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Course Syllabus

In order to accommodate the needs of the class, the following schedule of discussion, reading, and writing assignments is tentative. You will be notified of any changes in class. Because writing is a process, topics will often be introduced and then reviewed later in the semester. All assignments—readings, essays, revisions, exercises, and so on—are course requirements and must be completed fully and on time. Remember, you must save all written assignments and essays. You will be using this material for assembling two portfolios of your writing. One small portfolio will be submitted at mid-term for the purpose of checking your progress. You will submit a second, larger portfolio for final evaluation of your performance in the course. (See the Portfolio Guidelines attached to this syllabus.)

Week 1 (Aug 25-29)
Monday August 25th:
- Introductions (get textbooks from TRS; purchase notebook and bring to class)
- Explanations and Diagnostic essays
- Assign “How to Find Information in Real Essays” xxix-xxxi for Friday’s class

Wednesday August 27th:
- Introduce second diagnostic essay
- Discuss journals and assign Journal Entry #1 for Friday (“The funniest thing that ever happened to me was …”)

Friday August 29th:
- Discuss syllabus and course, introductions
- Go over Anker reading assignment from Monday
- Introduce Narration from pages 105-9 and 118-122 of Anker text.
- Assign Swanson readings for Monday’s class (pp. 179-88, 81-88)

Week 2 (Sept. 1-5): No class on Sept. 1
Wednesday September 3rd:
- Discuss Swanson readings, answer questions
- Introduce Writing #1 and Discuss Narration (Ch. 8 Anker)
- Discuss Ch. 1 of Anker

Friday September 5th:
- Continue with Anker Ch.1 & 2
- Sample Idea formation techniques and Audience –type recognition
- Journal Assignment #2 based upon Swanson readings/Alice Walker poem (handout): “The most important thing I (have) learned from my father/mother, etc. is….”

Week 3 (Sept. 8-12)
Monday September 8th:
- Continue with Anker 2 & 3 exercises in-class
- Assign Readings (Anker pp 625-632)
- Outline for Writing #1 due

Wednesday September 10th:
- Discuss Readings from Anker
- Assign Swanson Reading (pp 352-55)
- Weekend Assignment: See “To Kill A Mockingbird”, “Fried Green Tomatoes”, or “Avalon” and consider the narrative qualities

Friday September 12th:
- Complete Draft of Writing #1 due
- Peer-reviews (See Anker 87-88)
- Briefly discuss Reading from Swanson
- Group work on Description: Verbal exercise
- Journal Assignment #3: Descriptive entry on your “Favorite Place”
- Weekend Assignment: See “To Kill A Mockingbird”, “Fried Green Tomatoes”, or “Avalon” and consider the narrative qualities

Week 4 (Sept. 15-19)
Monday September 15th:
- Turn in Final Draft of Writing #1
- Discuss and Begin Writing #2 “Description” (Anker Ch. 10)
- Anker Ch. 4 in-class exercises
- Assign Readings (Anker pp 643-52)

Wednesday September 17th:
- Discuss Readings from Anker
- Anker Ch. 5-6 in-class exercises
- Journal Entry Assignment #4: "Describe yourself and a family member and discuss a time when you recognized that person’s influence on you”
- Assign Reading from Swanson (pp 112-117)
- Turn back Writing #1; Individual Conferences (through next week)

Week 5 (Sept. 22-26)
Monday September 22nd:
- Review Anker Ch. 4-6; go over any comments, questions or concerns
- Review Anker Ch. 10
- Discuss Swanson Reading

Wednesday September 24th:
- Revision of Writing #1 due
- Assign pp 114-115, 143-45 in-class exercise/review of narration and description
- Assign Journal entry #4: “Describe the experience of eating your favorite fruit, vegetable, etc.” (Imagine that you are explaining this to someone who has never seen this food or drink)
Friday September 26th:
-Draft of Writing #2 due
-Peer Review activities
-Assign Anker pp 89-92 revision exercises
-Weekend Assignment (choice): Read Chopin’s *An Egyptian Cigarette* or watch the film “Avalon” and consider the descriptive elements

Week 6 (Sept. 29-Oct. 3)
Monday September 29th:
-Discuss Anker pp 89-92
-Complete Anker Ch. 7
-Discuss Midterm portfolios
-Reminder that Final Draft of Writing #2 is due October 3rd

Wednesday October 1st:
-Reminder that Writing #2 due Friday
-General review/ cover any questions and concerns in preparation for Mid-term in-class essays
-Verbal exercise on “Illustration”
-Journal entry #6: “What animal makes the best pet and why” (Read Anker pp 633-38 for extra insight)

Friday October 3rd:
-Writing #2 due today
-Review for Mid-term in-class essays
-Verbal exercises on “Definition”
-Discuss Anker pp 191-97
-Reminder that journals are due Monday before essays

Week 7 (Oct. 6-10)
Monday October 6th:
-*Turn in journals for review!!!*
-Begin In-class Essay #1
- Turn back Writing #2 (individual conferences)

Wednesday October 8th:
-Complete In-class essay #2

Friday October 10th:
-Begin In-class essay #2
-Individual conferences
-Assign Swanson Reading pp 303-07
Week 8 (Oct. 13-17): No Class on the 17th

**Monday October 13th:**
- Complete In-class Essays
- Begin Preparing the Midterm Portfolio
- Turn in Revisions of Writing #2!!!
- Individual Conferences-including discussion of midterm outcome
- In-class Journal assignment #7: Think about the questions posed in Swanson Reading (Content) and comment on Lamberson’s definition/distinction between “Real and Fake music”.

