.

**You will be expected to:**

- Read, understand, analyze, and write about a variety of texts.
- Go through all the processes of writing, such as planning, prewriting, writing, and revision.
- Submit multiple drafts of essays.
- Work on grammar and usage conventions as much as needed for improving writing.
- Write coherent essays with clear theses and well-developed paragraphs.
- Produce a minimum of 6000 words of in essays for the course. Write four essays including one research paper and two in-class essays as mid-term and final. You will write analytical, compare/contrast, persuasive/argumentative, and reflective essays. One single essay may combine elements from more than one of these essay types.
- Submit all your essays on turnitin.com.
- Research and gather supplementary information to strengthen your essays as asked or needed.
- Learn MLA style of citation and essay presentation.

**Required Text Books:**

1. **Writing about Writing (2nd edition), by Elizabeth Wardle and Doug Downs, published by Bedford St. Martins. ISBN-13: 978-1457697876** (this is the paperback edition).

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<sup>1</sup> I may change the location of my office hour if I can get access to the Baldwin Winery office space. You will be notified of any changes.

2. *Life of Pi* (the book, any edition in English) by Yann Martel.
3. Several articles researched from the De Anza College Library (mostly from the library web site) and from the Internet.

### **Grade Distribution:**

Essays: 15x4=60 (Both take-home and in-class midterm and final; rough drafts will be required for all essays); Classwork/Homework: 30 points (approximately 10 to 12 classwork and homework assignments for the quarter); 2 Tests= 2x5=10 points; **Total Points= 100**

### **Grading Scale Based on Total Course Points**

A+ = 100 % or above	C+= 75-78%
A= 95 - 99 %	C= 70-74%
A- = 90-94%	D+= 65-69%
B+= 85-89 %	D= 60-64%
B=81-84%	D- = 55-59%
B-= 79%-80%	Under 55%= F

### **Work Acceptance and Drop Policies:**

As class work is mostly completed in class, if you miss a class, particularly when we do group work and informal presentations, you may miss work that may not be made up. We will do considerable credit-bearing classwork on most days, so missing any class may result in your missing classwork and losing classwork points. All kinds of homework assignments including rough drafts of essays are expected to be turned in on time by the due dates. Just for the sake of simple categorization, all work other than essays and quizzes are classified as class work even if they are assigned as homework. Final versions of essays can be submitted a few days late after the due dates, if a student needs extra time due to work pressure and schedule conflicts. Note carefully that if a student does not turn in the assigned essays and 90 % of the classwork and homework assigned to date by the 8<sup>th</sup> week of the term, he/she will be dropped from the course which is better than getting an unsatisfactory grade. You may also be dropped if you miss too many classes (for example, 4). Also, no work can be accepted in any way after the quarter comes to an end in the 12<sup>th</sup> week.

**Attendance, Tardy, and Technology Policies:** You need to have good attendance and participation in class to remain in the course. Missing more than 3 classes can result in your being dropped. If you are more than 20 minutes late or leave early, you will be marked half absent. If you have to miss class or leave early for any unavoidable need, you should let me know. You can use technology such as smartphones, tablets, or laptops in the class only when they are being used for class work related to this class. Their personal use or use for doing homework for another class is not allowed.

### **Accommodations:**

If any student needs any special accommodations for any disability, you are entitled to receive appropriate accommodations, so please inform me about your needs at the beginning of the quarter.

**Maintaining Academic Integrity and Staying Away from Plagiarism:** Plagiarism is taking another person's language and ideas and passing it off as one's own. Plagiarism is an offence and can lead to failure in the course. For detailed information about the Academic Integrity Policy of De Anza College, consult the web page: <http://www.deanza.edu/studenthandbook/academic-integrity.html>. When you research and find information that is not considered "common knowledge," you will have to quote or paraphrase your source with adequate acknowledgement of the source. You can obviously gather information from other sources and much of your essays will be about other people's writings, but you are expected to analyze and interpret them, putting them in the context of your own thoughts, NOT copying them directly. Getting another person to write your paper for you or buying a paper from the Internet is also plagiarism. All of the above should be strictly avoided. I expect nothing less than absolute honesty from the students.

**Mutual Respect Policy:** De Anza College has a Mutual Respect Policy defined on <http://fhdafiles.fhda.edu/downloads/aboutfhda/4110.pdf> in the following way:

The Board of Trustees of the Foothill-De Anza Community College District is deeply committed to the premise that on college campuses full participation in the educational process must be in an environment that is free from harassment based on race, religious creed, color, national origin, ancestry, physical disability, mental disability, medical condition, marital status, sex, age, sexual orientation or gender identity. At the same time the Board is, as always, committed to protecting freedom of speech to guarantee the free exchange of ideas. Nowhere is this protection of greater importance than on our college campuses, where the free exchange of ideas fosters knowledge, individual growth, and tolerance for new and different ideas. However, speech or expression used as a weapon to harass specific victims is not to be tolerated and is to be condemned.

