

Expository Reading and Writing

Course Overview and Syllabus

Course Number: ELA3013

Grade level: 9–12

Prerequisite Courses: None

Credits: 1.0

Course Description

This elective English course is designed to develop critical reading and writing skills while preparing high school students to meet the demands of college-level work. While students will explore some critical reading skills in fiction and poetry, the focus of this course will be on expository and persuasive texts and the analytical reading skills that are necessary for college success. Students will read a range of short but complex texts, including works by Walt Whitman, Cesar Chavez, Abraham Lincoln, Martin Luther King Jr., Amy Tan, Langston Hughes, Ayn Rand, Naomi Shihab Nye, Maya Angelou, and Gary Soto.

Course Objectives

Throughout the course, you will meet the following goals:

- Demonstrate knowledge of essential reading process skills and strategies
- Analyze works of literary nonfiction and evaluate their structure and reasoning
- Analyze the impact of an author's choices regarding how to develop and relate elements of a text
- Demonstrate an increased sophistication in crucial argumentative and expository writing skills
- Learn to use Standard English through a variety of grammar and vocabulary lessons

Student Expectations

This course requires the same level of commitment from you as a traditional classroom course. Students are expected to spend approximately five to seven hours per week online on:

- Interactive lessons that include a mixture of instructional videos and tasks
- Assignments in which you apply and extend learning in each lesson
- Assessments, including quizzes, tests, and cumulative exams

Communication

Your teacher will communicate with you regularly through discussions, e-mail, chat, and system announcements. You will also communicate with classmates, either via online tools or face to face, as you collaborate on projects, ask and answer questions in your peer group, and develop your speaking and listening skills.

Grading Policy

You will be graded on the work you do online and the work you submit electronically to your teacher. The weighting for each category of graded activity is listed below.

Grading Category	Weight
Quiz	20%
Test	30%
Exam	20%
Essay	15%
Assignment	10%
Additional	0%
Project	5%

Scope and Sequence

When you log into Edgenuity, you can view the entire course map—an interactive scope and sequence of all topics you will study. The units of study are summarized below:

Unit 1: Freedom Fighters

Unit 2: Making Communities Safer

Unit 3: Struggling for Freedom and Equality

Unit 4: Making a Difference

Unit 5: Identity and Belonging

Unit 6: Visions of America

Unit 7: Research Workshop

Unit 8: Exploring the Information Age