

Fall 8-15-2011

ENG 1001G-003: Composition And Language

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Language and Composition

Prof. Angela Vietto
Office: 3345 Coleman Hall
217-549-3203 (cell)

Office hours: M 1-3, T 1-4, R 11-1, F 1-2,
and by appointment

The purpose of this course is to help you develop writing skills that will be useful to you in college, in your profession, and as a citizen.

Writing skills are closely related to both reading and critical thinking skills. All three of these skill sets develop progressively over time with practice. No matter how successful you have been as a writer in the past, practice and feedback can help you develop new and better skills.

Texts from TRS

Faigley, *Writing: A Guide for College and Beyond*
Peterson & Brereton, *The Norton Reader*

Graff & Birkenstein, *They Say/I Say*
Hacker, *A Pocket Style Manual*

Other required supplies

- Enough paper and printer ink or funds to print approximately 100 pages
- Electronic storage for BOTH saving AND backing up your files (some combination of computer hard drives, flash drives, or on-line storage services like Dropbox or GoogleDocs)
- A stapler or mini-stapler
- A pocket folder
- A notebook (could be small, or a section of a multi-subject notebook)
- Recommended: Tape flags and/or sticky notes

WebCT

Course handouts will be saved in our WebCT space, along with other materials that you might need. I will also make your grades available in WebCT.

Information for students with disabilities

If you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodations, please contact the Office of Disability Services (581-6583) as soon as possible.

The Electronic Writing Portfolio: You may use any one of Essays 1-4 from this class to submit to the Electronic Writing Portfolio. Submissions must be made no later than the end of finals week (Thursday, Dec. 15).

Grading

Assignment	Points	Final Grade Scale*	
Homework & Peer Reviews	200	930-1000	A
Participation & Quizzes	100	850-929	B
Essay 1	50	770-849	C
Essay 2	100	769 and below	NC**
Essay 3	150		
Essay 4	150		
Essay 5	150		
Logical Fallacies Project	50		
Wikipedia Project	50		

* Turning in all five essays and achieving a perfect score on a plagiarism quiz are both required in order to pass the course, regardless of other grades.

** NC means “no credit.” A grade of NC does not affect your GPA, but it does mean that you earn no credit for the course and must take it again. All Eastern students must pass English 1001 with a grade of C or better.

Homework & peer reviews: Each homework assignment is worth 5 points and each peer review is worth 10 points. As you can see, they add up.

Participation & quizzes: I assign 0-10 points for participation for each scheduled class session or individual conference. Each quiz is also worth 10 points. Participation grades and quiz grades will be *averaged together* and multiplied by 10 to account for 100 points in the final grade.

Late work: Meeting deadlines is an essential writing skill. In the real world, writing that is late is often a complete failure. I’m nicer than that. Work that is late (without a pre-approved extension) loses 10% of its total value for each *calendar* day it is late. This policy covers all assignments, including homework, in this class.

Optional revisions: In addition to required revisions of early drafts of your essays, if you wish, you may make an optional revision for a new grade on any one of Essays 1-4. *You must meet with me to discuss your revision plans before making an optional revision, and you must turn in the original essay with my comments when you submit the revision.*

The English Department’s statement on plagiarism: “Any teacher who discovers an act of plagiarism—‘The appropriation or imitation of the language, ideas, and/or thoughts of another author, and representation of them as one’s original work’ (*Random House Dictionary of the English Language*)—has the right and the responsibility to impose upon the guilty student an appropriate penalty, up to and including immediate assignments, of a grade of F for the assigned essay and a grade of F for the course, and to report the incident to the Office of Student Standards.”

My statement on plagiarism: We will work together to make sure that everyone in the class understands plagiarism and how to avoid it, early in the semester. *After the plagiarism quiz has successfully been completed by everyone in the class, I promise to fail anyone who plagiarizes in this course and to report the guilty student to the Office of Student Standards.*

Participation: Participation means being *focused* and *forthcoming* during class. For each class session or individual conference, you can earn between 0 and 10 points for participation. Participation grades and quiz grades are averaged together and multiplied by 10 to make up 100 points in the final grading scale.

