

Spring 1-15-2008

ENG 1001G-004: Composition and language

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English 1001G: 004 Syllabus

Spring 2008, Class Meeting Days: M/W/F, 11:00-11:50 a.m.

Coleman Hall 3140 & 3210

Instructor: Tasha Dunaway

Office: 2110 Coleman Hall

Email: tddunaway@eiu.edu

Hours: M 2-3 p.m.; W 1-2 p.m.; or by appointment

Course Description and Objectives: This is a writing-intensive course which draws upon topics concerning the economic motivation behind careers, and therefore education. This course will enable students to write in an academic and professional manner utilizing skills necessary for the next of EIU's series of writing courses. This course is also designed to help the student think about writing as a strategy for communication in society, as well as a tool for uncovering the motivation behind research and/or outcomes. The goal of English 1001 is to introduce you to a variety of reading, writing, and thinking strategies that will better enable you to meet the challenges of future academic tasks. Accordingly, this course will provide you with instruction in and opportunities to practice strategies for reading texts with understanding (including techniques for annotating, paraphrasing, and summarizing), strategies for explaining concepts, evaluating texts, analyzing causes and effects, proposing solutions to problems, and developing research essays. To that end, students will write four larger essays culminating in a research-oriented paper, as well as several smaller essays throughout the semester. Essay types include: descriptive, expository, argumentative, reader response, and blogging among others. Students should also familiarize themselves with writing technology and research methods. You will complete the equivalent to approximately 5000 typed words.

Course Materials:

E-Reserves-Most reading material will be available on-line. Assume that it is on-line unless otherwise specified. To access items on e-Reserve, follow this link <http://www.library.eiu.edu/ereserves/ereserves.asp> and select the course by number or name. (Or access the reserves by going to the Booth Library home page, click on Reserves, on the redirect page click e-Reserves and select the course either by number or by name.)

The password is **td1001-g** which you will need to access the e-Reserves. Please let me know immediately if you cannot access the on-line readings.

The World is a Text & The Blair Handbook (It is not necessary to bring either of these books to class unless I tell you ahead of time, or unless it is part of an assignment.)

Writing materials: paper, pen or pencil, and flash (thumb) drive

Grades: There are a total of 1000 points possible this semester. Here's the way it is divided.

Essays: 60% Breakdown: Essay 1: 10% Essay 2: 15% Essay 3: 20% Essay 4: 15%

Mini Essays: 10% Participation: 15% Group Assignments: 10% News Presentation: 5%

I reserve the right to give pop quizzes at any time to ensure that students are doing the work. Do the readings on time and participate in class discussion to eliminate this option.

Attendance: Students are given **three times** to miss class without subtraction of points. This means that on the **fourth** absence, the student will begin receiving a deduction equal to half a letter grade from the total points earned this semester. Excused absences will be given with proper legal or medical documentation or with written pre-approved letters from athletic coaches, musical directors, etc. for those involved in EIU athletics or band. **Please see me if you know you are going to miss a class. You are responsible for getting any information/handouts that you miss. If you miss class on a day that an assignment is due, that assignment will be considered late without prior approval.**

Class Cancellations: Weather happens, and so does illness. So, there is a possibility that class will need to be cancelled. I will make every effort to contact you if class has been cancelled. For the occasional campus-wide closings listen to local radio stations, check on-line news, or watch local TV news programs for closed listings. Please make an effort to check your campus e-mail ahead of time, as that is the address I will likely contact you through in case of cancellation.

Electronic Writing Portfolio: Each student must submit a document from either 1001 or 1002 to the Electronic Writing Portfolio. This is a graduation requirement. If you plan to submit a paper from this class, please make an appointment with me to go over the paper and fill out the form. Bring a corrected copy of the paper and the submission form filled out online and printed.

Students with Disabilities: If you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodation, please note that arrangements must be made through the Office of Disability Services; you should, therefore, contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disability Services at 581-6583 as soon as possible.

Cell Phones and Computers: Obviously, most of you own cell phones and use them often. There is no problem with bringing cell phones to class, but they must be silenced, and are not to be used during class time for any of their many functions. Whatever it is you are being called or texted about will wait until class is over. Texting or using phones in class is rude and disruptive and won't be tolerated.

You may bring your personal computer to class with you assuming that you use it in a professional and responsible fashion. However, only those applications and windows directly related to class discussion or class work should be open. This means that there will be no e-mailing, no web surfing, no working on other classes, no gaming, or using any other application which is distracting to you or anyone else in the classroom. Irresponsible usage of computers will result in a ban on personal computers in the class room.

***Violation of these policies will result in a full letter drop in the participation grade per violation.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is the presenting of others' ideas as if they were your own. When you write a paper, create a project, do a presentation or create anything original, it is assumed that all

the work, except for that which is attributed to another author or creator, is your own. Plagiarism is considered a serious academic offense and may take the following forms:

- 1 Copying word-for-word from another source and not giving that source credit.
- 2 Paraphrasing the work of another and not giving that source credit.
- 3 Adopting a particularly apt phrase as your own.
- 4 Using an image or a copy of an image without crediting its source.
- 5 Paraphrasing someone else's line of thinking in the development of a topic as if it were your own.
- 6 Receiving excessive help from a friend or elsewhere, or using another project as if it were your own.

***Note that word-for-word copying is not the only form of plagiarism.

***Evidence of plagiarism will result in one or more of the following: a failing grade on the assignment, a failing grade for the course, and a report filed with the dean.

