

# MENU: ENGLISH 103

Composition & Critical Thinking | Fall 2018 | [robessokk@lavc.edu](mailto:robessokk@lavc.edu)

## Choosing a Restaurant:

It needs to feel comfortable. But if it doesn't, maybe that's fine, too. First impressions are fine, but let's see what's inside. If you like the ambience so far, you'll order; it may be a bit different than your regular tastes, but you are open to the experience. The food is interesting; you continue to examine the menu. Some parts seem peculiar; you might never have tried them before. But you keep your mind open, and by the end of the dinner, you may be pleased—maybe even entirely satisfied.

## Menu

**Classroom: CC 203**

**Section: #20554**

**T/Th**

**Time: 8 a.m. - 9:25 a.m.**

**Student Pop-in Hours:**

**M: 2 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.**

**Wed: 5:20 p.m. - 6:50 p.m.**

**T/Th 9:30 a.m. - 11 a.m.**



## A Fine Dining Experience . . .

**Welcome! To PARADISE Restaurant**, a.k.a English 103 you will be reading non-fiction, writing college-level essays, and learning to use strong critical thinking skills. We will finish the semester with a creative research paper, a “Dinner Party Argument





## Food Requirements

**Participation:** 50 points (5% of class grade)

**Homework:** 100 points (10%)

**Essay #1:** 150 points (15%)

Paper: 150 points

**Essay #1 Rewrite:**

50 points (5%)

**Essay #2: In-class Essay Exam:**

150 points (10%)

**Essay #3: Research Paper:**

200 points (20%)

**Research Paper Process:**

50 points (5%)

**Peer Reviews:**

50 points (50%) (For Essay #1: 20 for Research Paper 30 points.)

**Essay #4: In-class Essay Exam:**

100 points (10%)

**Group Presentation:** 100 points (10%)

Paper.” (More later!) Writing can be hard work and frustrating; much time and effort must be put forth, but the rewards you reap shall be grand. You shall feel full and satisfied!

### *Who Is Your Maître d'?*

I, ΕΥΩ, Yo

[www.kimberlykrobesson.com](http://www.kimberlykrobesson.com)

I was born in Venezuela in the summer of '69. My father, a sharp blue-eyed North American engineer, married my mother, a determined dark-haired Greek girl. When I was a year old, my parents and my brother left Venezuela and moved to Greece. From Greece they went to Borneo, to Saudi Arabia, to South Africa and along the way, we visited another ten or so countries. When I was twelve, my parents decided to forever root themselves in a quiet suburb in San Diego. This is where I grew up, but every summer I escaped to Greece where a loving, extended family opened their arms to me year after year. Because of my nomadic upbringing, next to a good book, my other favorite pastime is travel.

In 1992, I got a Bachelor's Degree in English, moved to Athens, and became an English teacher. A few years later, I returned to the U.S., pursued a Master's Degree in Comparative Literature (emphasis on Nigerian and Senegalese literature), and became an adjunct professor in San Diego. I love reading novels that teach me something: about a war, a culture, a group of people, a particular time period. A few of my favorite novels include *Jane Eyre*, *The Unbearable Lightness of Being*, *Captain Corelli's Mandolin*, *Zorba the Greek*, *So Long a Letter*, *The Bluest Eye*, *East of Eden* . . . I could go on and on; my taste is quite eclectic. (Ask me for a recommendation!)

In 2003, I got married, moved to Peru, and taught English in Lima for six years. After almost twenty years of teaching full-time, in 2011, I decided to pursue my dream of writing novels. I taught part-time at UCSD, then Pasadena City College while working on my two novels, *The greek Persuasion* (to be published in Spring 2019) and *Sixty Days in Santorini* (first draft).

In July 2016, I started teaching full-time again at LAVC. This is an outstanding community college, and I'm grateful to make this college my "forever home."

I absolutely love living in Los Angeles; teaching, reading, and writing fulfill me. I also enjoy the outdoors, lifting weights, yoga, travel; my favorite thing in the entire world is spending time with my husband and our three English Bulldogs: Achilles, Oia, Opa.



### Calories: How They Add Up

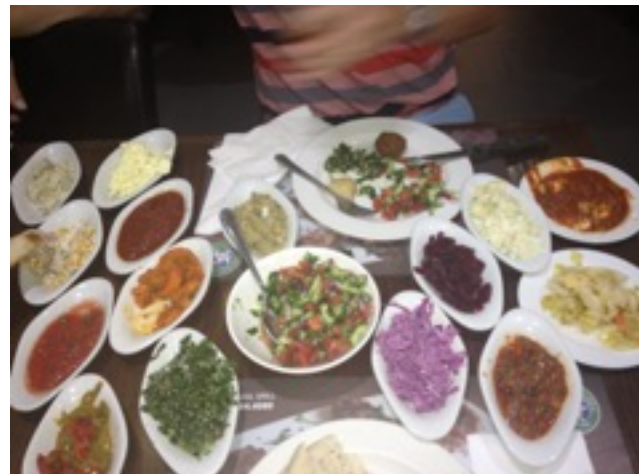
#### Grading Scale

90% = 900+ points	= A
80% = 800-899 points	= B
70% = 700-799 points	= C
60% = 600-699 points	= D

**Dessert** (Extra Credit, maximum 50 points = 5% of class grade)

You may have up to five helpings of dessert: each "helping" is worth 10 points

You may visit the Writing Center or you may attend college events that I announce. You can visit me in my office (for one helping of extra credit). Ask me to check here \_\_\_\_\_. Then you can come back, just because you want more help or to talk about life, literature, academia!



