**EWRT211-28**

**Winter 2017**

**International Solidarity**

Instructor: Sherwin Mendoza, mendozasherwin@fhda.edu

Room LCW26, 12:30-1:20 Monday-Friday

Office Hours: Mondays 11:00-12:00, Wednesdays 11:00-12:00, and by appointment.

Office Hours Location: MCC-14

Course Web Site: http://www.deanza.edu/faculty/mendozasherwin/ewrt211winter2017

Course Blog (Journals): http://ewrt211w2017.blogspot.com/

In this class we will focus on the topic of international solidarity. This is an important topic within the US because so many people are closely connected to people from outside the US or are themselves from outside the US. Many people outside of the US rely on support from relatives in the US, and the products of the labor of people outside of the US are now an essential source for agricultural and consumer goods—such as clothes, phones, and coffee—that are consumed in the US. Furthermore, the labor of people from outside of the US has become important in many sectors and segments of the US domestic economy such as agriculture, food processing, construction, and caregiving. This situation, though, is very unequal and thus very unstable. Many people are trying to move to the US or other rich countries because of the low wages and lack of jobs in their home countries, a situation that in many cases is the result of a history of colonialism and neo-colonialism. However, because of immigration restrictions, many of those who migrate are vulnerable to exploitation. Because of the international scope of the problems around the underdevelopment of many national economies and the restrictions on migration, an international effort must be made to solve them and avoid war. This is why international solidarity is important today.

Outside of class you will write two reflective essays and two analytical essays. The first reflective essay will be about your experience learning how to write in English before taking this class, and at the end of the class you will write another reflective essay about what you have learned in this class. In between the reflective essays you will write two analytical essays. In the first analytical essay you will write about a poem by someone with a non-US cultural background that is similar to your own. In the second analytical essay you will write about the comments for a YouTube channel in order to determine whether it would be an appropriate channel for De Anza to advertise on in order to attract students of a specific background. At the end of the quarter you will select one of your analytical essays to revise, and you will write more than one draft of your second reflective essay.

During class you will have the opportunity to write four in-class essays. These in-class essays will be modeled on the CSU Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement, which is most often fulfilled through a timed essay-writing exam.

At the end of the quarter you will submit a portfolio that contains one analytical essay, one in-class essay, and your second reflective essay. The portfolio will be evaluated by a team of EWRT211 instructors in order to determine whether you are prepared to take EWRT1A. If your portfolio demonstrates that you are prepared then you will pass this class. If your portfolio demonstrates that you are not prepared then you will need to take EWRT211 again. A letter addressed to EWRT211 students from the English department at De Anza that explains the rationale for the portfolio and the assessment process for portfolios is at the end of this greensheet.

**Analytical Essays**

You will write two essays in which you analyze an object in order to use evidence to develop a central idea about the object. Through these essays you will be required to show the ability to critically assess and interpret your object, and you will need to demonstrate awareness of more than one perspective on your object. In your first essay your object will be a poem that is publicly available through the internet that will allow you to make a claim about cultural difference inflected by race, gender, class, or sexuality. In your second essay your object will be comments from videos on a YouTube channel. The interpretive challenge for the second essay will most likely arise from your need to draw believable inferences from the comments.

**Class Policies**

Attendance is mandatory. All class time counts and attendance every day is required unless I tell you otherwise. Please contact me before class if you are unable to attend. Please respect my time and the time of your classmates by coming to class on time. Please turn in assignments on time to make it easier for me to track the progress of everyone in the class.

Many of the assignments for this class will involve you either giving presentations to a small group or giving feedback to group members at each stage of the writing process. Except for the first in-class essay you will not be able to make up in-class work. You will be required to do the first in-class essay in order to determine whether you need tutoring and what kind of tutoring you need.

The last day to drop this class with a “W” is Friday, March 3. You will not be able to submit a portfolio if you fall behind. I will ask you to drop this class if you miss three consecutive classes without contacting me or if you are absent more than an average of once per week.

This course will abide by the college-wide policies of De Anza College with respect to academic conduct (honesty, respect for diversity, etc.).

**Class Schedule**

Note that this schedule, which represents a best-case scenario, is likely to change.

