

**EWRT 1A Sect. 51Z – Winter 2023**

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**Live Tuesday Zoom Meetings - 11:00 a.m.**

**Attend Live Tuesday Zoom Meetings above or view past recordings at: [Pages>Archived Zoom Recordings](#)**

Office Hours: Tuesday following class Zoom meetings – and by appointment. To set up an appointment, email [adamsandel@yahoo.com](mailto:adamsandel@yahoo.com).

*This is a transfer-level course, equivalent to English 1A at all four-year universities.*

**Required Textbooks:**

***The Power of Myth*** (Campbell and Moyers)

(A pdf of this book is posted on Pages)

***Dreams and Inward Journeys (8th Edition)*** (Ford)

(Make sure that it's the 8th Edition. It's only available as a hard copy book.)

**In this course** we'll experiment with various forms of expository writing as we explore the nature and power of myth and how it shapes our concept of the world and of ourselves. We'll also examine popular myths: how modern variations on timeless themes still speak to us through literature, film and television.

**The goal** of the course is to provide you with the ability to read perceptively and express yourself with writing that's clear, detailed and meaningful. Through assigned essays and in-class writing assignments, we'll focus on writing as a process that includes prewriting, drafting and editing.

**Support services:** Additional help is available at the following links:

Canvas Support: <https://www.deanza.edu/online-ed/help.html>

Student Success / Tutoring / Workshops: <https://www.deanza.edu/studentssuccess/>

Online Tutoring: <http://deanza.edu/studentssuccess/onlinetutoring/>

Disability Support Services: <https://www.deanza.edu/dsps/>

**The writing** that you'll produce in this class will include: 1) Written responses to reading assignments; 2) Quizzes; 3) Journal entries and class notes; and 4) Essays.

**1. Written responses to reading assignments:** The reading and writing assignments and due dates will be listed in the weekly modules. The responses will be due whenever we have a reading assignment (most sessions). They will be graded on a scale of 1-5 points each, depending

on the amount of thought, depth and detail that has gone into each response. They must be completed by each due date.

If you fall behind, make them up as soon as possible. Late and make-up responses will receive a maximum of 3 points. ***If you fail to complete three or more written responses in a row, you may be automatically dropped from the class.*** Written responses are required assignments. It's not possible to pass the course without completing them.

***According to college policy, students who have not turned in any responses within the first two weeks of class may be dropped.***

**2. Quizzes** on topics including films viewed online must be completed by the due dates (5 points each).

**3. Journal entries and class notes** are intended to be confidential in nature but can provide a great source of writing topics. They will not be read or evaluated by the instructor.

**4. Essays:** Students will write **three four-page essays (one is an optional re-write)**, and **one six-page essay**. Essays will be developed through the process of prewriting, drafting, revising and editing. Students will have the option to rewrite one of the four-page essays for a better grade.

**"The Big If"** Despite all our best efforts, the demands of life, work and family sometimes prevent us from having perfect attendance. **If** you become aware that an illness or ongoing conflict *will cause you to miss submitting more than two consecutive assignments on time*, let the instructor know **as soon as possible**. We can often work around conflicts with advance notice, but not if you simply "disappear."

### **Communication:**

- **Zoom Class Sessions:** We will hold live Zoom class sessions on Tuesdays at 11:00 a.m. These sessions will be also recorded and posted on Pages>Archived Zoom Recordings for viewing at a later time.
- **Course Updates:** The instructor will communicate with students via Announcements and emails sent to the class.
- **Course Contact:** Students will turn in assignments and essays via Canvas. They will communicate live with the instructor via Zoom, but may also email the instructor at: [adamsandel@yahoo.com](mailto:adamsandel@yahoo.com).
- **Response Time:** Monday through Friday, between 9:00 am and 6:00 pm, the instructor will respond to student emails and questions within 24 hours.
- **School Updates:** Pay close attention to updates that are sent to you from the college via email.

### **Guidelines for Essays:**

- **All essays must be typed** (using standard 12 pt. fonts) and double-spaced.
- They must be submitted as either **Word docs or pdf files** via Canvas.

- **Late essays will not be accepted.** In case of emergency, arrange to have someone submit your work on time, or you may submit it in advance. Any essay not completed will receive a "zero."
- **Plan ahead.** Get in the habit of submitting work ahead of the due dates and times. It's a little-known fact that essay deadlines *cause* computers and wifi to malfunction right before the essay is due.
- **All work must be original.** If your name is on it, you wrote it. Any instance of plagiarism will result in an automatic "F" in the course and disciplinary action will be taken by the college.

### Essay Grading:

College level writing is characterized by excellence, not mere competence. It's assumed that all students have mastered basic English grammar. If you need additional help with basic grammar, sign up for writing lab assistance.

**A: Outstanding** - The essay engages the reader in a thoughtful, perceptive and vigorous response to the assignment. There is a clear, meaningful central idea which is supported by specific, detailed, relevant examples. No significant errors in spelling, grammar or punctuation.

**B: Good** - The essay precisely and fully addresses the assignment in a thoughtful, well-rounded way. The central idea is supported with clear and relevant examples. Consistent use of standard grammar, punctuation and spelling.

**C: Acceptable** - The essay addresses the assignment in a thoughtful but perhaps underdeveloped way. The central idea is apparent but may not be stated specifically or supported by sufficiently detailed examples. Errors in grammar, spelling or punctuation may distract the reader from following the writer's ideas.

**D: Less than acceptable** - The main idea may be unclear; support and examples may be underdeveloped; and/or the essay may not respond to the topic as assigned. Excessive errors in basic grammar, spelling or punctuation make it difficult for the reader to follow the writer's ideas.

**F:** Fails to meet the minimum requirements of the assignment.

### Course Grading:

Final grading is based on your percentage of total points possible:

94%-100% - A

90%-93% - A-

87%-89% - B+

83%-86% - B

80%-82% - B-

77%-79% - C+

73%-76% - C (A grade of C or better is required to pass the class and move on.)

70%-72% - C-  
67%-69% - D+  
63%-66% - D  
60%-62% - D-  
Below 60% - Fail

### **Student Responsibilities:**

- Purchase all required texts by the first week of class.
- Check Canvas every couple of days for announcements and upcoming due dates.
- Attend Zoom class meetings on time (or view the recordings), prepared, and ready to engage in discussion.
- Be aware of all class information sent via announcements and emails.
- Turn in all written responses and essays by their due dates.
- Inform the instructor of any incident, situation, or special circumstance that might affect your performance in class as soon as possible.
- Set aside sufficient time in your weekly schedule to complete your reading and writing assignments. ***You should set aside 6 hours per week to do the reading and writing assignments for this class.***
- Bring any questions about the class, assignments, readings, or essays to the instructor as soon as possible.
- Take advantage of all legitimate help including tutors, libraries, handbooks, and especially, the instructor.
- Make your performance in this class a priority. Decide that you are going to learn and know that you can succeed. People do it all the time.
- Remember that with writing, it takes time and repeated effort to produce anything of value. No one gets it perfect the first time.
- How to get an A: Everyone who has ever gotten an A has done everything on this list.