

**De Anza College, Language Arts Division  
EWRT 1A / Composition & Reading / LART 250  
Winter 2025**

**Instructor: Anne-Marie Waldsmith  
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**Tuesday & Thursday L73A 9:30-11:20**

**Office hours:**

**Tuesday L47 9:00-9:30am**

**11:30-12:30pm**

**Wednesday (zoom) 6:00-7:00 pm**

**Thursday L47 9:00-9:30am**

**Prerequisite: None required**

**Course Description:** The focus of this EWRT1A 5 unit course is to serve as an introduction to university level reading and writing with an emphasis on analysis. We will look at variety of academic writings ranging from expository to academic and literary from diverse sources. We will practice common rhetorical strategies in academic writing to compose well organized essays with varying purposes and audiences. Throughout the course of this class will be working in small and large group settings sharing information, ideas, observations and experiences about various essay topics. Class preparation, which consist mainly of completing reading and writing assignments is crucial to productive and insightful class discussions. This course requires a co-requisite with LART 250. This section is for students with a LART 250 and EWRT 1A placement and requires concurrent enrollment in LART 250 D250 23Q ( CRN 26311)

**Course Objectives:** Analyze various academic, expository and literary texts. Compose well-organized and well-developed essays. Formulate topic sentences and thesis statements regarding text. Employ MLA citation Documentation Practice peer editing based on specific instructions and participate in group discussions and activities in class. Attendance is mandatory.

**Student Learning Outcomes:** Practice writing as a multi-step process including planning and revising with attention to varying purposes , audiences and rhetorical strategies. Read and analyze rhetorically and culturally diverse narrative and expository text from a variety of perspectives.

**Required Texts:** (This is a low cost textbook class) The Circle by Dave Egger, all other readings will be supplied by instructor.

**Helpful Sources:** De Anza Library <http://www.deanza.fhda.edu/library/>  
Easy Works Cited Source <http://easybib.com> or [citationmachine.net](http://citationmachine.net)  
Guide to MLA citation [http:// www.liu.edu/cwis/cwp/library/workshop/citmla.html](http://www.liu.edu/cwis/cwp/library/workshop/citmla.html)  
Tutoring / Writing and Reading Center ATC 309 x5860 <http://www.deanza.edu/studentsuccess/writing-reading-center/>

**Class Method:** This is a hybrid course that will meet weekly, Mondays in person on campus and Wednesdays via zoom. Throughout the course of this class we will be working in small and large group settings. We will be sharing information, ideas, observations and experiences about reading and writing assignments. Class preparation is crucial to productive and insightful class discussions and in class activities. Writing assignments include journal entries, several critical essays, editing and a portfolio.

**Schedule of Coursework:** A syllabus detailing all assignments, activities and discussions is published on canvas. This will include what we will be doing in class as well as assignment due dates. This allows you to know what will be covered in class and what is being assigned as

well as what the due dates are. You will have assignments for both classes: EWRT1A and LART250

**Writing Assignments Essays:** All essays should be typed, double-spaced with one-inch margins and must include a title. Written assignments should be submitted prior to "due date" through turnitin on Canvas. I have a built in late date to all essays and late essay assignments are only accepted up to the "open until" deadline and will be downgraded 1 point. No submissions will be accepted after assignment closes. All essays and research paper must be formatted according to MLA format. There will be one timed essay assigned in the quarter. Journals and visual and or digital text contribution: Each written journal is essentially a free-write and must be typed with a minimum of 250 words for credit. They are to be completed prior to essay assignments and brought to class to share. They consist of a question or visual text linked to the literary texts, and serve as an opportunity for you to: explore new ideas, thoughts or observations regarding the readings; develop your writing voice; respond to the literature as well as record your thoughts on the writing process itself. They are meant to help lead you into the essay, and for that reason they are not accepted late. Academic Dishonesty Academic dishonesty regarding essays in this class includes quoting or paraphrasing material without documentation and copying from other students or professionals. It constitutes plagiarism and use of AI as a means of completing assignments. All assignments are scanned through turnitin for academic dishonesty. Plagiarism is defined as taking someone else's writing and passing it on as your own. Do not copy or submit work that belongs to web sources or other students. When using outside sources (which are essential to your research) you must always document them using the MLA format. Any plagiarizing will result in a failing grade on the assignment. Using AI to write your essays is considered academic dishonesty. Using AI is not research; it is not an outside resource: and it is not a tool for students to use in writing without a specific assignment asking you to do so. Moreover, it is not difficult to determine when someone has used AI. Turnitin has, in addition to a standard plagiarism detector, an AI detector

as do many other software programs. Essays that constitute plagiarism or AI use will receive a failing grade.

**Accessibility / Accommodations:** To ensure accessibility to the curriculum and promote student success, Disabilities Support Program and Services (DSPS) counselors meet with qualified individual students to make these decisions and the report them to faculty. Once a student meets with DSPS and they agree upon the appropriate adjustments aids and accommodations the student will need in the class, the instructor will receive a confidential Accommodation Letter and implement the request. [https:// www.deanza.edu/dsps/](https://www.deanza.edu/dsps/)

**Grading Policy:** Since these are two combined classes I will separate the assignments based on the class. This doesn't really affection in any way but in case you are wondering the assignments will fall into one of two categories EWRT1A and LART 250. The LART 250 assignments are simpler and are designed to prepare you for the EWRT1A essays.

**EWRT1A** assignments consist of essays (5) 50 points (10 point each see rubric) Informal Writing (12) 24 points • attendance 10 points • intro & Diagnostic 6 points • Portfolio & Reflection 10 points

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Total 100 points •

**EWRT1A is a university transferrable course and you will earn a letter grade in it. Attendance is an important part of your grade so please do not miss class.**

**LART 250** assignments consist of a variety of reading and writing exercises that will equal 100 points. This is a P/NP class. In order to pass you need a minimum of 69%.

**Portfolio Expectations and Process:** Upon completion of your assignments with a passing grade in the course (C or above) at the end of the quarter, you will have the opportunity to submit a portfolio to the

English Department. This portfolio will affect your final grades in this course. This means that your final grade in this course depends on two processes: 1. If you complete all of your work in the class and have a passing grade, you will submit a portfolio of selected writing for review by members of the English Department at the end of the quarter. If these readers agree that your portfolio demonstrates the appropriate skills for a student who has completed this quarter of EWRT 1A, you will be assigned a letter grade and pass the class. If your portfolio does not demonstrate the appropriate skills, you will not pass the class. 2. If the English Department determines that you should pass, your actual final letter grade (A, B, or C) will be determined by the percentage of points you earned throughout the quarter. For example, if your percentage on your assignments throughout the quarter in this class is 89% and you pass the portfolio process, you will receive a B+ in the class. However, if you do not pass the portfolio process, you still cannot pass the class. \*\*My grades on your essays should be a signal of whether you are likely to pass the portfolio process, so you will definitely have multiple warnings if you are in danger. However, you should keep in mind that—ultimately—you will not be able to “make up” for failing essays by earning attendance/participation points, extra credit or homework points. Those points will not affect the assessment of your portfolio, even if they affect your grade.

**Final Grade Scale** Your final class grade is based on a total number of points accumulated: A = 90-100 points B = 80-89 points C = 70-79 points D = 63-69 points F = 62 and below