

EWRT2-12Y

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Winter 2024

In-person Meeting: M/W 12:30-1:20 p.m. in Room S41

Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays 11:25 a.m.-12:25 p.m. in L47, [Language and Communication Village](#)

E-mail: modirzadehyeganeh@fhda.edu. I check email frequently, but not always on weekends. Considering that most due dates are on Sundays, please review the weekly modules before the weekend to allow time to receive a reply for your questions before a due date.

Pre-requisites: You must have completed EWRT 1A with a grade of "C" or better. If you have taken and successfully passed EWRT 1B before, you may not need to take this course, depending on your transfer destination. Consult with your academic adviser before you take this course.

Required Texts and Course Materials

The Thinker's Guide to Fallacies, 8th Edition (This is a link to a free download copy. You do not need to purchase this book.)

- A [free subscription to The New York Times](#) via De Anza College website
- All other required reading material is on Canvas.
- Be sure to check compatibility requirements when signing in to Canvas. Safari has shown issues when used as the web browser to log on to Canvas. Use Firefox or Google Chrome. If you access Canvas App through your personal cellular device such as your phone or iPad, some features are not accessible. You may not see my comments on your assignments! Always use a lap or desktop computer to log onto Canvas.

Course Description

EWRT 2 is a five-unit course that applies critical thinking to academic reading and writing. This course is designed to develop a wide range of academic skills from critical thinking, text analysis and interpretations to reading and writing complex analytical essays. Effective use of outside research leading to analysis, comparison, and synthesis and a documented research paper will be essential parts of this learning experience.

Course SLOs (Student Learning Outcome)

1. **Demonstrate analytical skills in the reading of literary (and non-literary) texts linked by common theme or issue.**
2. **Demonstrate analytical, organizational, verbal, and research skills in writing focused essays on common theme or issue.**
3. **Comparatively evaluate multiple points of view and integrate them in analytical research paper.**

Assignments

2 Essay Rough Drafts (10 points each)

2 Essay Final Drafts (90 points each points)

Critical Thinking Midterm (50 points)

Research Paper Process (150 points)

Forum Participation (50 points)

Class Participation (50 points)

Reading Quizzes (70 points)

Total Possible Points: (570 points)

Research Paper Process (150 points)

- **Research Paper Proposal (10 points)**
- **Research Paper Working Thesis (10 points)**
- **Research Paper Annotated Bibliography (10 points)**
- **Research Paper Working Outline (10 points)**
- **Research Paper Rough Draft's Timely Submission for Peer-editing (10 points)**
- **Research Paper Final Draft (100 points)**
- **Important: ALL above parts of the research process must be revised, completed, and submitted on-time, prior to submitting the final Research Paper. Otherwise, the final paper will not be accepted.**

Research Paper (This is a link!)

- **Research Paper Proposal: A 1-2 page proposal explaining what your selected research topic is and how you plan to narrow it down.**
- **Research Paper Working Thesis: This is a 1 to 2-sentence (no more than 2 sentences, preferably one) statement, stating the main argument of your research paper. It is called a "working" thesis since it most likely will change based on your research process and findings. The working thesis must have been narrowed and**

refined to fit a short research essay. You will be graded based on the effectiveness of your thesis.

- **Research Paper Annotated Bibliography:** This is a list of selected sources to be used in the research paper. Annotated Bibliography is explained in detail later in the course. This list should not contain any unused source. You may subtract and/or add more sources as the research paper develops. The final bibliography to be included in the final research paper will be annotated. More information on annotated bibliography is found on the course's website.
- **Research Paper Outline:** This outline includes the thesis statement, major arguments, both stated in clear, complete sentences, and main supporting details, in bullet format, for the research paper. The outline must follow MLA full-sentence format (Review Sample Outline in Week 3)
- **Research Paper Rough Draft Peer-Review:** The process is completed in class and/or on Canvas. Peer essays will be assigned to you and you can access them by going to the assignment's link.

- **Research Paper Final Draft:** The final research paper will include:

- 1) A formal outline
- 2) Minimum 8 full pages (not including the outline nor the bibliography) of double-spaced, one-inch margin, font 12 text
- 3) An annotated bibliography

The final Research Paper is due in Week 11. However, the process starts in Week 2.

