

Course Syllabus

EWRT 2 57Z (36518) W '25 – CRITICAL READING, WRITING AND THINKING - FULLY ONLINE ASYNCHRONOUS CLASS

Instructor: Dr. Deborah Garfinkle

Campus E-Mail: Use the Canvas Inbox only

Virtual Office Hour: T: 10:30-10:55 AM AND TR: 10:30-10:55 AM and by appointment

Prerequisite: English Writing 1A

Contact

I'm available to answer student emails M-F from 9 AM-9 PM. I am not available to answer emails on the weekend. As a rule, I'll respond within 24 hours to your email and no later than 48. If you want me to respond quickly, always email me through the Canvas inbox so your email won't get mixed in with all the campus emails I get. This also lets me know who you are and which class you're in.

Virtual Office Hours

I have two 25 minute Zoom sessions each week on Tuesday and Thursday to meet with students virtually. I also reserve a 15 minute session for a meeting by appointment. Please note - I can only go over essay drafts during my office hours. I cannot go over them online in emails.

Required Texts

Bedau and Barnet: *Current Issues and Enduring Questions 12th ed.*: ISBN 131919818X

Rabin-Havt and Media Matters: *Lies, Incorporated*: ISBN: 9780307279570

ONLY ORDER BY THE ISBN NUMBERS PROVIDED OR YOU MIGHT NOT HAVE THE RIGHT READINGS

Course Description

EWRT 2 is designed to help you develop critical thinking skills and apply them to reading and writing. Outside research, beyond the materials covered in class is required to successfully complete this class. Strengthening your critical thinking skills by fully participating in this class will improve your ability to do well in all your other college classes.

My EWRT 2 courses are asynchronously taught. That means that we will not meet virtually as a class on Zoom during the quarter. You will decide when and how to engage with the content covered in each Canvas module. Each module begins on Monday and ends on Sunday. All your work for the module will be due by Sunday at 11:59 PM.

Student Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course you will be able to:

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

Course Requirements and Course Engagement:

In order to achieve these outcomes you must complete all graded essay assignments on time. You must also hand in all Reflections and participate in the online discussions by the

posted deadlines to get credit. If you don't do an assignment by the closing deadline, it's like missing a traditional class and you cannot make up any work you've missed. All assignments must be typed and in the required formats. All graded essays must have the required length, formatting and other requirements to pass. Any essays that are too short, off-topic, missing elements such as a Works Cited page or a Writing Reflection, will not be given credit. As a rule, I do not accept late assignments. If I do, it's only when you get my approval for an extension before the deadline.

All essays must be uploaded to the proper link in Canvas and in the proper file format (I only accept .doc(x) and .pdf). It's your responsibility to make sure your work is uploaded and accessible in Canvas by the assignment's deadline. I cannot help you resolve issues with submissions.

PLEASE NOTE, I NEVER ACCEPT ANY WORK THAT IS EMAILED OR SUBMITTED OUTSIDE OF CANVAS - NO EXCEPTIONS. ANY WORK THAT IS EMAILED TO ME OR SUBMITTED OUTSIDE OF CANVAS WILL NOT BE GIVEN CREDIT.

Part of your grade is based on how actively you engage with the course. In order for you to stay in the class, you must post and submit assignments on a consistent basis. At the beginning of the course, if you miss two posts in a row and I have a waitlist, I will drop you. Later in the quarter, if you miss a full week's worth of work and you haven't contacted me, you may be dropped for lack of engagement and not engaging with the course will definitely have a negative impact on your final grade. Please note - if you stop engaging after the final drop date of **Friday, February 28**, you won't pass the class.

Grading and Evaluation

Your formal graded assignments are weighted as a percentage of your final grade. The percentages are as follows:

2 graded short essays (3-5 pages)	10% each
Online midterm	10%
Research Essay Proposal (2-3 pages)	10%
Research Essay Annotated Bibliography	5%
Final research essay (8-12 pages)	25%
Online Discussions (including Peer Review)	10%
Reflections (1-2 pages each)	10%
Course Preparation, Engagement and Participation	10 %

The grade scale is as follows: A, 9-10; B, 7-8; C, 5-6; D, 3-4; F, < 3 or 0 (plagiarized or late assignments).

Grading student writing is a somewhat subjective process. However, I will be looking at the following criteria to evaluate your work:

- technical proficiency (clarity, coherence, well-chosen language, clear sentence structure, coherent use of MLA style)
- development/complexity (well-developed thesis statements and paragraphs, effective transitions, well-integrated source material and sophistication of rhetorical arguments)

Academic Integrity

For real learning to take place and to be fair to all students, I need to know exactly what your true level and skills are. This is particularly true when it comes to an online course.

Remember - all students are subject to the college's policy on academic integrity that defines cheating and plagiarism as follows:

Cheating is the act of obtaining or attempting to obtain credit for academic work through the use of dishonest, deceptive or fraudulent means.

- Copying, in part or in whole, from someone else's test
- Submitting work presented previously in another course, if contrary to the rules of either course
- Altering or interfering with grading
- Using or consulting, during an examination, any sources, consulting with others, use of electronic equipment including cell phones and PDA's, or use of materials not authorized by the instructor
- Committing other acts that defraud or misrepresent.

Plagiarism is representing the work of someone else as your own.