- Give our class activities your full attention, speak up at least once during large group discussion, and stay on-task throughout class, and you will earn 10 points.
- Do all of the above except speaking during class discussion, and you will earn 8-9 points.
- When students break the rules of classroom etiquette, participation points will be deducted at my discretion, down to and including a grade of 1 for the day.
- On days you are absent, your grade is 0, unless you make up the class, as described below.

Attendance: When you miss class because you are seriously ill/contagious or are attending an approved University event, this is an *excused absence*. When you miss class for any other reason (good or bad), this is an *unexcused absence*.

How you can make up an excused absence:

- (1) Come to my office during office hours to discuss the material you missed and make up any quizzes or in-class writings. You *must* make arrangements to do this the day you return to class in order to receive full credit for the missed class. **AND**
- (2) When you come to the office, bring with you written documentation of the reason for your absence from a trustworthy source (doctor's note, police report of your car accident, etc.), except in the case of approved University events, when I should get notice of the event *before* it occurs.

Your choices for making up an unexcused absence:

- (1) accept the full penalty of losing points for participation and the day's activities **OR**
- (2) come to my office as described above to make up the missed work, in which case you can earn *half* credit for the missed class.

Classroom etiquette: Most of this should be obvious, but occasionally it turns out that people were allowed to do things in high school that are not acceptable in college—and not all college instructors have exactly the same rules, either.

- Class begins when I say “Let’s get started” and ends when I say “See you next time.”
- Do not start packing up your things before class ends.
- It’s fine to bring a beverage if you want to.
- Food is also okay as long as it is not distracting or messy and you leave no trash behind.
- No ear buds during class time, ever.
- Turn your cell phone off before class, put it away, and leave it away throughout class.
- Don’t be late.
- If you are late, sneak in, drawing as little attention to yourself as possible.
- Do not take part in conversations or other activities that compete with our class activities.
- If you bring a laptop, keep it closed unless we are writing during class.

Schedule (subject to change)

Scheduled readings and written homework assignments are due on the date listed. Quizzes may be given on any day without notice. HW assignments marked with an * have additional instructions in our WebCT site.

Unit One: Informative Writing Using Field Research

M Aug 22	Introduction to course; diagnostic writing
W Aug 24	Due: Read <i>Writing</i> , pp. 63-71. Review the <i>DEN</i> online and look for interesting things; do a short write-up of the most interesting things you find. Complete writing survey. (HW 1).*
F Aug 26	Due: Read <i>Writing</i> , pp. 22-25, 40-41, 166-173. Proposal for Essay 1 (HW 2).*
M Aug 29	Due: Read <i>Writing</i> , pp. 621-624 & 201-209. Draft interview questions (HW 3).*
W Aug 31	Due: Notes and photos from observation, with analysis of notes (HW 4).*
F Sept 2	Due: Read <i>Writing</i> , 29-32. Schedule interview. Draft observation. (HW 5).*
M Sept 5	<u>Labor Day—No Class</u>
W Sept 7	Due: Read <i>They Say/I Say</i> , chs. 2 and 3, pp. 28-47. Revised observation. (HW 6).*
F Sept 9	Due: Interview summary. (HW 7).*
M Sept 12	Due: Complete draft of Essay 1. Bring <i>Pocket Style Manual</i> to class. (HW 8).*

Unit Two: Analytical Writing, Research, & Using Printed Sources

W Sept 14	Due: Final version of Essay 1.
F Sept 16	Due: Read, in <i>Norton</i> , pp. 245-251. Write 2-3 well developed paragraphs in response to question 1 on p. 251. (HW 9). <u>***Essay 1 will be returned in required individual conferences.***</u>
M Sept 19	Due: Read, in <i>Norton</i> , pp. 251-259 and pp. 260-261. Write answers to question 1 on p. 259 and questions 2 and 4 on p. 261. (HW 10).
W Sept 21	Due: Read, in <i>Writing</i> , pp. 334-337. Storyboard and/or script for logical fallacies presentation. (HW 11).*
F Sept 23	Due: Read in <i>Writing</i> , pp. 599-609. Library Orientation session with Ms. Karen Whisler: <u>***Meet on the 4th floor of Booth Library, NOT in our regular classroom.***</u>
M Sept 26	Due: Read <i>Writing</i> , pp. 611-619 & 390-391. Proposal for Essay 2. (HW 12).*
W Sept 28	Due: Read <i>Writing</i> , pp. 627-635. Prepare working bibliography for Essay 2. (HW 13).*

