**English 1a**                                                       fall 2016

Tuesday and Thursday 1:00 - 2:25 (CRN 70728) and 2:35 - 4:00 (CRN 70736) in H5

**professor- Dr. Parks**

**contact information**

* office: Learning Center 124
* mailbox: in the English dept. and in the Learning Center
* phone: 395-4767
* fax: 589-1664
* email: pparks@bakersfieldcollege.edu
* website: drpparks.weebly.com
* office hours: Monday and Wednesday  2:40 - 3:45, Tuesday and Thursday 4:00 - 5:00, and by appointment. I apologize in advance if I have to cancel office hours due to an unexpected meeting.

**required texts and supplies**

* *Just Mercy* by Bryan Stevenson
* *The Little DK Handbook with MLA updates* by Anne Frances Wysocki and Dennis A. Lynch
* class pack available in the book store and on my website in word 2007
* four large manila envelopes
* flash drive



**course student learning outcomes**

At the successful completion of English 1A, the student will be able to perform the following:

1. Read and think critically; including a variety of non-fiction texts for content, context, and rhetorical merit with consideration of tone, audience, and purpose.
2. Evaluate and establish the credibility of print and online sources;
3. Demonstrate the legitimate use of scholarly sources by
   * using library and online reference materials;
   * incorporating summary, paraphrase, and direct quotes;
   * synthesizing multiple primary and secondary sources;
   * avoiding plagiarism.
4. Write essays that
   * demonstrate the use of expository and argumentative or persuasive forms of writing;
   * reflect an orderly research and writing process;
   * use correct MLA form and documentation;
   * show evidence of drafting, editing, and revision to reflect an academic style and tone.
5. Write timed essays in class exhibiting acceptable college-level control of mechanics, organization, development, and coherence.

**course theme**

In this course we will explore marginalized groups. Through a novel, articles, and your research -- we will discuss marginalized people as it relates to race/ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, age, religion, and others.  I anticipate spirited discussions. Whether you agree with the ideas expressed by our authors or by your classmates, I expect you to be respectful as you listen and as you share your thoughts.  Your continued presence constitutes your agreement to conduct yourself with maturity and tolerance.

**coursework**

* paper #1 is a narrative essay
* paper # 2 is on the problem of your chosen group
* paper # 3 is on the background of the problem of your chosen group
* paper # 4 is on the solutions to the problem of your chosen group
* paper # 5 is the problem, background, and solution
* an in-class essay
* presentations on your research paper
* reading responses, reading guides, and source evaluations on the book and articles and your sources
* quizzes on MLA format, source documentation, etc.



**writing assignments**

Draft and final versions of all writing assignments must be typed in black ink, double spaced on 8 1/2 by 11 paper with 1 inch margins in Times New Roman font in 12 point.  All papers require participation in peer editing, and three individual conferences are required during the semester.

A major emphasis of this class is learning the techniques of writing a research paper in MLA format.  I will guide you through the process of deciding on a topic, researching it, evaluating sources, creating an outline, writing a draft, revising the paper, and polishing it. If you keep up with each deadline, you will be successful in turning in completed projects. You may not turn in a final draft unless I've seen your draft and discussed it with you. **You cannot pass the class without successfully completing paper # 5 and the final in class essay.**

**library workshops**

BC offers library and Internet research workshops each semester. They cover research and evaluation skills. You are asked to attend three 1-hour workshops outside of class time. Another option is completing an alternate assignment described in your class pack. Due dates for each are on your assignment sheet, and a complete schedule of workshops can be found on the library website week 2 or 3.  You may earn extra credit (3 points) for attending one extra workshop.

**SI**

A student coach/SI Leader will conduct study sessions on particular topics related to our readings, research, essays, grammar, study skills, etc. each week. The sessions will probably occur in the Student Services Building. Times will be announced in class. During conference weeks, participation is required (1:00 class only).  Other times, you can earn extra credit by attending. You will earn 1 point extra credit each time you attend an SI session. Those points add up over the course of the semester. Extra credit points are added in at the end of the semester for those students who are passing the class.  In addition, students who attend SI sessions benefit by earning higher grades on essays and quizzes and are more likely to pass the class. Sessions are fun, interactive, and a great way to get to know other students and make sure you understand the material.  Our coach/SI Leader is Melanie Cohen. She will be a great resource for you in and out of class.