- **Essays:** Essays will be based on your assigned readings. Essays will be peer-edited, revised as rough drafts, and submitted as final drafts for grade.
- **Reading Quizzes:** Quizzes are based on the assigned readings. Reading Quizzes are designed to evaluate your critical reading and thinking of the course content.
- **Forums:** Forum discussion is an invaluable part of the pre-writing activity in which perceptive and in-depth ideas on a topic are shared. For each forum discussion topic, post once and reply twice to other posts. Each effective post includes an in-depth expression of an idea/opinion and each reply considers the writer's point-of-view and responds to it in more than just "I agree" or "You are right". Each post must be a minimum of 100 words in length. Forum posts are due on Sunday nights.
- **Class Participation:** You will receive 2.5 points for your participation in every class period. If you are absent, you may not make up the lost points.
- **Critical Thinking Midterm:** This midterm will be based on your understanding of critical thinking fallacies and logical arguments.
- **Peer-Review Process:** Several of assignments of the course require peer-review, in which case you will be assigned peer work to review and give feedback to. The peer-review must be thorough and detailed to receive full credit, i.e., the rubric needs to be filled out with detailed comments as well as other needed suggestions.

Important Policies

How to Study for This Course: All quizzes, responses, and essays are based on the assigned readings and films in this course. This is a 5-unit hybrid course, for which you need to set aside 8-10 hours per week outside of our class time. Since we only meet for half the time, it is your responsibility to review additional course lessons in Canvas modules.

Late Homework: Please submit all assignments on time. Rough drafts for peer-editing may not be submitted late. Some assignments may be submitted up to 48 hours late but will receive a reduction in grade value of 10%. Be vigilant of due dates. Always keep me posted about your questions/concerns in class. Once a link closes, it will stay closed!

Due Dates: Most assignments are due on Sunday night. However, different assignments may have different due dates. Please pay close attention to due dates.

About Revisions: At this point in your college career, you must know most of the elements of a successful essay. Canvas' [NefTutor](#), De Anza's WRC, and peer-review sessions are valuable resources for receiving extra help with editing and revising your rough drafts. Essays must be revised and proofread before they are submitted as a final draft. Each essay has a rubric that details my expectations of the essay. Be sure to review the rubric thoroughly and let me know if you have any questions. No revision will be accepted after an essay have been graded. However, we can meet during office hours to go over your rough draft.

Documentation Style: MLA

Plagiarism: Please read "[Academic Integrity](#)" in *Student Handbook* to learn more about the consequences of plagiarism. Be vigilant to use outside sources including AI material properly and wisely in order to avoid the risk of committing plagiarism. I reserve the right to schedule a face-to-face meeting if plagiarism is suspected. All work will be submitted through Turnitin.com. A similarity percentage of 20% or more receives a zero on that assignment. If plagiarism occurs for a second time, a grade of zero will be submitted for the course.

Important: Last minute system failures, Internet disconnection, lack of access to the Internet, or Canvas malfunction will not be accepted as legitimate excuses for submitting an assignment late. Plan on submitting early to avoid stress and penalty.

Grading Criteria: A score of 70 percent and above count as passing, but anything less does not. All essays must state a clear thesis followed by several well-composed body paragraphs supporting the thesis with sufficient evidence and examples from the readings and from outside the readings. Essays must be edited and proofread before they are submitted.

Extra Credit: The course offers 10 extra points for a self-reflection essay due in Week 11. The extra credit assignment is designed to help you in case you needed a few points to move up to the next level grade or sign. In order to maintain fairness to all students. Extra credit

points are only available to those who have not had any late or missing assignments including missing peer-editing.

I do not round up points! Please do not ask!

| Your Essay score | Letter Grade |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 94.00-100 | A |
| 90.00-93.99 | A- |
| 87.00-89.99 | B+ |
| 84.00-86.99 | B |
| 80.00-83.99 | B- |
| 76.00-79.99 | C+ |
| 70.00-75.99 | C |
| 60.00-69.99 | D |
| 59.99 and below | F |

(C- is not an active grade at De Anza College.)