[Adapted from the Modern Language Association's MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers. New York: MLA, 1995: 26]

Assignments: I will only grade complete assignments. If you turn in an incomplete assignment, I will return it to you and let you know what needs to be completed before I can grade it. There is no final exam.

Late Assignments: You may turn in complete assignments up to 1 week after the due date for late credit. All late assignments will receive a 10% grade reduction. **In-class assignments are not eligible for late credit, nor is the final essay eligible for late credit. After a week I will no longer accept the paper, and it becomes a "0," never-the-less, you must complete all assignments in order to pass the course.**

If you encounter unusual circumstances that prevent you from meeting this guideline, you must make other arrangements with me before the due date.

Readings: Daily readings are assigned for the purpose of class discussion and in-class writing assignments. Complete the reading listed for that day *before* you come to class. In order to receive participation credit, you must participate in class discussion about the readings.

Showing up for class does not itself equal participation. You must engage in discussion or group activities in order to receive full participation points. It is to everyone's benefit that each student come prepared to discuss and ask questions about the readings, since they will be the primary back-drop for our day-to-day interaction. We will all get very bored very fast if I am the only one talking. I need you to be thoughtful, inquisitive, insightful, and respectful in order for our class to function well. This may mean striving to make conversation or debates about the topics for discussion.

To that end, be prepared for class. If I suspect the readings are not getting done, or if conversation lags, pop quizzes will be adopted in order to ensure that the students are completing the assigned reading.

Formal Essays: Essay assignments will be distributed by the instructor in a timely fashion. These assignments will explain what is expected in order to receive full credit on any given assignment. However, I am available during office hours, by appointment, and via email to field any questions you have about the assignments. Assignments should be in 12 pt. font, Times New Roman, double-spaced, and follow current Modern Language Association (MLA) guidelines, including pagination. For questions on MLA formatting, make an appointment in the Writing Center, ask me, or visit Purdue University's Online Writing Lab (OWL) at <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/> **All essays are due in class on the due date listed in order to receive full credit. All essays assignments must be completed in order to pass the course.**

Also, always run spell-check and edit your work closely before turning in essays.

Writing Center: Attending sessions at the Writing Center is not required, but highly suggested. EIU's Writing Center, located at 3110 Coleman Hall, is a great place to get help with any writing-oriented questions or concerns you may have. The tutors there are my fellow graduate students, and they are all very knowledgeable and helpful. Tutors may make suggestions on writing at any time in the process from brainstorming, researching, outlining, writing, revising, or documentation. They do not do editing work, but rather help you understand how best to improve your own writing. Call 581-5929 or stop by to make an appointment. Visit their web site to find out more at www.eiu.edu/~writing

In-class assignments: Several times throughout the semester I will give you assignments to work on during class time. Unless otherwise stated, in-class assignments are due at the end of class.

News Reports: Each student will be required to give a 5 minute report on something that is happening in the news pertaining to that day's reading assignment. If there were no assigned readings for the day on which you are scheduled to go, choose a topic relevant to our usual class discussions. *The New York Times* offers students a free online subscription. This is an excellent opportunity to keep-up with current affairs and to have a reliable source for a news report.

The Bottom Line: We are all here to learn, but that does not mean that we cannot enjoy the process. If everyone does the reading and actively participates we can make this semester an enjoyable one and at the same time fulfill the requirements of the course. We are all mature enough to take responsibility for our education, so let's be the considerate, educated, informed individuals I know we can be.

Syllabus is subject to change at the instructor's discretion.

Class Schedule: *Remember-readings are on e-Reserve at Booth unless otherwise stated.*

Week One-CH 3140

M 1/ 7 Introductions and you tube video; in-class essay (250+ words); discuss what makes a good essay

W 1/9 O'Brien's "The Things They Carried"

F 1/11 O'Brien's "On the Rainy River" *handout*

Week Two-CH 3210

M 1/14 *Affluenza* excerpts; *Essay 1 handout*

W 1/16 "Cross-Cultural Law: The Case of the Gypsy Offender" *handout*

F 1/18 Library tour and assignment—meet in the south lobby at Booth Library

Week Three-CH 3140

M 1/21 Library assignment due; *The Probability That a Real-Estate Agent Is Cheating You*

W 1/23 *What the Bagel Man Saw*

F 1/25 *Monkey Business: Can Capuchins Understand Money?*

Week Four-CH 3210

M 1/28 Essay 1 draft due; peer review in groups; sign-up for conferences on Wednesday

W 1/30 Short conferences in class; bring your essay to work on revisions in the down-time

F 2/1 Essay 1 due; in-class evaluation for papers; *Essay 2 handout*

Week Five-CH 3140

M 2/4 *Freakonomics* "Introduction"; *Blog assignment handout*

W 2/6 *The Seat Belt Solution*; bring topics to class; Blog assignment due

F 2/8 *Up in Smoke: Whatever Happened to Crack Cocaine?*; "Workaday World—Crack Economy"

Week Six-CH 3210

M 2/11 *Does the Truth Lie Within?: One Professor's Lifetime of Self-Experimentation*

W 2/13 *Dog-Waste Management: Can Technology Keep New York City Scooped?*; schedule conferences for next week; *unit 2 handout*

F 2/15 **Lincoln's Birthday Observed-No Class**

Week Seven-CH 2110

M 2/18 Conferences; No Class

W 2/20 Conferences; No Class

F 2/22 Conferences; No Class