F Sept 30	Due: Annotations of 2 sources for Essay 2. Read in Norton, pp. 467-479. Take notes and prepare questions for discussion. (HW 14).*
M Oct 3	Due: Logical fallacy projects.
W Oct 5	Due: Read in <i>Writing</i> pp. 404-407. Two more annotations. (HW 15).*
F Oct 7	Due: Read <i>They Say/I Say</i> , pp. 51-71. Remaining annotations. (HW 16).*
M Oct 10	Due: Complete draft of essay 2. Bring <i>Pocket Style Manual</i> to class. (HW 17).*

Unit Three: Informative Writing in Your Major Area of Study

W Oct 12	Due: Final version of Essay 2.
F Oct 14	<u>Fall Break—No Class</u>
M Oct 17	Due: Possible topics for both Wiki project and Essay 3. (HW 18).*
W Oct 19	Due: Final topic selection and working bibliography for Essay 3 and final topic and research questions for Wikipedia project. (HW 19).*
F Oct 21	Due: Half the annotations for Essay 3. (HW 20).* <u>***Individual conferences. Bring HW 20 to your appointment. No class at 8 a.m.; meet Prof. Vietto in her office, 3345 Coleman, at your scheduled conference time. Conference counts as class and carries participation points.***</u>
M Oct 24	Read <i>They Say/I Say</i> ch. 7, pp. 88-96
W Oct 26	Due: Remaining annotations for Essay 3. (HW 21).*
R Oct 27- F Oct 28	<u>***Individual conferences. Bring all your notes and drafts for Essay 3. No class at 8 a.m.; meet Prof. Vietto in her office, 3345 Coleman, at your scheduled conference time. Conference counts as class and carries participation points.***</u>
M Oct 31	Due: Complete draft of Essay 3; bring <i>A Pocket Style Manual</i> to class. (HW 22).*

Unit Four: Persuasive Writing

W Nov 2	Essay 3 and Wiki project both due; begin persuasion
F Nov 4	<u>No class—instructor at professional conference</u>
M Nov 7	Due: Read in <i>Writing</i> , pp. 412-414, 468-471, 536-539. Write 6 possible thesis statements, 2 for each type of persuasive writing, on topics of current social/political debate. (HW 23).*
W Nov 9	Due: Read <i>They Say/I Say</i> ch. 6, 74-86. Final topic and research questions for Essay 4. (HW 24).*

F Nov 11	Due: Read <i>Writing</i> 458-462, 526-531, and 588-593. Prepare preliminary bibliography for Essay 4. (HW 25).*
M Nov 14	Due: Read in <i>Norton</i> , pp. 590-600 and pp. 400-402. Answer question 3 on p. 600 and question 1 on p. 402. (HW 26).
W Nov 16	Due: Read in <i>Norton</i> , pp. 601-609 and answer question 3 on p. 610. (HW 27).
R Nov 17- F Nov 18	<u>Individual conferences. Bring all your notes and materials for Essay 4. No class at 8 a.m.; meet Prof. Vietto in her office, 3345 Coleman, at your scheduled conference time. Conference counts as class and carries participation points.</u>
Nov 21-25	<u>Thanksgiving Break</u>
M Nov 28	Due: Complete annotated bibliography and outline for Essay 4. (HW 28).*
W Nov 30	Due: Complete draft of Essay 4; bring <i>A Pocket Style Manual</i> to class. (HW 29).*
F Dec 2	Due: Final version of Essay 4.
M Dec 5	Due: Rhetorical analysis of an online discussion of your choice. (HW 30).*
W Dec 7	Due: Find your discussion for Essay 5, make your contribution, and print the whole discussion. (HW 31).* <i>Last day to discuss an optional revision of any of the first four essays.</i>
F Dec 9	In-class workshop on organization of Essay 5. <i>Last day to submit an optional revision.</i>
Finals Week: Dec 12-16	<u>Final version of Essay 5 due Tuesday, Dec. 13, by 4 p.m.</u> ; optional conferences to discuss final grades on Weds. Dec. 14 or Thurs. Dec. 15.