**Wednesday October 15th:**
- Portfolios due today!
- Discuss Swanson Reading from Friday briefly
- Discuss Swanson pp 108-09
- Assign Anker pp 670-72 “Definition”
- Reading assignment (handout): Kate Chopin’s *Desiree’s Baby*
- Journal entry #9: Define “Freedom” Explore Desiree’s situation/ultimate decision and decide whether you think she was “free” or not

**Friday October 17th:**
NO CLASS

Week 9 (Oct. 20-24)

**Monday October 20th:**
- Begin Writing #3 (Anker Chapter 14—Comparison and Contrast)
- Discuss Reading and last journal entry
- Assign Anker pp 677-681 for Friday

**Wednesday October 22nd:**
- Individual Conferences (feedback on Midterm Portfolios)
- Continue Anker Ch. 14
- Begin Anker Ch. 30-32
- Weekend Assignment: See “Monsoon Wedding”, or “

**Friday October 24th:**
- Discuss Anker Reading from Monday
- Guest Speaker: “Across Cultures”
- Reminder of Weekend Film Assignment
- Journal entry #9: (Swanson p. 141) “Erotica Vs. Pornography: Is there a difference?”

Week 10 (Oct. 27-Oct. 31)

**Monday October 27th:**
- Continue Anker 30-32
- Cover and questions, concerns/General review
Verbal exercise: Compare and Contrast two paintings/sculptures
Assign Swanson Reading pp 188-91 (Consider both the short term and long term effects of deforestation)

**Wednesday October 29th:**
- Rough Drafts from Writing #3 due!!
- Peer Activities
- Discuss Swanson Reading
- Review as necessary
- Assign Anker Readings pp 671-685

**Friday October 31st:**
- Discuss Anker Readings
- Review as needed
- Verbal exercise based upon handouts: “Pet Cloning”
- Journal entry #10: “Compare and Contrast the effects of pet cloning could have on the world”

**Week 11 (Nov. 3-7)**

**Monday November 3rd:**
- Continue with Sentences as needed
- Briefly discuss “Classification” pp 173-78
- Assign pp 180-82 and pp 666-69 in Anker for Wed.

**Wednesday November 5th:**
- Discuss Readings
- Verbal exercise: Article on Personalities by Birth Order/Horoscope
- Reminder: Final Draft of Writing #3 due Friday

**Friday November 7th:**
- Writing #3 due
- Begin Writing #4 (Anker Chapter 15—Cause/Effect)
- Journal entry #11: “Legalize Prostitution”, hypothesize on the outcome of such a decision
- Assign Readings (Swanson pp 89-93, do “content” and “style”)
- Weekend Assignment: see “Clueless”, “Billy Elliot”, or “Mansfield Park” and contemplate the importance of classification in the film.

**Week 12 (Nov. 10-14)**

**Monday November 10th:**
- Discuss Readings
- Verbal exercise from Swanson Reading: pg. 92 “Collaborative Exploration”
- Assign Anker Readings pp 230-35
- Journal entry #12: “Think about a time when you reacted too rashly. What made you react that way and what was the ultimate outcome of having done so?”

**Wednesday November 12th:**
-Discuss Anker readings
-Briefly discuss journal entries
-Verbal exercise: Cause and Effect in poetry: Heaney, Plath, and Hughes
-Assign Anker pp 686-97

**Friday November 14th:**
- Rough Draft of Writing #4 due!!
- Finish verbal exercises from Wednesday
- Discuss Anker Readings
- Weekend Assignment: Listen to and read the lyrics to “Big Yellow Taxi”, and consider the cause-effect relationship in the painting handouts (Waterhouse)

Week 13 (Nov. 17-21)

**Monday November 17th:**
- General Review
- Peer Review Activities
- Discuss Weekend Assignment
- Assign Reading: handouts of Derek Mahon’s “The Hudson Letter”: consider the cause-effect relationship in this poem/letter

**Wednesday November 19th:**
- Discuss Argument briefly (Anker ch. 16)
- In-class exercise from Anker p. 242
- In-class Swanson Reading p. 92: Verbal exercise

**Friday November 21st:**
- Rough Draft Writing #4 due!!
- Verbal exercise: handouts on flag/”under God” issue
- Review and cover any questions or concerns

**Week 14 (Dec. 1-5) & Week 15 (Dec. 8-12)**

**Monday December 1st:**
- Preparation for Final In-class Essays (to take place Dec. 3 & 5 and Dec. 8 & 10)

**Begin preparing Final Portfolio**
- The portfolios are due to me by noon on Dec. 12th
- During these last few weeks, as students are writing their in-class essay, you should be helping them determine which essays they want to submit for the Final Portfolio and how they can revise them
- After they finish their second in-class essay, you should also help them think about which of the two essays they should submit in the portfolio.
- Try to schedule a conference (maybe several) with each student at some point during the last 3 weeks (preferably as early as possible) to help them select two of their four out-of-class essays for the portfolio. These two essays should be revised as necessary. Students may select an essay that they used in their midterm portfolio. The most important factors, in regard to these out-of-class essays, are that the essays are carefully revised and edited and that the student submit a clean copy in the portfolio.
• Encourage students to make an appointment with you during Finals Week to discuss the results of their Final Portfolio

**Wednesday December 3rd:**
- In-class essays

**Friday December 5th:**
- In-class essays

**Monday December 8th and Wednesday December 10th:**
- In-class essays

**Friday December 12th:**
- Portfolios due!! Last day of classes!!