**other**  **extra credit**

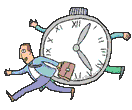
In addition to attending an extra library workshop or SI, you can also earn extra credit by attending Critical Academic Skills (CAS) workshops that relate to writing. The schedule for the semester is posted online and in the Learning Center. The workshop presenter will give you a form that shows the workshop title; add your name, and turn it in to me.  You can also attend a campus event, share your impressions with the class or complete a write up, and earn extra credit. All of the above earn 1 point.

**policies**

1. attendance

Attendance is important.  So much happens every class session.  I don't want you to fall behind or feel lost.  The college values attendance as well. According to BC policy, a student may not miss more than the equivalent of two weeks of instruction; that is four days. After that, professors can drop you from class. I would suggest you save those absences for emergencies; don’t schedule appointments during class time. There are no excused absences, except documented jury duty and court appearances. If you are out, your work is still due on time.  I don't accept emailed work. You can turn it in early or arrange for someone to drop it off for you. Please let me know what is going on in your life, and if I can be flexible, I will.

If you arrive 1 to 15 minutes late or leave 1 to 15 minutes early, you will receive a tardy. A tardy equals one-third of an absence.  If you are more than  15 minutes late and up to 45 minutes late, you receive 1/2 an absence.  If you are more 45 minutes late, you are marked absent. If you arrive late, check with me after class so that you are not marked absent. If you need to leave early due to a pressing matter, talk to me before class. If you feel sick during class and need to leave, just give me a sign as you go. If you are late and miss a quiz at the beginning or leave early and miss a quiz at the end, you may not make it up. Missing your conference is also counted as an absence.

Letting me know ahead of time about an absence or tardy is polite, and I appreciate it. DURING THE FIRST TWO WEEKS OF CLASS, YOU MUST CONTACT ME BEFORE AN ABSENCE OR YOU WILL BE DROPPED TO MAKE ROOM FOR SOMEONE ON THE WAIT LIST.  
  
If you are absent, contact a fellow student for notes or any assignment changes. You can call, drop by my office, or e-mail me as well, but I can’t reproduce the day’s class for you.

Some in class activities cannot be made up.

Your work is due in class when I collect it, which is usually at the beginning of class. If you can't attend class, your work is due before class (before 1:00 or 2:35).  Please ask the department assistant (Humanities) or student worker (Learning Center) or a faculty member (either building) to time stamp your work, so I know when it was turned in.  You can also turn it in the class before or day before. I do not accept emailed work.

**Email tips**: During the day (except Sundays), I usually respond to email within a few hours, so there is no need to add "get back to me as soon as you can." When you email me, please include something in the subject line. (Anything such as homework question, absent today, etc. is fine.) Start with some type of salutation (Good morning, Hi Dr. Parks, Hello, etc). Use capital letters, complete sentences, and punctuation; avoid text speak. Close with your name. You can email me from any account you choose, and I will just hit reply. But when I email the class about homework or a change in schedule, I will use your BC email. If you don't check that account on a regular basis, forward your BC email to an account that you do check. Instructions are on my website. I would hate for you to miss emails from professors, financial aid, etc.

  
  
  
  
2. late work

Work is due in class when I collect it.  Any time after that is considered late.

What I accept late:

* Major papers (and the scheduling assignments) can be turned in the next class day with a 5 percent penalty. If the next class day is after a weekend, the penalty is 10 percent.  I allow you to turn in these big assignments one class day late since one day seems to cover most emergencies. But, if you need an extension, talk to me in my office or email me. (Be aware: turning in a major paper late may affect your ability to work on the next assignment.)
* Documentation quizzes can be made up if you do so before I pass back the graded tests to the class.

What I don't accept late/can't be made up:

* The following will not be accepted late for credit: documentation/MLA homework.
* The final draft of paper # 5.
* Class exercises and unannounced quizzes cannot be made up. If you are tardy and miss a quiz given at the beginning of class or leave early and miss a quiz at the end of class, you may not make it up.
* Reading responses(RR)/reading guides (RG) cannot be turned in late. I will drop the lowest grades of a RG and a RR.

If you are going to be absent, you can turn in your work early -- either in class, to me at my office, or to my box with a time stamp.

**Any exceptions will be handled in my office. Do not ask me in class. The answer will be no.**

3. grades

I use the basic grading scale of 90% A, 80% B, 73% C, and 60% D. (I don't round up grades.)  
  
