



Men & Women in America's Boardrooms, Bedrooms, & Backrooms

Dec. 22, 2016

Dear Students,

You are receiving this e-mail because you are either enrolled in Eng 2: Advanced Composition and Critical Thinking for spring or because you are on the class waitlist. Eng 2 is a team-taught course by professors Kathy Freeman and Michael Harvath, and we look forward to meeting you.

Here is important information you need to know about the class and the waitlist, required photocopies, the class workload, and the class theme, which as you can see will be "Men & Women in America's Boardrooms, Bedrooms, & Backrooms."

Important Class and Waitlist Information

Eng 2, CRN 31307, meets 6-8:05 p.m. MW in Humanities 2 this spring. **Due to the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday, our first class will be at 6 p.m. on Wed., Jan. 18, 2017.** Eng 2 is a four-unit advanced composition and critical thinking course taught by a team of instructors. Each team picks its own umbrella topic or theme, so the theme for one Eng 2 class may differ greatly from that of another.

Eng 2 counts for the critical thinking requirement for transfer to a CSU or UC. Philosophy 9 also counts for this, so we tell students to take Eng 2 or Phil 9, **and not both**, since both courses are in demand. Students must have passed Eng 1A with a "C" or better to take either course.

Since many students need Eng 2, all students in the class and on the waitlist are expected to attend class and complete assignments the first three sessions or they will be dropped.

No Books Are Required, but Printed Photocopies Are Required for Quizzes

You have a great deal of reading even though you have no required textbooks to buy. Instead, you will be given a list of online articles and chapters that you will be expected to access, print, and bring to class. Some books also will be on reserve for you at the BC library's circulation desk so you can briefly check them out, photocopy the assigned reading, and return the book within an hour. Photocopies and computer printing in the library costs ten cents a page. If you have a printer at home, invest in some ink cartridges and paper.

You are required to bring in printed photocopies of the assigned articles to class. Those who do this can take daily reading quizzes for valuable points. (Articles sent to laptops and phones can't be used during class.)

For your research papers, you will be expected to print out several pages of each source and its bibliographic information from the library's databases. You also will be expected to buy the required Scantrons, envelopes, and other supplies listed in the Class Guidelines. We also recommend that you buy a college-level dictionary, thesaurus, and a MLA guide with updated 2016 formats. Because essays and papers must follow MLA formats, we recommend Barbara Fisher's *Quick Reference: Working With Sources: Using MLA, Eighth Edition Style*, published by Bedford/St. Martin's, 2016. ISBN: 9781319088354.

Class Disclaimers

Our theme will be "Men & Women in America's Boardrooms, Bedrooms, & Backrooms," and we will focus on a number of hot button issues. We will discuss four main topics: marriage and the family, the workplace, sex and the bedroom, and politics and the future. Michael Harvath, an economics professor, will explain critical

thinking concepts and how to use them, how economics affects relations between the sexes, and at times, how some men think of women. Kathy Freeman, an English professor with a background in journalism, will explain how revision is the key to successful writing, how college-level reading, research, and writing can demonstrate critical thinking skills, and at times, how some women think of men.

Since this is a critical thinking course, we expect to examine a number of differing viewpoints on these issues. However, we realize that our topic may not be appropriate for everyone. **Some students may feel uncomfortable with the subject matter for religious, political, or personal reasons. If that is the case, we encourage you to drop this class and take another Eng 2 section in the future that covers a different umbrella topic.**

Topics that students will be asked to read about and research may include the following: changes in marriage and the American family, divorce, children, abstinence, pregnancy, child support, abortion, career success, poverty, politics (including Trump and Clinton), feminism, sexual assault, campus rape, campus codes, prostitution, online dating, sexting, sexual harassment, online harassment, and discrimination. The readings, images, videos, and music shared in this class will be controversial at times, and they may touch on graphic violence, sexual themes, or use profanity. You should not take this class if these issues offend you or make you uncomfortable, or if you are offended by sexual language or profanity.

Besides discussing these readings, films, and videos, we may work with students individually and in groups during class to improve their writing. Examples of student writing from our class (no names will be used) may be projected in class for discussion. During peer review, your writing will be shared with other students who will offer constructive criticism. We also may quietly discuss your work with you individually as other students work. If sharing your work with peers upsets you, or if discussing your work one-on-one with an instructor during class makes you uncomfortable, please take Eng 2 from someone else.

Your continued enrollment in this class after reading these disclaimers implies your acceptance of the class content and your agreement that you will complete assignments on these topics.

Eng 2 Workload

We have attached the Class Guidelines and Eng 2 Calendar, and these reflect why Eng 2 is one of the most challenging courses offered in the English Department. While the workload in this course is challenging for students and instructors, we are excited about teaching it.

To determine the workload for any college class, a good guideline to follow is to multiply the number of class units by three to determine how much time a class actually takes each week. Using this, you can expect Eng 2, a 4-unit class, to take at least 12 hours a week (four hours in class and eight hours a week for homework). In other words, think of this class as a part-time job.

If you are “shopping” for units, overloaded with other classes, work more than a few hours a week, have many family, personal, or school obligations, or are otherwise ill-prepared to complete this rigorous course, please drop Eng 2 now out of consideration for others who need it to transfer.

You will write 8,000 words in this course. You will write three essays and two longer papers, and these will make up most of your class grade. In addition to the writing, you can expect daily reading quizzes, in-class exercises, individual class presentations, and other homework assignments. Due to our grading workload, we do not expect to assign extra credit work.

You will be expected to actively contribute to the learning that occurs by contributing to class discussion and working with your peers. You will be expected to use the BC library to research and select acceptable college-level sources. All research sources must be found through the BC library. Specific guidelines for each assignment will be handed out.

Because you have taken Eng 1A or have placed into Eng 2, you also are expected to know most MLA rules for writing research papers, how to use the BC library's online databases for finding scholarly articles, and how to write logically and coherently with a minimum of writing errors.

We will review some writing, research, and MLA basics, but we expect you to know most of these areas already. Students who need help with research will be encouraged to sign up for free library research workshops or a one-unit library research class. Students who need help with writing will be encouraged to receive free tutoring through the campus Writing Center or BC's Tutoring Center.

One final note: Professor Freeman is updating her class website. She will e-mail you once the Eng 2 page is posted. In the meantime, please feel free to e-mail us with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Professors Freeman & Harvath