Week of January 9

First in-class essay

Reflective Essay: Pre-EWRT211

Week of January 16

Holiday January 16th

Presentation to group

Analytical Essay 1: Poem

Week of January 23

Analytical Essay 1: Poem

Presentation to group

Week of January 30

Analytical Essay 1: Poem

Second in-class essay

Week of February 6

Analytical Essay 2: YouTube video

Presentation to group

Week of February 13

Analytical Essay 2: YouTube video

Holiday February 17th

Week of February 20

Holiday February 20th

Analytical Essay 2: YouTube video

Third in-class essay

Week of February 27

Drafting, Reflective Essay

Fourth in-class essay

Presentation to group

Select an analytical essay to revise

Friday, March 3: Last day to drop with a "W"

Week of March 6

Drafting, Reflective Essay

Week of March 13

Drafting, First draft of Reflective Essay due

Week of March 20:

Drafting, Final draft of Reflective Essay due

Portfolios due on or before Friday, March 24

No final exam

**Working Groups**

You will form groups twice this quarter. The first group you will form yourselves, but I will assign you to your second group. For the analytical essays you will share the objects that you are writing about (a poem for the first essay, a channel for the second essay) with other people in your group. Furthermore, you will partner with one or more people in your group to share advice and feedback on outlines and first drafts for your reflective and analytical essays. Your groups will schedule dates for in-class workshops and presentations. I hope that you are motivated not just for your own success but also for the success of your groups.

**Language Use Workshops**

We will devote the bulk of the class time to organizing your writing and developing your ideas in writing. If you need help with style, usage, and mechanics I will ask you to attend workshops that I will conduct outside of class with small groups of your classmates in which you will edit portions of your essays.

**Appointments**

I will ask you to meet with me individually to discuss your writing. I will hold appointments in MCC-14. You will be required to meet with me at least twice to discuss revisions on one of your analytical essays and on your reflective essay, but you should expect to schedule several meetings with me during the second half of the quarter.

**Writing Process**

One of the main things you should develop for this class is a writing process for producing academic essays. You will substantially develop your ideas before you begin writing the actual text of your essays. For each of your analytical essays I expect you to formulate and submit a research question, a thesis statement, and an outline for feedback before you begin to work on a first draft. Note that, based on your analysis, your thesis statement is likely to change. You will write multiple drafts of one of your analytical essays and your second reflective essay. Although it might not always be necessary, you should be prepared to completely rewrite your essays between the first draft and the final draft.

Note that outlines should be substantially shorter than drafts. An outline should show the sequence of major points in your essay, whether that sequence is logical, and whether those points provide enough support for your thesis. Your outline should have no more than one sentence from each paragraph.

**Grades**

EWRT211 is a pass/fail class. I will evaluate your essays according to the portfolio scoring guide for EWRT211 at De Anza College. For your essays you will receive a grade for each major part of the portfolio scoring guide: ideas, organization, development, style, and mechanics. You should aim for mastery for every part of the portfolio scoring guide.

In order to pass the class you will need to submit a portfolio, and in order to submit a portfolio you will need to accumulate 75 out of a possible 108 points for class participation. Here are the possible points:

52 points possible for attendance

32 points possible for in-class workshops (4 points for each workshop)

4 workshops for analytical essays (outline and first draft for two essays)

4 workshops for reflective essays (outline and first draft for two essays)

24 points possible from presentations (four presentations, one for each out-of-class essay)

 2 points for each in-class presentation

 2 points for each presentation write-up (due before the in-class presentation)

 2 points for each response (due before the next class)

Note that if it is clear that you did not take an assignment seriously then you will receive no credit. You will be able to re-do one of the written assignments for points, but you will not be able to make up in-class workshops or presentations.

## Final Portfolio Instructions

**Dear EWRT 211 student,**

Because the English Department is committed to your success here at De Anza and to your goals after your education, your writing for English 211 will be assessed both by your instructor and by other faculty members in the English Department. This assessment process has two parts.

First, you must complete the required work in your English 211 at a satisfactory level. Your instructor will give you specific information on both what work is required and the criteria for earning a SATISFACTORY level.

Second, all students who satisfactorily complete the English 211 required coursework will submit a portfolio of their writing for departmental assessment.

**This portfolio will include**

* **one in-class paper** and
* **one paper written out of class**

(at least **one of these two papers must be an analytical paper**),

* and a **reflective paper** describing and reflecting on your growth as a writer throughout the quarter.

This portfolio will be evaluated by a team of instructors that includes your instructor. If the assessment team agrees your work indicates readiness for English 1A, you will PASS English 211. If the assessment team agrees your work does NOT indicate readiness for English 1A, you will receive a NO PASS for English 211. If the assessment team does not agree, a third English instructor will review your portfolio and resolve the disagreement.

The English Department has created this portfolio assessment system to encourage all students to become effective writers, one of the hallmarks of a successful student and of a successful professional.

If you have questions about the portfolio or the portfolio assessment, speak with your instructor.

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