

English 114A: Approaches to University Writing A
Fall 2015/16 Syllabus
Miguel Noh

<i>English 114A Section# 13843</i> <i>Instructor: Miguel Noh</i> <i>Location: JR 201</i> <i>Time: M/W 8:00—9:15 AM</i>	<i>Office Hours: M&W 9:30am-10:00am & by APT</i> <i>Location: SN 408</i> <i>Phone: 818.677.6904</i> <i>Email: Miguel.noh.41@my.csun.edu</i> <i>Website: Miguelnoh.weebly.com</i>
---	---

WELCOME TO 114B!!!!

Course Description:

English 114B is designed to focus on content and form of expository writing. Specifically, this course emphasizes the following:

1. Logical thought and eloquent expression,
2. The development of effective organizational strategies
3. Rhetoric and rhetorical approaches, including genre awareness
4. Critical thinking and writing
5. The appropriate gathering and utilization of evidence.

Additionally, this course includes instruction on diction, syntax and grammar, as well as the elements of prose style. In essence, the goal is to teach students to write effectively, to think and read critically, and to develop an understanding of genre.

Prerequisites and Credit:

Prerequisite: EPT score of 142-150

Student must have completed successfully 114A

Students receive credit for only 1 course chosen from AAS, CAS, CHS, ENGL, and PAS 114B.

Required Texts:

The Hunger Games [HG]

Wings Distinguished Student Essay [WS]

What Matters Most in America [MA]

The preceding books are available at the CSUN Matador Bookstore, and various websites. Wings is only available through the Matador Book Store. Please make sure that if you decide to purchase the books from outside vendors, to purchase the correct edition.

Available through the class website [CW]:

Additional readings will be posted on the class website and require ***download and print***. You will not be able to use any electronic devices for your reading (*please see electronic device policy below*).

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

- 1 Standard 2-pocket folder
- Notebook or binder for course materials, handouts etc.
- CSUN email account (It is your responsibility to set-up forwarding emails to your personal accounts. While I understand the need for your personal email, your CSUN email is the university's official form of contact, and it will be my official form of contact as well.)
- *The Projects* handout (Available through the CW)
- Reliable and frequent access to the internet
- 1 green book for in-class essay

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. To help students demonstrate competence in university writing
2. To help students demonstrate the ability to use rhetorical strategies that include the appeal to audience, logic, and emotion
3. To help students understand writing as a recursive process and demonstrate its use through invention, drafting and revision (creating, shaping, and completing)
4. To help students demonstrate the ability to use conventions of format, structure, style, and language appropriate to the purpose of a written text
5. To help students demonstrate the ability to use library and online resources effectively and to develop documentation skills.
6. To help students gain knowledge on a subject or topic, and indicate awareness of the subject being investigated.
7. To help students become aware of genre and the conventions of different genres.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. Students will gain the ability to read critically.
2. Students will gain the ability to write effectively.
3. Students will gain knowledge of the cultural diversity of literatures.
4. Students will gain be able to write academically through the use of rhetorical strategies
5. Students will gain be able to analyze and compare perspective, meaning, and style in different texts and mediums
6. Students will gain the ability to write an essay, including a thesis, provide logical information, research and support.
7. Students will gain the ability to document sources effectively.

COURSE POLICIES:***Attendance***

Attendance will be recorded at the start of each class. *Missing more than 3 class meetings will result in lowering your grade by 10% (one full grade level) per absence – regardless of the reason. Missing 6 or more classes will automatically be caused for failing the class.* Medical documentation will be required if missing more than 3 class sections.* Additionally, it is *your* responsibility to find out what you miss from your fellow classmates; I do not respond to emails asking what you missed in class.** I do not accept any work via Email or electronic submission (unless otherwise specified).

*Any medical documentation must be presented within 2 weeks of absents, and before finals week

**Please note that an absence does not excuse late work. Any assignments missed because of an absent will not be able to be submitted

Tardiness/Leaving Early

Arriving to class late and/or leaving class early is rude and disruptive. Please take parking conditions and traffic into consideration when commuting to campus. Three events of tardiness and/or leaving early will equal one absence. Any student that is more than 15 minutes late to class will be marked “absent” (see consequences above).

Participation

Students are expected to fully engage in the course and to play an active role both in and outside the classroom.

Classroom Conduct

According to the University Student Conduct Code: “Students are expected to be good citizens and to engage in responsible behaviors that reflect well upon their university, to be civil to one another and to others in the campus community, and contribute positively to student and university life” (Title 5, Article 2).

Each student is expected to conduct themselves in a respectful manner in this classroom. If you are disruptive, disrespectful, or inappropriate, in any way, you will be dismissed from class.

Dismissal from the class will count as an absence.

If any student continues to display problematic behavior in class, they will be reported to the Student Conduct Coordinator, and disciplined as necessary. Inappropriate behavior is defined as, but not limited to:

- Being disrespectful to the instructor or peers
- Not following directions given by the instructor or peers
- Talking when the instructor or another student is speaking
- Doing work for another class during 114B
- Sleeping or not paying attention in class
- Repeatedly using electronic devices during class (see “Use of Electronics”)

This class is also a safe space where all students can feel comfortable to be who they are.