- Incorporating the ideas, words, sentences, paragraphs, or parts of another person's writings, without giving appropriate credit, and representing the product as one's own
- Representing another's artistic or scholarly works such as musical compositions, computer programs, photographs, paintings, drawings or sculptures as your own
- Submitting a paper purchased from a research or term paper service, including the internet
- Undocumented Web source usage.
- Using AI programs such as ChatGPT to generate your essays and assignments. Grammarly is okay for checking grammar, but not generating content.

Other Specific Examples of Academic Dishonesty

- Purposely allowing another student to copy from your paper during a test
- Giving homework, term paper or other academic work to another student to plagiarize
- Having another person submit any work in your name
- Lying to an instructor or college official to improve your grade
- Altering graded work after it has been returned, then submitting the work for re-grading
- Stealing tests
- Forging signatures on drop/add cards or other college documents
- Collaboration without permission of instructor.
- Gaining unlawful or unauthorized access to college or district computers or servers.

The first time you intentionally cheat or plagiarize, you will receive a 0 for that assignment and won't be able to make up the work. If you cheat or plagiarize a second time, you may risk failing the class and other administrative sanctions.

Please note - you cannot give friends and family your work for editing. If you do, I will consider your work plagiarized. If you need help, go to the WRC to get a tutor to go over your work. They know how to help you learn how to revise your work so that it's your own work and not someone else's.

AI Policy

While AI can be a powerful tool for use in certain contexts, since this is a writing course, it is essential that I know your true ability when you submit your work. In EWRT 2, I consider using a significant amount of AI (Chat GPT/Grammarly Premium) to organize, generate or revise your work as plagiarism and it is **NOT** allowed. A significant amount is any amount over the 20% threshold indicated in Turnitin's detection tool, or highlighted sentences in any of the detection tools that I use for all assignments.

I do allow you to use Grammarly Basic to fix simple grammar mistakes, but you cannot use any AI to misrepresent your writing and critical thinking ability - such as using it to revise your work to sound more fluent and complex (it actually sounds awful if you don't have the skills) or create structure in order to get a higher grade.

The first time that I find you have used AI significantly to boost your performance, you will get a 0 and you won't be able to revise the assignment. The second time, I detect you've used AI to boost your performance, you risk failing the course.

Canvas

This is an online class that students access through Canvas. There are two ways to login to canvas:

1. Log in through MyPortal
 - Log in to your MyPortal account
 - Click on the Student tab
 - Scroll to 'My Online Courses' box
 - Click on 'Log into Canvas'

If you are not able to log in to MyPortal, follow the second step to log in.

1. Log in through Foothill-De Anza Community College webpage
 - Go to **<https://deanza.instructure.com>**
 - Type in your ID number and the same password that you use to login to MyPortal

CONNECT

As your instructor, I care about your success. I may use the CONNECT program to refer you to a campus program or service for assistance with your class progress. The referral is a recommendation to use a campus support service; it is not an official grade. If you receive an CONNECT Communication, please respond to the program or service indicated on the notification and visit me during my office hours so we may talk about success strategies for this class and beyond.

Turnitin

All formal graded essays must be uploaded by the deadline to the turnitin assignment link I provide on our course website. Turnitin is a service that helps prevent plagiarism by comparing student papers with Turnitin's database and Internet sources. While I do use Turnitin to check for plagiarism, I mainly use the service to give you helpful written feedback on your work. Students who take this course agree that all required papers may be submitted to turnitin.com. While student privacy is protected, papers submitted to Turnitin do become source documents in Turnitin's reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. Use of the Turnitin service is subject to the Terms and Conditions of Use posted on Turnitin's website.

Please note - all essays must have a similarity score in Turnitin of 20% or less for you to pass. Any essays that have higher scores must be revised. Any that have clear matches that are plagiarism are subject to our plagiarism policy.

Undocumented Students

We support you! You are a vital and necessary part of our De Anza Community. Here are some very [useful resources \(Links to an external site.\)](#) available to you at De Anza.

Students with Disabilities

If you suspect you may need any classroom accommodations or services due to a disability, please send me a copy of the verification of your disability-related requests that are on file with the college. I can only provide accommodations to students who already have a documented disability on file at De Anza. For information on learning disabilities, call or visit the Educational Diagnostic Center, call or visit the Educational Diagnostic Center, Main floor of Learning Center West (LCW), Rm. 110, (408) 864-8839. For information on other disabilities, call or visit Disability Support Services, Student Community Services Bldg. Rm. 41 (408) 864-8753.

Student Success Center

Need help? Visit De Anza's Student Success Center for online peer tutoring and workshops!

The Student Success Center offers free tutoring (funded in part by your DASB fees) for many De Anza classes. Visit the [Student Success Center Website \(Links to an external site.\)](#) for our hours and information about virtual online workshops and tutoring, and to apply for (limited) weekly individual tutoring.

Important Dates

Last day to add a Spring Quarter class	Sunday, January 19
Last day to drop a class with no W/Grade of Record	Sunday, January 19
Martin Luther King Holiday (no assignment)	Monday, January 20
President's Day Holiday (no assignment)	February 14-February 17
Last day to drop with a "W"	Friday, February 28
Final Research Essays Due	Monday, March 24 (No Extensions)