### **First Course of Dinner**

(Course Objectives):

1. Formulate hypotheses inductively and deductively.
2. Evaluate the validity of arguments and judgments.
3. Suspend judgment for a period of time, in order to draw reasonable conclusions based on logical argumentation and convincing evidence.
4. Identify fallacies of language and thought, and avoid using them in writing, demonstrating the ability to recognize and avoid the use of stereotype and propaganda, fallacies of inductive and deductive reasoning, and explain the media's effect on shaping impressions.
5. Differentiate between fact and inference, distinguish between denotative and connotative power of language and between judgment and knowledge, and evaluate whether conclusions are supported by their premises.
6. Analyze the intellectual context surrounding an important issue.
7. Construct a written argument that recognizes the importance of audience and context in persuasion, makes

explicit arguments, recognizes and gives strong evidence in support of a claim, and presents that evidence fairly, responsibly, and compellingly.

8. Engage in peer review, as well as to critique, revise, edit, and proofread one's own writing.

9. Locate and evaluate sources of information, electronic as well as in print or speech, and use these sources validly without plagiarizing from them by employing MLA style documentation.

## **Final Course of Dinner** Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)

As a result of this course, students will be able to:

1. Write coherently organized analytical essays that demonstrate sound reasoning, the ability to clearly connect evidence to claims, advanced critical thinking strategies, and an understanding of conventions of scholarly discourse.

2. Use critical thinking and advanced research skills to illuminate various political, social, ethical, and philosophical ideas.

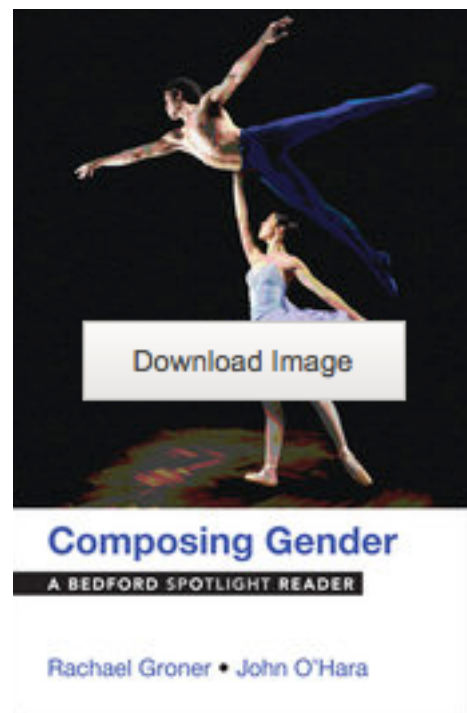
### **What You'll Need to Order:**

Required Texts and Materials:

- 1) Editor, *Book* ISBN: 978-0073-124452
- 2) In an effort to keep the class costs low, oftentimes the readings will be PDFd or we will use links to our electronic databases, all information will be sent through Canvas so you need to login and check your lavo email daily. For the shorter works, you will be expected to print them out and bring them to class. If you do not have a printer, there are resources on campus.

To stay organized, also buy

- 4) A portable stapler
- 5) A light three-ring bind
- 6) A thin notebook (some class notes will be so important that I will suggest you keep this notebook forever and ever)



**How to Behave in the “Restaurant”**  
 Student Responsibilities

1. Bring all materials to every class.
2. Prepare assignments in advance; participate in group activities.
3. Type work as required.
4. Attend class regularly.

Students who miss the first or second day of class may be dropped. Also, as per LAVC guidelines, “Whenever absences in hours exceed the number of hours the class meets per week, the instructor will consider whether there are

mitigating circumstances that may justify the absences. If the instructor determines that such circumstances do not exist, the instructor may exclude the student from the class. Three cases of tardiness may be considered equivalent to one absence. It is the student’s responsibility to consult with the instructor regarding any absences that would alter the student’s status in the class.” **Save your absence for when you are truly ill or have a situation that you can’t avoid.**

5. To create a productive learning environment, cell phones and similar devices must be turned off *and* stowed away during class meetings.

When class starts, I do not want to see a cell phone out. You lose participation points when I have to tell

you to put away your phone. Here are some no-so fun facts about cell-phone usage:



6. It is equally important that we all respect and listen to differing viewpoints. More below.
7. Hand in all work on time. Unless arrangements are made with the instructor in advance, late assignments will not be accepted. If there is a genuine emergency, you can email me a final essay (in the body of the email, not as an attachment) **and then bring a hard copy to my office hours on or before the next class meeting**. Until I get a hard copy (paper, it is a “0”). There will be no make-ups on quizzes or other weekly in-class assignments that are collected for grading. But if you genuinely can’t be in class, you can send HW with a friend. That’s why it’s important to have good communication with your “core group.”

