**English 53**     fall 2016

* prepares students - who are eligible for English 60 or English 50 - for English 1a
* includes practice in study skills, time management, goal setting, note taking, and using campus resources
* emphasizes critical thinking, reasoning, and argumentation
* celebrates the written and spoken word in a relevant as well as cultural context
* uses the lens of **Identity** to uncover and to reflect

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**I have complete confidence in your ability to be successful in this class.**

Monday and Wednesday  10:30 - 12:35 pm (CRN 70810)

**Instructor: Dr. Parks**

**Contact Information:**

* office - Learning Center, room 124
* office phone - 395-4767
* cell phone - 232-0191
* website - drpparks.weebly.com
* email - pparks@bakersfieldcollege.edu
* office hours: Monday and Wednesday  1:00 - 2:30 (in extra credit ASTEP Village), Tuesday 10:30 - 12:35 (in required ASTEP Village), 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.
* fax - 589-1664

**Required texts and supplies:**

* *Dreams from my Father,* by Barack Obama
* *Democracy in Black* by Eddie Glaude, Jr.
* *The Little DK Handbook with MLA Updates*
* class pack
* paperback dictionary
* three-ring binder (for notes, handouts, and class handouts)

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**Course student learning outcomes:**

At the completion of English 53, students will be able to perform the following:

1. Write papers that

* demonstrate the use of expository and argumentative or persuasive forms of writing
* demonstrate MLA form and citation
* show evidence of drafting, editing, and revision to reflect and academic tone and style
* use a variety of sentence patterns appropriately and correctly
* use standard conventions of written English - spelling, punctuation, and capitalization

2. Demonstrate the legitimate use of credible sources by

* summarizing and paraphrasing sources.
* synthesizing multiple sources.
* avoiding plagiarism

3. Evaluate and establish the credibility of an author's work.

4. Read  a complete work and other selected reading around a theme and demonstrate comprehension, critical thinking, analysis, and connection to other texts, situations, and cultures.

5. Demonstrate the use of strategies, such as note taking, time management, study skills, goal setting, and college navigation that are needed to be a successful college student.

**Coursework:**

* five writing assignments --- 100, 100, 100, 100, and 200 points
* reading responses or quizzes on all assigned readings --- 7 points each
* two assignments on scheduling --- 30, 20 points
* attendance at scheduled conferences 5 points each and being prepared with drafts 3 points each
* attend Supplemental Instruction (SI) group sessions facilitated by a student coach for extra credit.

**Extra credit**

1. SI

A student coach/SI Leader will conduct study sessions on particular topics related to our readings, assigned essays, grammar, study skills, etc. each week. During conference weeks, there will be required sessions during class time. 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 Mariah Bagsby, a former student who took me for English 53 and English 1a. She will be a great resource for you in and out of class.

2. Study in the Village

Each Monday and Wednesday after class, 1:00 to 2:30, the Village will be open for study sessions. I will be there to answer questions, discuss the reading, help you plan your writing assignment, give you feedback on any assignment, review MLA format, etc. Our math tutor Christopher Parks Anderson will also be there and available to answer any questions on your math courses. Since we don't have a dedicated space yet, I will let you know the location in class.

3. CAS workshops

In addition to attending study sessions, you can also earn extra credit by attending Critical Academic Skills (CAS) workshops. 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 provide a short write up), and earn extra credit.

 All of the above are 1 point. You may earn the maximum of 5 points each week. Points are added in to your grade at the end of the semester for all students who are passing the class. In other words, you can't use extra credit points to pass the class, although the points can conceivably bump your grade from a C to a B or change a low B to a mid B.

**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 or return from break late, you will receive a tardy. A tardy equals one-third of an absence.  If you are more than  15 minutes late and up to hour late, you receive 1/2 an absence.  If you are more an 1 hour 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 and missing Tuesday 10:30 to 12:35 Village 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.
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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 10:30).  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 either the class before or day before. I do not accept emailed work. Don't put work under my door unless asked.

**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 (or Mariah) email the class about SI, homework or a change in schedule, we 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.

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2. late work

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

What I accept late:

* Writing assignments (including the scheduling assignment) 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.  Writing assignments must be turned in to pass the class. I allow you to turn in these big assignments one 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.
* Grammar tests can be made up if you do so before I pass back the graded tests to the class.
* If you are absent the day of an in class writing, you can make it up.

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

* The following will not be accepted late for credit: grammar homework.
* 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 cannot be turned in late. About 16 reading responses are assigned.  I will drop the lowest grade.

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.

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. See me in my office to discuss what changes you need 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 is 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. These behaviors are distracting to others.
* not eat anything noisy, messy, or smelly or 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.

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  **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
* support you any way I can

**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: https://www.bakersfieldcollege.edu/habits-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.