Students will also be graded on participation. I expect you to ask questions, make comments, and be prepared to answer questions when called on. You will lose points for not paying attention, not being prepared, not talking, or not letting others participate in class discussions. One way to raise your grade is to re-write an essay. First, see me in my office first to discuss what changes to make to improve your grade.

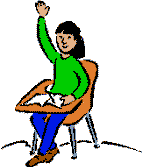
After the second week, you can check your grades through my website drpparks.weebly.com or directly through igrade plus. I update grades every other weekend. If you notice anything missing or recorded incorrectly, just show me the graded assignment so that I can make any corrections.  I occasionally make mistakes, but I want your grades to be accurate as much as you do.

4. academic honesty

Any work purposefully copied or purchased from another source will receive a fail. If you study with a classmate, make sure your work differs. Also, if you are caught cheating during a quiz or exam, your test will receive a fail. Plus, you may fail the class.

**I expect you to**

* ask questions if there is anything you don’t understand. Your participation in integral to your success. Please contribute your thoughts to discussions so that we can all benefit from your thinking. We learn from each other.
* be respectful of others’ opinions during class or small group discussions and encouraging of others’ writing during peer editing. I want this to be a supportive environment.
* raise your hand and wait to be acknowledged before speaking. If there is a pattern of disruptive behavior, you will be referred to the dean.
* give me your complete and undivided attention during class. Don’t do homework or engage in other matter during class.
* turn off cell phones. Do not send or receive text messages. Do not leave class to answer your cell phone.
* not eat anything noisy, messy, or smelly. Snacks are Ok, but not a plate of food that takes up most of your desk.
* not be disruptive. BC's policy on student conduct as stated in the handbook is not to tolerate disruptive behavior, such as talking, refusing to pay attention, and being disrespectful. Strict disciplinary action will be taken against any person who cannot behave in a proper manner. Any student who is disruptive will be asked to leave class and must see me in my office before being allowed to return to class. In addition, my department chair and dean may be emailed.
* keep ALL graded writing assignments.
* in short, treat this like you would a job. Your success depends on it.

**I will**

* use a variety of teaching strategies (small group, class discussions, games, etc.)
* return papers as fast as I can, usually within a week
* give you a variety of types of assignments
* connect discussions and writings to current events
* make the class fun and interesting
* adjust my plan if necessary
* be prepared and on time

**places to get help**

* The Student Success Lab in the Learning Center offers computer programs on grammar.
* The tutoring center offers weekly or as needed free tutoring.

BC students get free peer one-on-one tutoring in the BC Tutoring Center in most subjects. Students get one 50-minute session per subject per week with a tutor who has successfully completed the class and is trained to be a tutor. We also have drop-in tutoring in math and English all day long. Come up to the Tutoring Center to schedule an appointment. If you have any questions, please call 395-4430

* health and wellness center
* counseling center
* financial aid
* library
* child care center
* the writing center

**Supportive Services**

Students with disabilities who believe they may need accommodations in this class are encouraged to contact Disabled Student Programs and Services, located in the Student Services building, first floor, Counseling Center (395-4334) as soon as possible to better ensure such accommodations are implemented in a timely manner. In addition, please let me know during the first week of class.

**Habits of Mind**



How will you succeed at BC this semester? What determines success is not circumstance, but habit. Habits of Mind, It’s POSSIBLE at BC has many free tools intended to help you accomplish your goals in school. Only you can overcome the challenges you face this semester and in life. Start out successfully with these steps:  
  
  
· Visit the Habits of Mind website: [http://www.bakersfieldcollege.edu/habits-of-mind](https://owa.kccd.edu/owa/redir.aspx?C=pMPc7tjAKkOeb2zLof2WtvGjED1J3dAIVltf84kIS03aTUoAnWOylzuzdtbmiawl_BOmfo7nVl8.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.bakersfieldcollege.edu%2fhabits-of-mind%3chttp%3a%2f%2fwww.bakersfieldcollege.edu%2fhabits-of-mind) .  
  
· Download the app for Habits of Mind at Bakersfield College for power in your palm.  
  
· Ask for help, do the work, and refuse to quit.  
Success takes energy, planning, and strategies for both the expected challenges in school as well as the unexpected twists life can take. Ask your professor for more information. Now is the time to develop new habits.