Therefore, racism, sexism, homophobia, etc. will not be tolerated for any reason.

Textbooks

Unless instructed otherwise, you are required to bring each of your textbooks to each class session. Not having the required textbooks will result in a point deduction from your participation points. You must obtain hard copy versions of the books for this course; **e-books will not be used/accepted**. The textbooks we use in class have exercises in them that you will need to turn in, and I do not accept electronic work, unless otherwise specified.

Use of Electronics

Turn off ALL electronic devices at the start of class. You are not allowed to use electronic devices of any kind during class, such as:

Cell phones

On occasion I will ask you to use your cellphone for academic and instructional purposes. Other than that, the use of cellphones are not allowed in the class. Cell phones are not to be used for any reason, including in place of taking notes (taking a picture of PowerPoint slides or writing on the board, etc.), to look up a word in the dictionary, to look up something on the internet, to email, to text, to leave class to answer a call etc., unless otherwise specified.
No cell phone use, period.

Electronic tablets or laptops

On occasion I will ask you to bring your laptops or tablets for academic and instructional purposes. Other than that, you may not use these devices to take notes. All students must take notes by hand, on paper. Additionally, there will be no use of laptops or tablets unless otherwise specified.

I-Pods/music devices/headphones (phones included)

Under no condition, not acceptable. Just don't do it. Period.

Academic dishonesty, Plagiarism, and Cheating: The CSUN catalogue defines plagiarism as “intentionally or knowingly representing the words, ideas or works of another as one’s own in any academic exercise.”

Plagiarism is academic dishonesty. In any assignment, any words and/or ideas that are not your own need to be clearly and correctly documented and cited otherwise it is considered plagiarism. Plagiarism carries serious consequences, which may include failing the course. In class, we will be reviewing ways to cite sources in order to avoid plagiarism; however, I encourage you to meet with me if you are uncertain about whether your writing could be misconstrued as plagiarism.

Submitting plagiarized material will have consequences. I would rather see the worst paper ever written that is all your own than a paper copied—in whole or in part—from the internet or anywhere else. I can't help you become a better writer if I don't see your own work and *all* your own work. Once again, ask for help if you need it—especially if you are unsure how to correctly cite your sources.

Plagiarized work will be documented to the University—just don't do it.

Late work:

While I understand that life happens, late work will not be accepted unless you come to me prior to the due date. Additionally, all late work, if accepted, might incur a grade and point deduction.

THE PROJECTS and GRADING SCALE:

Project #1: (250 Points)

- *Exercise 1: _____/25 points
- *Exercise 2: _____/25 points
- *Exercise 3: _____/25 points
- *Essay draft: _____/50 points
- *In Class Peer Review Essay #1 _____/25 points
- *Final Draft of Essay #1: _____/100 points

Total Points for Project #1: 250 points (your total _____)

Project #2: (250 Points)

- *Exercise 1: _____/25 points
- *Exercise 2: _____/25 points
- *Exercise 3: _____/25 points
- *Essay draft: _____/50 points
- *In Class Peer Review Essay #2 _____/25 points
- *Final Draft of Essay #2: _____/100 points

Total Points for Project #2: 250 points (your total _____)

Project #3: (250 Points)

- *Exercise 1: _____/25 points
- *Exercise 2: _____/25 points
- *Exercise 3: _____/25 points
- *Essay draft: _____/50 points
- *In Class Peer Review Essay #3 _____/25 points
- *Final Draft of Essay #3: _____/100 points

Total Points for Project #3: 250 points (your total _____)

Final Portfolios

_____/100 points

A final portfolio will be in consideration of a final exam. You must, however, turn in a portfolio with polished and revised copies of your essay (2 essays total). Under no circumstance, will a portfolio be accepted if you have failed to turn in an essay, or if the portfolio fails to meet the criteria below:

- 2 polished and revised essays (1 essay per progression)
- Previous drafts of essays: First draft, final draft, revised draft.
- Comments on previous drafts leading to the revised draft
- 2 pocket folder
- Personal Statement Letter

Attendance and Participation

_____/100 points

Please note that you will automatically lose 10% (one full letter grade) if you do not meet the attendance requirement stated above.

In class Essay:

_____/50 Points

GRADING SCALE AND CRITERIA:

I will grade on a plus/minus (+/-) system. You will be given a letter grade for this course, and that grade will be determined by the points you accumulate throughout the semester. The grading scale is as follows:

Total Points for Project #1	_____/250 points
Total Points for Project #2	_____/250 points
Total Points for Project #3	_____/250 points
In class essay	_____/50 points
Attendance and Participation	_____/100 points
Final Portfolio	_____/100 points
Total Points: 1000 (your total_____)	

93-100% A
 90-92% A-
 88-89% B+
 83-87% B
 80-82% B-
 78-79% C+

73-77% C
 70-72% C-
 68-69% D+
 63-67% D
 60-62% D-
 59% and under: FAIL

Please Note that there will be no final exam, but instead you have a final portfolio to turn in.