### **Disruptive Behavior**

In case of any disruptive behavior by any student, there are policies and procedures in the *Standards of Student Conduct* (see catalog). Any student disrupting the class could be asked to leave and administrative follow-ups are possible.

### **NOTE:**

- You MUST check the schedule and read assigned texts at home before you come to class.
- We will also read and discuss parts of texts in class and often do group discussions and presentations (in which students discuss assigned parts of a text as a group and then present their findings to the class as a group). You will need to bring the textbooks we use with you to every class meeting. We may not be using all the books at the same time. Check schedule to know what books to bring.
- You will also need paper available to write and maintain a binder or a folder in which you keep all the work you do for the class.
- For most classwork, you can consult your book and other sources as you discuss, present materials, or write, so memorization is not usually needed.
- Some classes will be held in the English writing lab in AT 305 or AT 307.
- Class work involves taking part in discussions, sharing answers and points-of-views, responding to your peers' work, and doing any assigned in-class written work on paper and on the board. You are expected to demonstrate mutual tolerance, respect, understanding, and patience as you engage in such class work. Any reading done is expected to generate class discussions and presentation/sharing of ideas by students. So you should always be prepared to talk about a reading you have done. But relax, this is a supportive and necessary exchange of ideas and not meant to be intimidating.
- **Revision:** You will get feedback on all your rough drafts if they are submitted on time. You will be able to get peer feedback for those essays if you bring drafts on specified days. Drafts will be considered as classwork only if submitted on due dates and they will be worth class work points.
- My Courses platform, which you can find through your portal as well as Catalyst may both be used for posting course material. I will also use e-mail to communicate with you.
- You will be asked to submit all your essays to turnitin.com, so both you and I can check their originality. I will give you a class ID # and password to enroll in this class on turnitin.com, which you have to do. No exceptions will be allowed. Your essays will also be graded only on turnitin.com. You will also be asked to submit some homework and classwork on turnitin. A Gradebook on turnitin will reflect an estimate of your grade.

**Plagiarism:** Plagiarism is taking another person's language and ideas and passing it off as one's own. Getting another person to write your paper for you or buying a paper from the Internet is plagiarism. Plagiarism is an offence and detection of plagiarism can lead to failure in the course. All kinds of plagiarism must be strictly avoided. When you research and find information that is not considered "common knowledge," you

will have to quote or paraphrase your source with adequate acknowledgement of the source. You have to gather information from other sources and much of your essays will be about other people's writings, but you are expected to analyze and interpret them, putting them in the context of your own thoughts. I expect nothing less than absolute honesty from the students. You will be asked to submit some work electronically, so I can check their originality with the help of turnitin.com.

### **Explanation of Some Classroom Activities**

As the schedule will frequently mention the following activities, I would like to explain these in the context of this class.

**Discussion:** Most reading and writing done for the class is expected to generate discussions as discussions can facilitate learning and sharing of ideas. Discussions may take many forms. In our class, we will use a combination of guided question-answer form of discussion and a structured discussion format involving groups. I expect to use the structured discussion more because it generates better responses from students.

*Guided Question-Response Discussion:* In this form, the teacher asks a question and calls on student volunteers or specific students by name to respond. Then another student is asked to add a comment and so on. The teacher continues to explain as well as call on other students to respond. The teacher and sometimes the students write relevant points on the board.

*Structured Group Discussion:* Groups are assigned different topics to work on. Group members discuss the topic, come up with some useful points/responses, write the points down, and then report their points to the whole class through an informal presentation.

**Informal presentation:** Usually, all structured group discussions are to be followed by an informal presentation through which the student groups explain their findings and ideas to the class, using the board to write the main points.

**Brainstorming:** When we stimulate our brains to come up with ideas, we might do that individually or as a class. When we brainstorm as a class, if I give you a topic, all of you will shed some light on it. I will write our brainstorming points on the board.

**In-Class Writing:** Shorter writing assignments such as summaries, explanations, journaling, note-writing, and responses to questions will often begin in class. Sometimes, they will have to be completed in class, but often, you will get opportunities to finish the work as homework. For this work, you can potentially get full credit for completing the work even if you make mistakes.

**Homework:** Homework is also categorized as class work. Although you can usually get full credit for completing homework, work showing a clear lack of effort will have points deducted.

**Class work** also involves taking part in discussions, sharing responses and points-of-views, responding to your peers' work, and doing any assigned in-class written work.

**Low Stakes Writing:** Class work and homework writing assignments that will receive credit for completion can be defined as low stakes writing which show your learning process rather than demonstrating your finished work. Such writing will receive full credit if completed or partial credit if only partially done.

**High Stakes Writing:** When you get detailed directions for writing and more time to complete your work, the work will be worth more points and evaluated on the basis of its quality.

**Your Final Exam is on Wednesday, March 29 from 4 to 6 PM. You will write an in-class essay for your final exam. The final exam may be scheduled at one of the computer labs.**

**A separate reading list and weekly schedule will be posted and sent to you.**