### To See the Maitre d’

#### Student Drop-in Hours

Please come visit me during office hours! I can give you individual attention, help you work



on an essay, and/or review grammar or MLA questions that you may have. Or we can just chat about the joys of literature! And sometimes my cookie jar is full! 🍏

### How to Order

#### Class Participation

Classroom discussions allow you the chance to give and receive responses on assigned readings and topics that arise in class.

Everyone has ideas, and I want to hear from *all* the voices in the class; thus, we will learn to respect and be comfortable with *silence*—not everyone processes questions (and answers) at the same time, so we need to give people the chance to think and formulate responses. I want to encourage confidence in these discussions, so they must be conducted in a respectful, supportive environment free of racist, heterosexist, homophobic, ableist, ageist, classist, etc. language. Keep in mind: we are all different, unique—and special. Let’s try to learn from one another, build bridges instead of walls. Your responses to other’s ideas and work should be thoughtful and courteous. This is how we stretch and learn and become more productive, compassionate people, better citizens in this place we call “our world.”

## Need Help?

We're all different and unique and may need some extra help . . .

### Accommodations

I want you all to have the best learning environment possible, so if you are a student with a disability requiring classroom accommodations, and have not contacted Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD), please do so in a timely manner. SSD is located in the Student

Services Annex,  
Room 175 or call  
SSD at (818)  
947-2681 or TTD  
(818) 947-2680 to  
meet with a SSD  
counselor. If SSD  
has already sent the  
memo confirming  
accommodations  
required by a  
student for this  
class, please meet  
with me to discuss  
arrangements.



Financial Aid  
Financial Aid is  
available! Call  
(818) 947-2412. Go  
to the Financial Aid  
Office in the

Student Services Center, first floor. For more info: <http://www.lavc.edu/financialaid>.

## Immigrations Services

Know your rights!

<http://services.laccd.edu/districtsite/kyr/index.html>

## Clubs, Groups, Extra-Curricular Activities and Making Friends

Attend "Club Day" to see all the groups you can join. If you are interested in the LGBTQIA+ Club ask me! I'm the co-advisor.

<http://www.lavc.edu/LGBT/LGBTQIA.aspx>



**Order Something Unique, Don't Just Copy Your Dinner Date!**

Academic Integrity

Plagiarism is the use of others' words and/or ideas without clearly acknowledging their source. When you incorporate those words and ideas into your own work, you must give credit where credit is due. Plagiarism, intentional or unintentional, is considered academic dishonesty and is not tolerated. Anyone found to be plagiarizing or cheating on assignments (e.g., copying or giving answers, using the internet for quotes, photos, or any written work, etc. without giving proper credit) will (1) receive a zero (fail) on the assignment, and (2) be referred to the Vice President of Student Services for further disciplinary action, following due process. For further information on plagiarism, go to the Writing Center website (<http://www.lavc.edu/writingcenter/handouts/plagiarism.html>) and refer to the "Standards of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Action" in the current Schedule of Classes and Catalog.

**Don't Just Eat or Look at Your Phone—Listen, Learn, Reflect, and Reply!**

Communication

Communication is appreciated. If you are absent and want to send me an email to let me know that you are sick or there is something else going on, I appreciate it, but it's not required. If you do miss a class session, please be aware you will miss vital information, and it is your responsibility to find out what was covered. Thus, I recommend you find three classmates and exchange phone numbers and email addresses to contact for questions about what you missed, copy class notes, etc. If you have other questions or concerns, feel free to contact me.

**Classmates Information:**

Classmate's Name:

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Phone Number:

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Email Address:

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Classmate's Name:

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Phone Number:

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Email Address:

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Classmate's Name:

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Phone Number:

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Classmate's Name:

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Phone Number:

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Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Classmate's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

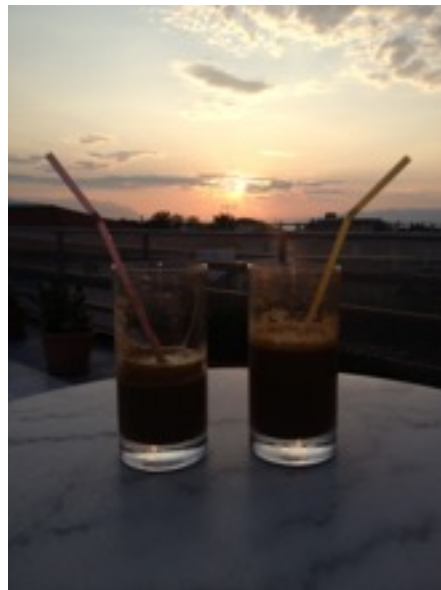
Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Classmate's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_



**SO WELCOME TO PARADISE RESTAURANT! HOPE YOU ENJOY YOUR DINNER WITH US!**